

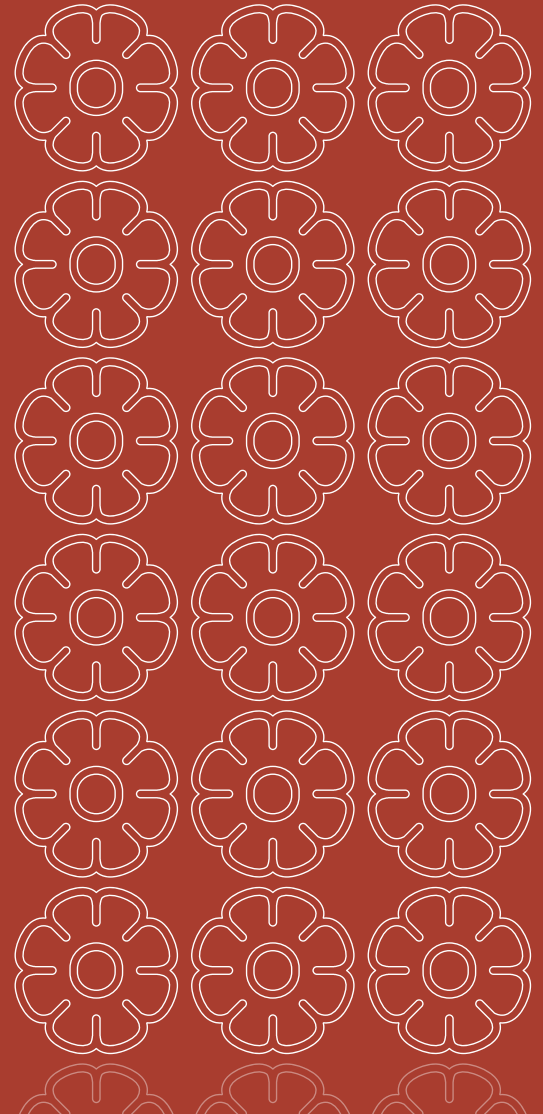


WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON **Asian Americans**
and **Pacific Islanders**

Guide to Federal Agency Resources

*Promoting a Healthy, Vibrant Asian American
and Pacific Islander Community*

First Edition, September 2011



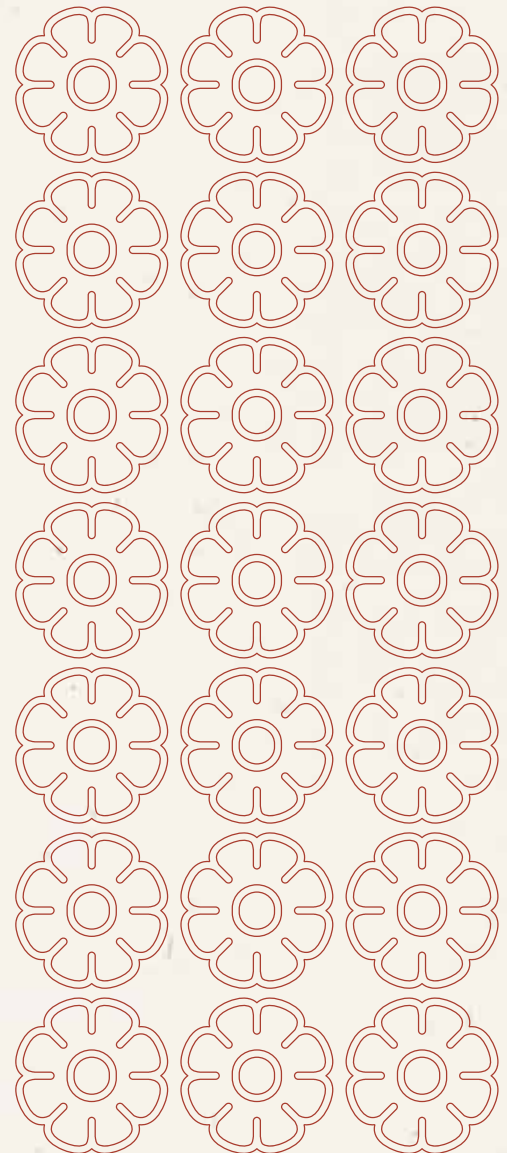


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THE WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS

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September 2011

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introduction

According to the most recent U.S. Census figures, there are over 17 million Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in the United States today. As one of the most culturally and linguistically diverse groups in the country, AAPIs trace their heritage to over 30 different countries and ethnic groups and speak over 100 languages and dialects. From 2000 to 2010, Asian Americans experienced a 43 percent increase and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders experienced a 30 percent increase in population.

