

National Grants Partnership

An Intergovernmental and Nonprofit Cooperative Initiative

NCCS/The Urban Institute

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TO: Vendors and Consultants Supporting the goals of the National Grants Partnership (NGP)

SUBJECT: **NGP Interim Policy Memorandum on Participation
By Vendors and Consultants [2-9-05]**

On behalf of the NGP, we thank you for signing up on www.TheNGP.org as a representative of the consultant and vendor communities joining in the pursuit of the National Grants Partnership mission.

The goals of the NGP are focused on improving, at all levels, the overall management of Federal, state and local financial assistance, and we believe these goals can benefit from participation by vendors and consultants interested in grants management issues. Therefore, while the NGP membership is necessarily limited to public officials from federal, state, local and tribal governments and to representatives from the nonprofit sector that either provide or receive financial assistance; participation by representatives from the vendor and consultant communities in NGP projects and activities can be a significant ingredient to defining problems, developing viable solutions and improving grants management. With this in mind, we are in the process of developing an NGP "Vendor & Consultant Resource Group" that can provide insights regarding technical aspects of the effort to improving the overall management of Federal, state, tribal, local and non-profit financial assistance.

We want to clarify that the NGP does not provide or receive financial assistance and will not procure grant support systems or other grant-related technology. Any procurements of these systems and technology will be done by the Federal, State, local, tribal and non-profit entities that make or receive grant awards. Following generally accepted business practices, the NGP will not permit solicitation of consulting and/or other contractual activity at any NGP activity or project. Attendance and participation in an NGP meeting or project by a vendor or consultant cannot be claimed as an endorsement of a vendor or consultant's product or service by the NGP or any of its members or sponsoring organizations.

Within these limitations, we welcome your input as well as encourage your early participation in the emerging Vendor and Consultant Resource Group, which we are planning to convene in March at the Urban Institute, Secretariat to the NGP. A list of the names and email addresses is available on request for vendors and consultants who have signed on.

Thank you,

Cornelia I. Chebinou
Washington Director
NASACT
NGP Co-Chair

Tony Cavataio
Department of Education
NGP Co-Chair