



GRANTS

Our experience shows that grant money is rarely made available to for-profit ventures. Grants to for-profit businesses are intended for very specific purposes such as the creation of jobs, workforce training, production of value-added agricultural products, etc. Grants are not generally available for the purpose of starting a business or refinancing business debt. There are several web sites on which one can search for available grant monies.

Unfortunately, "free" grant money for for-profit companies is not nearly as available as those who are selling the "how to" books and seminars would like you to believe. Recent articles have highlighted the exaggerated claims of the people selling "free money" books and seminars.

Finding grants is a competitive and research-intensive process. We do not want to discourage you from seeking grants, though, you should be aware that most small businesses obtain their financing through more traditional means. Researching grants can be done on the Internet and at the public library. Some websites you may wish to visit are listed below.

Kansas Grants Clearinghouse provides information and links to federal, state, and industry-specific grants. Visit their website at <http://www.kansasgrants.org>.

The US Small Business Administration in addition to providing loans and loan information has an extensive list of links to federal and state grant sites. Visit their website at <http://www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/loans-grants>.

Other federal grant research sites are listed here:

<http://www.grants.gov/>

<http://www.neh.gov/>

A site which provides information on the SBIR/STTR (technology grants) program is <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/sbir.htm>