To help understand what these changing demographics mean for the federal government, President Obama reauthorized the White House Initiative on AAPIs on Oct. 14, 2009, to improve the quality of life of AAPIs by better connecting them with federally available programs and protections. Although AAPIs have helped build a strong and vibrant U.S., many still face linguistic isolation, poverty, immigration issues, and other barriers to achieving their full potential.

This *Guide to Federal Agency Resources* is an easy-to-use navigational tool on federal funding, programs, and resources. It is by no means comprehensive, but it is meant to provide a brief snapshot of federal resources available to assist organizations and individuals seeking to improve the quality of life of AAPIs. Within this guide, individuals and organizations can find such information as grant opportunities for nonprofit organizations, loan programs to help start a business, federal resources for food and housing for low-income individuals, and health-care programs for veterans.

For each federal entity highlighted, the first section provides a short description of online search engines for federal government grants. Each subsequent section provides an overview of the federal agency, selected services and programs that agency offers, and links to additional resources. This guide also includes **10 Grantee Spotlights**, featuring organizations and individuals who have successfully navigated the federal grant application process and can offer advice, by example, to prospective applicants.

“As a small grassroots organization with little experience in applying for federal grants and limited knowledge of the technical language used in grant applications, the process was a bit scary at first ... My advice for those interested in this program is to seek out support and guidance from the community and local decision makers.”

—EPA Grantee, Seattle, Wash.,
September, 2011.

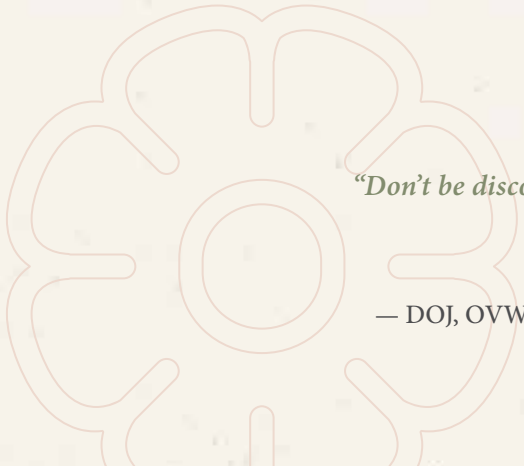
searching for federal assistance and grants

Grants administered by federal agencies differ by eligibility requirements, award amount, application process, and timing. Two online resources can help you determine what types of funding are available and how to apply for that funding.

[Grants.gov](#) is the primary source of information and mode of submitting applications for federal grants and awards of financial assistance, administered through 1,000 programs and 26 federal grant-making agencies to recipients carrying out a public purpose of support or stimulation. In FY2009, [Grants.gov](#) received over 300,000 application submissions. Users must complete the [Grants.gov](#) registration process, which requires organizations to obtain a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number and to register with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). There is a [user guide](#) available, and for general questions, call: 1-800-518-4726 or email support@grants.gov. Note: The registration process takes approximately three to five business days.

[Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance \(CFDA\)](#) is a governmentwide compendium of all federal programs available to state and local governments; domestic public, quasi-public, and private profit and nonprofit organizations and institutions; specialized groups; and individuals. Organizations may utilize the CFDA to identify programs and information on federal financial and nonfinancial assistance; however, only government agencies can apply for grants on the CFDA website directly. There is a [user guide](#) available, and individuals may purchase the CFDA by contacting the U.S. Superintendent of Documents at 1-866-512-1800 or the U.S. Government Printing Office's [online bookstore](#). For assistance using the CFDA website, you may contact the [Federal Service Desk](#) or call 1-866-606-8220.

[The Federal Register](#) is the official daily publication of the federal government and provides Notices of Funds Available (NOFA). The U.S. Government Printing Office's *Federal Register* database makes it easy to search for updates and information on the most recent grant and award opportunities.



“Don’t be discouraged and keep on writing. If you are not successful, try again!”

— DOJ, OVW Grantee, Des Moines, Iowa, September 2011.

