

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Category: Selection Process

Updated 11/21/2011

1. How will grant recipients be selected?

Throughout the selection and award process, the IRS will focus on implementing the VITA Grant Program as directed by Congress. Applications will be screened against the eligibility criteria; and eligible applicants will then be evaluated and ranked based on their technical merit, geographic coverage, funding and other considerations.

Additional information concerning the selection process can be found in Publication 4671.

2. Once the grant package has been received, what is the timeframe for reviewing the package?

The review and ranking process will be June 30, 2011 through October 30, 2011.

3. Are there guidelines that address the turn-around time for returning an incomplete application?

No. You will be notified once a determination is made on the completeness of your application. For more information on incomplete applications, refer to Publication 4671, *Incomplete Applications*.

4. How will applicants know if they are selected for a VITA Grant?

The Grant Program Office will notify all applicants selected or not selected for an award in a formal letter sent via email.

5. Will the grant be awarded to applicants with one or with many sites?

Grants may be awarded to applicants that operate one or more sites.

6. Will the grant be awarded for free federal tax return preparation activities not associated with VITA?

No. The grant will only be awarded to organizations that will participate in the IRS VITA Program.

7. Do all applications undergo a two-tier evaluation process?

No, all application undergo the technical evaluation, but only those who score 70% or above in the technical evaluation will be reviewed by the Grant Program Office.