



DHS Financial Assistance

FAPO

DHS oversees more than \$9 billion annually in financial assistance, which includes funding vehicles such as grants, direct payments and cooperative agreements. FEMA is responsible for awarding the most grants, but several other Components also manage grant programs. The table to the right lists the estimated grant awards, by Component, through September 30, 2015.

Pre-Award

The department has a data quality initiative to improve the completeness and accuracy of financial assistance data.

To establish baseline inventory, all notices of grant funding opportunities issued in 2015 were reviewed and cleared by HQ prior to posting on Grants.gov or an alternative announcement vehicle. This procedure strengthens the control environment of financial assistance funds throughout the financial assistance life cycle. The technical reviews also ensure that the notices of grant funding opportunities are accurate, complete and valid.

Post-Award

Once grants are awarded, audits take place to make sure grant dollars are spent appropriately and within the purpose of the grant. This helps protect taxpayer dollars and ensures grants are used as intended to improve homeland security. Billions of grant dollars are audited each year. When auditors find questioned costs, DHS works to resolve the issue. The table to the left summarizes audit findings. For more information, USASpending.gov reports all DHS spending on grants.

Training and Certification

DHS is developing a Department-wide financial assistance training and certification program to mitigate risks in its grants portfolio. In Q3 of FY 2015, OCFO established the Training and Certification Board that began to evaluate current-state training, experience and continuous learning of staff to determine if individuals may already qualify for certain levels of certification. The chart to the right shows the certification results of a Q4 FY 2015 survey of financial assistance staff in the GS-1109 Grants Management series.

Office	GS-1109 Staff	Cert Level 1	Cert Level 2	Cert Level 3	Cert Level 4	Cert Level 5
FEMA	111	0	49	26	11	1
OPO/ GFAD	11	1	1	7	0	0



FAPO

DHS Implementation of the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements (2 CFR 200)* and the *Digital Accountability and Transparency Act (DATA Act)*

**DHS Grants to Maryland (source
www.USASpending.gov)**

From FY2010-FY2015

- 2,053 grants
- \$33,816,612,560
- Types of Grant Programs Funded
 - Intercity Bus Security
 - Assistance to Fire Fighters
 - Boating Safety
 - Citizenship Education and Training
 - Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)
 - Interoperable Emergency Communications
 - Port Security
 - Disaster
 - Hazard Mitigation
 - Community Assistance Program
 - Flood Mitigation

- Law Enforcement

FY2016-2017 Implementation of the Following:

Uniform Guidance

DATA Act

FAPIIS

Internal Controls

Training and Certification

Guidebooks

Contact Information:

Andrea L. Brandon, MPA

Director

Financial Assistance Policy and Oversight (FAPO)

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

US Department of Homeland Security

(202) 447-0675

Andrea.Brandon@hq.dhs.gov