Grantee Spotlight: Monsoon United Asian Women of Iowa; Des Moines, Iowa
Federal Program: Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services for Victims Program; DOJ, OVW

Monsoon was formed in 2003 as a culturally specific advocacy group under the auspices of the Iowa Coalition Against Sexual Assault. The group aims to provide services to Asian victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Iowa, which include violence prevention, community outreach, engaging youths to stop violence against women and girls, and providing direct services to survivors and victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Executive Director and Cofounder Mira Yusef explains her experience applying for Grants to Enhance Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Program (CLSSP), and Sexual Assault Services Program—Grants to Culturally Specific Programs (SASP-CLSP).

We heard about these grants through two national advocacy organizations, the Asian Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence and the National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault. With these grants, we were able to hire a full-time Mobile Multilingual Advocate Coordinator, two part-time Mobile Multilingual Advocates based in satellite locations, a part-time Community Outreach Coordinator, two Advocacy Interns and 10-20 on-call Mobile Multilingual Advocates located throughout Iowa to facilitate a statewide effort. The SASP-CLSP is directed towards victims across their lifespan, with specific attention to culture and generation. Our “Unburdening Our Mothers Oral History Project,” is intended to dismantle the shroud of silence hanging over sexual assault among API elders. To further encourage discourse about sexual assault within younger generations, up to 30 youth peer-to-peer counselors and outreach staff will be hired and trained over three years.

OVW provides valuable technical assistance to prospective grantees throughout the application process. OVW hosts calls to assist through the process, and the grant manager is also available to provide assistance if needed. The most difficult part of the application process was obtaining the DUNS number. I actually enjoyed the process, but I have to say, I may be an aberration!

For those who would like to apply for this grant, I advise you to consult with other organizations for best practice advice, and shape them to fit your community’s needs. Don’t be discouraged and keep on writing. If you are not successful, try again!

For more information on OVW programs, visit [here](#).

resources by federal department

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

How it can assist AAPIs

The USDA is a federal agency with a broad range of responsibilities including: serving the hungry, supporting development in rural communities, preserving the environment through conservation programs, monitoring food safety, and supporting American farmers, ranchers, and consumers.

Food and Nutrition Services programs help one in every five Americans get the nutrition they need. USDA relies on state governments and local organizations to help get food to low-income households. Some of the most relevant programs to AAPI communities include:

The [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\)](#) helps low-income individuals and families buy the food they need for good health. On the SNAP website you'll find an Eligibility Pre-Screening Tool, which can help determine if you may be eligible to receive SNAP benefits, and a Community Partner Outreach Toolkit, which is full of great resources and how-tos.

The [Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program](#) awards grants to states, U.S. territories, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments to provide low-income seniors with coupons that can be exchanged for certain foods at farmers' markets, roadside stands, and community-supported agriculture programs.

The [National School Lunch Program](#) is a federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions.

The [Women, Infants and Children \(WIC\)](#) supplemental nutrition program provides federal grants to states for supplemental foods, health care referrals, and nutrition education for low-income pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age 5 who are found to be at nutritional risk. Currently, about 9 million individuals participate in this nutrition assistance program.

The [Farm to School Initiative](#) is an effort to connect schools (K-12) with regional or local farms to serve healthy meals using locally produced foods.

The 2007 Census of Agriculture shows that U.S. farmers and ranchers are becoming more diverse and that the number of Asian operators grew 40 percent from 2002, significantly outpacing the 7 percent increase in U.S. operators overall.

Direct grants for nonprofit organizations and loan opportunities

from agencies within USDA are available. Eligibility varies, with some available to nonprofit organizations and local governments, and others for individuals and businesses. Organizations can apply directly for grants on the [Grants.gov](#) website (see more on [Grants.gov](#) on page 2).

The [Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program](#) (CFP) funds nonprofit organizations to meet the food needs of low-income people by increasing their communities' capacities to provide enough food for its residents. To be considered competitive for a CFP grant, organizations should have experience in community food work, job training, and business development in low-income communities, and the application has a dollar-for-dollar matching requirement.

Applicants should also demonstrate a willingness to share information with researchers and other practitioners. Projects can be funded from one to three years.

The [Risk Management Agency \(RMA\) Community Outreach and Assistance Partnership Program](#) provides funds to organizations which offer risk management training to limited resource, socially disadvantaged, traditionally underserved (including women), and beginning farmers and ranchers. RMA staff work closely with grantees and help to implement the program activities. Funding amounts and educational topics change annually and new focus areas are announced in the Federal Register.

