Funder Research Report: US Department of Energy

Prepared by Brian A Ryherd

Mission

The mission of the US Department of Energy's grant program is to foster and support fundamental research to expand the scientific foundations for new and improved energy technologies and for understanding and mitigating the environmental impacts of energy use.

Types of Grants

The Department of Energy offers many different types of grants, but most grants fall within the following categories:

- Grants for projects aimed at researching technologies which consume less energy than those currently used.
- Grants that will help reduce the use of non-renewable energy sources, or those that will make better use of those non-renewable energy sources.
- Grants to research involving renewable energy sources, and the future enhancement of those sources.

Eligibility

Nearly all grants issued by the Department of Energy have unrestricted eligibility. However, some of the grants require colleges and universities, non-profit organizations, for-profit commercial organizations, state and local governments, and unaffiliated individuals may submit grant applications. Some grants have a few further requirements.

Application Process

Instructions regarding each individual grant are found on their respective announcements. Included with each announcement is also a set of requirements which must be submitted with each grant. Each grant application must be submitted at www.grants.gov to be considered for funding.

Recommendation

I would recommend the Department of energy grant program to any group looking into renewable energy sources or more environmentally-friendly technology. Although there are a wide variety of grants available, each grant is very specific in nature, which may make it difficult for groups approaching this at a broad angle.