Grant Academy Certificate Program

Academic Plan as of spring 2025

Program Description:

UNLV Division of Educational Outreach and the UNLV School of Public Policy and Leadership have partnered to offer a Grant Writing Certificate. Students in the program will gain skills in identifying relevant grant opportunities, writing strong proposals, utilizing available data sources to make a convincing case for support, tracking program outcomes, and managing reports to funders. By learning best practices in organization and program management, proposal preparation, and funder relationship management with various federal, local, and philanthropic funding sources, students will learn to discern what distinguishes a winning grant proposal from an unsuccessful one. Curriculum will guide students through the full life cycle of a grant, enabling them to understand the policies and practices that enable organizations to produce winning applications, and maintain positive, sustainable relationships with funders through successful grant program oversight and administration.

Program Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the Grant Academy Certificate Program, students will be able to:

- Learn steps to find, evaluate, and identify grant funding opportunities.
- Describe how grant funding is a component of a resource development plan, research and evaluate grant opportunities, develop a case for support, and develop a simple budget along with supporting narratives and other required components to effectively write a successful grant application.
- Identify best practices in organizational effectiveness and organizational culture which will lead to higher capacity and greater likelihood of success.
- Examine external, social, and political influences on nonprofits and grants.
- Discover the private, family, and corporate foundation grant landscape, as well as federal, state, and local funding sources.
- Develop a grants management plan, reporting procedures, and budgetary controls for grant oversight.
- Learn best practices in measuring program impact and in-program evaluation, leading to identification of return on investment for grant projects.

Prerequisites and Admissions Requirements:

Students should be currently working, or have previous experience working, for a nonprofit, governmental, or educational organization in a role that includes knowledge of fiscal activities, program development, and/or implementation.

Program Requirements:

To earn the Grant Academy Certificate you must successfully complete the 5 required courses for a total of 40.0 contact hours (4.0 CEUs).

Required Courses:

- Proposal Writing II (GR1134)
- Grants Management (GR1136)
- Identifying Funding Sources (GR1140)
- Building a Grant Ready Organization (GR1142)
- Proposal Writing I (GR1144)