The [Farmers Market Promotion Program](#) grants are designed to increase marketing opportunities for farmers to sell directly to consumers through farmers' markets, community-supported agriculture (CSA) programs, retail markets, and other direct marketing initiatives. These grants can go to nonprofits, agricultural cooperatives or producer associations, local governments, economic development corporations, regional farmers' market authorities, public benefit corporations, and tribal governments. Visit the [website](#) to read the full application requirements, review previously-funded programs, and see two recently released tools to assist organizations with the grant-writing process: a [pre-application guide](#) and a [presentation on grant-writing](#) regarding this program.

The [National Organic Program](#) (NOP) regulates the well-known "USDA Organic" label and ensures that customers are buying what is promised with that label. For farmers, NOP regulates what is allowed and not allowed under the USDA Organic label, as well as provides technical assistance and cost sharing to receive official organic accreditation. The [USDA strategic plan](#) calls for a 25 percent increase in organic production by 2015.

The [Rural Development Agency](#) (RD) has various grant and loan programs to help develop housing, community facilities, and businesses in small towns and rural communities (with exact definition of "rural" varying depending on program). Organizations can apply directly for grants on the [Grants.gov](#) website (see more on [Grants.gov](#) on page 2), but there is a wealth of information and technical assistance at state and local RD offices, which should be your first stop. RD administers programs, including [Value-Added Producer Grants](#), [Rural Business Enterprise Grants](#), [Rural Business Opportunity Grants](#), [Rural Cooperative Development Grants](#), and [Small Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grants](#).

The [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) has a leadership role in developing partnerships to help America's private landowners conserve their soil, water, and other natural resources. Certain programs also provide financial assistance for agricultural producers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters and pests. For example, the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program \(EQIP\) Organic Initiative](#) provides technical and financial assistance and equipment to farmers transitioning to organic production. Local NRCS offices can help create a conservation plan that will preserve farmland, protect natural resources, and reduce soil erosion.

Civil rights protection and enforcement prohibits discrimination against USDA's customers on the bases of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, familial status, disability, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from a public assistance program. [To file a program discrimination complaint](#), you may visit the website, call 202-260-1026 or 1-866-632-9992 (toll-free), send an email to CR-INFO@ascr.usda.gov, or write a letter to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410.

Department of Commerce (DOC)

How it can assist AAPIs

The DOC works to improve economic conditions that foster entrepreneurship and innovation within the U.S. and create global competitiveness and opportunities. DOC has 12 bureaus that administer programs in areas that include foreign trade, technology, economic development, and environmental stewardship. DOC services provide economic data about U.S. companies, statistical details about neighborhoods, and patent and trademark protection for inventors and businesses.

With 1.5 million AAPI-owned businesses in the U.S. generating more than \$507 billion dollars in sales and employing more than 2.8 million workers, success of AAPI-owned businesses is critical to the overall economy. Between 2002 and 2007, the number of U.S. businesses owned by Asian Americans increased by 40.4 percent, — more than twice the national rate.

— [U.S. Census Bureau](#), Census Bureau Reports the Number of Asian-Owned Businesses Increased at More Than Twice the National Rate, April 2011.

The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) assists minority-owned businesses by providing companies with tools to access capital, contract opportunities, and business consultants through its network of nearly [50 minority business centers](#) around the country that offer local experts who can help write business plans and marketing strategies; help locate capital and other funding resources; and provide technical assistance and financial planning to assure sufficient financing for business ventures. MBDA focuses on firms that generate \$1 million or more in annual revenue. While MBDA will assist any business seeking help, it often will refer smaller businesses, especially those starting out, to the Small Business Administration (SBA) (for more on the SBA see page 34).

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) promotes the economic revitalization of distressed communities by providing grant-based investments that attract private capital and create higher-skill, higher-wage jobs. EDA fosters two key elements through its [six regional offices](#): groundbreaking innovation by entrepreneurs, and regional collaboration between government entities, nonprofit organizations, education institutions, and Indian tribes. Among EDA's programs and investment priorities are:

- [Economic Adjustment Assistance](#), EDA's most flexible program tool, provides funding to communities to develop strategic plans, deliver technical assistance, or establish or recapitalize revolving loan funds, to address critical economic development needs in the wake of severe disruptions to their economies.
- The [University Center Economic Development](#) program provides strategic investments to help institutions of higher education promote the regional ecosystem and facilitate collaboration among regional stakeholders to foster economic development

The exporting of goods and services has increasingly become a next step for many AAPI entrepreneurs wanting to expand their businesses. More than 95 percent of the world's consumers live outside U.S. borders, according to the [International Trade Administration](#), which oversees [Export.gov](#), and provides tools for small business owners on how to enter the exporting industry, including:

- An online assessment to help determine whether a business is ready to pursue international sales.
- A webinar on basic information on exporting, product readiness, market research, and how to best comply with foreign regulations.

AAPI business owners can get export help and counseling through the [Export Assistance Centers](#) available in more than 100 cities. The offices are staffed by trade professionals who provide counseling and services with an emphasis on small- and mid-sized businesses.

Businesses wanting to protect their inventions, brand names, or symbols identifying their goods and services can do so through the [U.S. Patent and Trademark Office \(USPTO\)](#).

- Each year, USPTO receives about 350,000 patent applications, most of them for utility patents. For information on the application process, visit: <http://www.uspto.gov/patents/process> or call: 1-800-786-9199.
- Trademarks include words, names, symbols, or devices used to identify the goods and services of one business from those produced or sold by others. The trademark database can be found at <http://tess2.uspto.gov>. The application can be filed online at <http://www.uspto.gov/teas>.

Along with the once-every-decade head-count, the U.S. Census Bureau conducts more than 100 monthly and annual surveys that gather data about housing, transportation, education, employment, veterans services, public health care, rural development, and the environment. Census data provides everything from a neighborhood's average home value, commute times, and residential diversity, to unemployment figures and statistics on health insurance coverage, to what foreign languages are spoken at home and in which cities. Among the more frequently used Census surveys:

- The annual [American Community Survey](#) measures demographic, social, and economic characteristics that help describe the way we live and where we work.

STATISTICS

The Asian-alone population grew faster than any other major race group in the last census: Up 43 percent from 2000 to 2010. The single-race Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander population increased by more than one-third between censuses.

— U.S. Census Bureau, Presentation to the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, May 2011.

- [The Census of Governments](#) provides an overview of the lives of those whose livelihoods are supported by tax dollars—state and local government employees—and the financial state of the entities they work for.
- [The Survey of Income and Program Participation](#) collects data on incomes, employers, health-care costs, and such government programs as food assistance and subsidized housing.
- [The Survey of Business Owners](#) gathers data on the gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status of the people running businesses in the United States.

Grantee Spotlight: Foxit Corporation, Fremont, Calif.

Federal Program: Minority Business Development Administration; DOC

With a limited command of English and even less understanding of U.S. small business financing, Eugene Y. Xiong came to the U.S. in 1994 from China and set out to achieve the American dream. The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) assisted Xiong's Foxit Corporation in becoming a multi-million-dollar company, which produces an alternative to Adobe for PDF users, with customers including Microsoft, Intel and Hewlett Packard. Mr. Xiong never heard of MBDA before his banker referred him to the MBDA's San Jose Business Center after failed attempts to obtain loans and other financing. He recalls the first question he asked MBDA: How much will this cost me? The answer: Nothing. Mr. Xiong remembers the assistance he received from MBDA to grow his successful business.

When we were tight on cash flow, MBDA helped us find the right banking service, and we got the right cash that we needed to grow our business. They have been constantly in contact with us and provide consulting and referral services. We also received information about the government procurement process.

I didn't know there were government services like this. I wish I had learned about this earlier. This is the kind of service that people need to know about. My advice to small, minority-owned businesses, like my own, is this: Do not hesitate in seeing what resources the government can offer you.

More about MBDA and its services can be found at <http://www.mbda.gov>.

Department of Education (ED)

How it can assist AAPIs

ED establishes and executes the president's education policy, implements laws enacted by Congress, and administers and coordinates federal assistance to education. ED's elementary and secondary programs annually serve more than 14,000 school districts and approximately 56 million students attending some 97,000 schools and 28,000 private schools. Its programs also provide grant, loan, and work-study assistance to approximately 11 million postsecondary students.

The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) administers [all programs](#) for the country's elementary and secondary schools. Below are programs relevant to students and community organizations.

- [21st Century Community Learning Centers](#) provide academic enrichment opportunities during nonschool hours for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing

schools. Formula grants are provided to state education agencies (SEAs) and are sub-granted to local education agencies (LEAs), nonprofit organizations, or other public or private entities.

- The [Native Hawaiian Education Program](#) promotes innovative programs and supplemental education services (including early education, literacy, and postsecondary programs) for Native Hawaiians. Nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply directly.
- The [Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grants](#) for state and local activities gather comprehensive information about homeless children and youths and provides grants to SEAs to ensure that homeless children have equal access to free and appropriate public education.
- The [Teacher Incentive Fund](#) supports development of performance-based teacher and principal compensation systems in high-need schools. SEAs, LEAs, and nonprofit organizations may apply.
- The [Race to the Top](#) awards SEAs that are leading the way with ambitious yet achievable plans for implementing coherent, compelling, and comprehensive education reform.

The Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE) administers over [60 programs](#) that increase access to quality postsecondary education.

- The [Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions](#) program and the [Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions \(AANAPISI\)](#) program helps eligible institutions of higher education (IHEs) increase their self-sufficiency and expand their capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen the academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability of eligible IHEs.
- The [Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education \(FIPSE\)](#) supports innovative projects, reforms, and improvements in U.S. postsecondary education. Nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply directly.
- The [College Access Challenge Grant Program](#) helps low-income students succeed in postsecondary education by funding SEA programs to: provide information to students and families regarding postsecondary education and career preparation; promote financial literacy and debt management; conduct outreach activities; and other activities.
- [Federal TRIO Programs](#) include eight programs at IHEs and community organizations targeted to serve low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities to progress from middle school to postbaccalaureate programs. Programs include Talent Search, Upward Bound, and Student Support Services.

Federal Student Aid (FSA) administers grants, loans, and work-study assistance to postsecondary students. Students interested in any of these programs must complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#).

- The [Federal Pell Grant Program](#) provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and certain post baccalaureate students to promote access to postsecondary education.
- Other Federal Student Aid grants including the Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grants (TEACH) can be found [here](#).
- The [Federal Direct Student Loan Program](#) provides loans directly to students for undergraduate and graduate studies, through participating postsecondary schools, with funds borrowed from the

U.S. Treasury. Direct Loans include subsidized and unsubsidized loans, PLUS loans for parents and graduate or professional degree students, and consolidation loans, which allow borrowers to combine federal education loan debt.

- [Federal Work-Study](#) programs provide part-time employment for students while they are enrolled in school. Students are paid directly for their work and schools are responsible for administering the program.
- The [Stafford Loan Forgiveness Program for Teachers](#) forgives up to a combined total of \$17,500 in principal and interest on loans by individuals who teach full-time for five consecutive, complete academic years in certain elementary and secondary schools that serve low-income families. Students may also be eligible to [defer or cancel loans](#).

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) ensures equal access to education and promotes educational excellence through vigorous enforcement of civil rights. OCR serves students facing discrimination and the advocates and institutions promoting systemic solutions to civil rights problems. To file a complaint: You may contact an [OCR enforcement office](#), call 1-800-421-3481, or use the [online complaint form](#).

- ED, along with the departments of Defense, Justice, Health and Human Services, Agriculture, and the Interior form the Obama Administrations Inter-Agency Task Force on Bullying and launched both the *Stop Bullying Now Campaign* and <http://www.bullyinginfo.org>, a national database of effective anti-bullying programs.

Grantee Spotlight: South Seattle Community College; Seattle, Wash.

Federal Program: Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI); ED

South Seattle Community College (South) is located in a diverse residential neighborhood in southwest Seattle. It is the lowest income area in the Pacific Northwest. AAPIs comprise the largest group of color on campus at 23 percent of the student population. However, less than 3 percent of the surrounding AAPI community is enrolled, with most students coming from other parts of the country.

In 2008, South's vice president of Student Services read about the AANAPISI program in a local newspaper. Subsequently, with the help of a Community Advisory Committee formed by South's president and an institutional development consultant, they submitted a successful application and became one of the first six recipients in the country to receive the AANAPISI designation and funding.

South's AANAPISI grant focused on breaking down the barriers to access, retention, and success of AAPI students. Strategies included the development of culturally relevant programs that acknowledge the importance of family; engaging students through pedagogically sensitive learning communities; providing role models and mentoring; providing resources to transition to college level course work, offering two new degree options, and the development of a virtual website of promising practices and resources to support the success of AAPIs in higher education.

For institutions of higher education interested in the AANAPISI program, South recommends finding a strong internal champion and enlisting a campus coordinator to pull together a team and information to develop the grant. Institutions should also get input from their AAPI community and work to debunk the Model Minority Myth. To learn more about South's AANAPISI program, visit <http://www.aapiherc.southseattle.edu/>.

Department of Energy (DOE)

How it can assist AAPIs

DOE advances science and technology in disciplines relevant to energy, the environment, and security.

DOE supports a wide range of basic and applied scientific research. For example, through the [Office of Science](#), DOE offers research grants and contracts for universities, nonprofit organizations, for-profit commercial organizations, state and local governments, and unaffiliated individuals. The [Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy \(ARPA-E\)](#) provides funding opportunities for the research and development of high-risk and high-reward advanced energy technologies. DOE also supports [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics \(STEM\) education](#) to recruit new K–12 teachers, enhance existing STEM teacher knowledge and skills, and provide greater STEM education for students.

Energy efficiency: DOE works with [state governments](#) to fund a network of community action agencies, nonprofit organizations, and local governments to provide **weatherization information and services**, including weatherization of low-income homes. Consumers can get [tax credits](#) for home energy efficiency improvements, residential renewable energy, and automobiles. DOE provides homeowners with energy saving tips in the [Energy Savers booklet](#).

Loans and grants are available for small business innovation, training program development, energy efficient technology, lighting, and advanced energy manufacturing for industrial, commercial and residential energy efficiency purposes. Rebates and tax credits are also offered for energy-efficient businesses using renewable energy. The [Loan Programs Office](#) guarantees loans for eligible clean energy projects and provides direct loans to eligible manufacturers of advanced technology vehicles and components.

The Office of Procurement and Assistance Management (OPAM) oversees policies and procedures for all DOE contracting, financial assistance, and business-related activities. OPAM's [website](#) offers a thorough compendium of links to information on doing business with DOE. Small businesses seeking grants can participate in the [Office of Science's](#) Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBTT) Program. The [Office of Economic Impact and Diversity](#) works with minority-owned and other small businesses to advance DOE's mission.

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

How it can assist AAPIs

HHS is the principal agency for protecting the health of all individuals and providing essential human services. HHS administers more funding opportunities than all other federal agencies combined, with 400 grant programs across 18 agencies. Many HHS-funded programs are provided or administered at the local level by state or county agencies in conjunction with community organizations and the private sector.

HHS is responsible for implementing many components of the [Affordable Care Act \(ACA\)](#), signed into law on March 23, 2010, which gives Americans greater access and control in their health-care choices.

The passage of the ACA enhances HHS' charge to reduce health disparities through the development of offices of Minority Health in six agencies within HHS. The [HHS Action Plan to Reduce Health Disparities](#) and the [National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity](#) outline goals and actions, as well as public and private sector initiatives, to reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities.

AAPI women between the ages of 15-24 have the highest rates of suicide among women in that age group, and AAPI women over 65 have the highest rates of suicide among all races in that age.

— HHS, Office of Minority Health, [Health Status of Asian American and Pacific Islander Women](#), April 2007.

The [Office of Minority Health \(OMH\)](#) works in partnership with communities and organizations in the public and private sectors to improve the health of racial and ethnic minority populations through development of health policies and programs that will help eliminate health disparities. OMH programs address disease prevention, health promotion, risk reduction, healthier lifestyle choices, use of health-care services, and barriers to health care. OMH also administers [grant programs](#) to support community organizations and science-based efforts to eliminate health disparities. Call 1-800-444-6472 for more information.

The [National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities](#) advises the National Institutes of Health (NIH) on the development of NIH-wide policy issues related to minority and other health disparities research, develops a comprehensive strategic plan governing the conduct and support of this research, and administers funds through [grants](#) and through leveraging the programs of the NIH.

The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) works to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness. SAMHSA's [National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health](#), provides [grants](#) to build a national network of diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, and sexual minority communities and organizations to promote policies, practices, standards, and research to eliminate behavioral health disparities.

The following agencies within HHS work on the delivery of health care services.

The [Health Resources and Services Administration \(HRSA\)](#), comprised of six bureaus and 13 offices, is the primary federal agency for improving access to health-care services for people who are uninsured, isolated, or medically vulnerable. The [Bureau of Primary Health Care \(BPHC\)](#) funds health centers in underserved communities that provide access to high-quality, family-oriented, and comprehensive primary and preventive health care for people who are low-income, uninsured, or face other obstacles to getting health care. For funding opportunities, visit <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants>, and for locating local health centers, visit findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov.

The [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#) administers: [Medicare](#), a health insurance program for people age 65 or older; people under age 65 with certain disabilities; and people of all ages with end-stage renal disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant); [Medicaid](#), a state-administered program and available only to certain low-income individuals and families who fit into an eligibility group that is recognized by federal and state law; and the [Children's Health Insurance Programs \(CHIP\)](#), a state and federal partnership that targets uninsured children and pregnant women in families with incomes too high to qualify for most state Medicaid programs, but often too low to afford private coverage. The [Center for Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight](#), within CMS, oversees the implementation of the provisions of the ACA related to private health insurance.

In 2009, HRSA health centers served roughly 19 million Americans, including nearly 500,000 Asian Americans. Nearly two-thirds of Asian Americans served by these health centers had limited English proficiency

— HHS, Health Resources and Services Administration, May 2011.

The following agencies within HHS work on prevention measures to protect the public health.

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) protects the public health of the nation by providing leadership and direction in the prevention and control of diseases and other preventable conditions and responding to public health emergencies.

The [Division of Viral Hepatitis](#) provides the scientific and programmatic foundation for the prevention, control, and elimination of hepatitis virus infections in the United States, and assists the international public health community in these activities.

The [Division of Diabetes Translation](#) translates diabetes research into daily practice to better understand the impact of the disease, influence health outcomes, and improve access to quality health care. The [National Diabetes Education Program](#) (NDEP) is a joint effort of CDC and NIH and involves public and private partners in efforts to improve diabetes management and outcomes, promote early diagnoses, and prevent or delay the onset of diabetes in the U.S. and its territories. NDEP resources in AAPI languages are available on its [website](#).

The [U.S. Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA) ensures that human and animal drugs, biological products, and medical devices are safe and effective and that electronic products that emit radiation are safe.

The following agencies within HHS work on human services.

The [Administration for Children and Families](#) (ACF) promotes the economic and social well-being of America's most vulnerable populations and communities. ACF's programs ([ACF Directory of Program Services](#)) are focused on individuals and families with low income, refugees, people with developmental disabilities, and others.

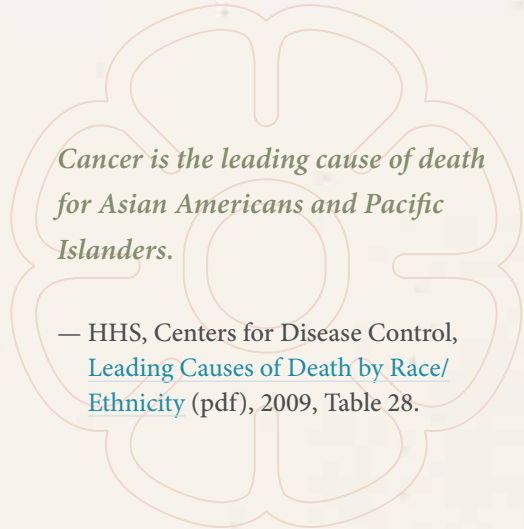
The [Office of Refugee Resettlement](#) oversees and provides guidance to state-administered programs that provide assistance and services to refugee, asylees, certain Amerasian immigrants, Cuban and Haitian entrants, as well as victims of human trafficking.

The [Office of Family Assistance](#) administers [Temporary Assistance for Needy Families \(TANF\) programs](#), time-limited assistance to needy families with children to promote work, responsibility, and self-sufficiency.

The [Office of Head Start](#) provides grants to local public and private nonprofits and for-profit agencies to provide comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families, and has a special focus on helping preschoolers develop early reading and math skills.

The [Child Care and Development Fund](#) provides funding for states to improve the quality of child care and to provide child care assistance for so they can work or attend training or obtain other education. Each state has its own eligibility guidelines. You may apply for child care assistance at a state or local agency.

The [Family and Youth Services Bureau](#) provides a number of programs addressing youth and family issues, including programs for runaway and homeless youths, teen pregnancy prevention, and family violence prevention and services. Additionally, the FYSB administers funding from [the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act](#), the primary federal funding stream dedicated to the support of emergency shelter and related assistance for victims of domestic violence and their dependents. [The National Clearinghouse on Families & Youth](#) is an information resource that assists current and prospective FYSB grantees, and anyone else who



Cancer is the leading cause of death for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

— HHS, Centers for Disease Control, [Leading Causes of Death by Race/Ethnicity](#) (pdf), 2009, Table 28.

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