

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Eligibility falls into two distinct categories: public and non-profit.

PUBLIC AGENCIES

Federal Property Management Regulations define the types of eligible donees in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 41, Chapter 101, Section 101-44.207 as:

- State or department, agency, or instrumentality thereof,
- Political subdivision of the State, including any unit of local government or economic development district, or any department, agency, or instrumentality thereof,
- Instrumentality created by compact or other agreement between States or political subdivisions,
- Multi jurisdictional sub-State districts established by or pursuant to State Law, and
- Indian tribe, band, pueblo, or community located on a State reservation.

Surplus Property acquired through Mississippi Office of Surplus must be used by the public agency to carry out or to promote for the residents of a given political area one or more public purposes. Absolutely no property may be obtained for personal use. Activities and functions involved in designated public programs may include but are not limited to:

- Conservation
- Economic Development
- Education
- Parks and Recreation
- Public Health
- Public Safety
- Other Public Purposes

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

Certain non-profit organizations may qualify to participate in the activities of the Mississippi Office of Surplus Property. All non-profit organizations must have a determination from the IRS indicating that they are tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) or the IRS code of 1954. The non-profit organization must also be licensed, accredited, or otherwise certified to supply a basic education or health benefit to the public. Such organizations include, but are not limited to:

- Educational Institutions-preschool/daycare, K-12 schools, colleges, trade

schools, museums, other educational activities

Health Organizations-hospitals, nursing homes, personal care homes, clinics, volunteer fire departments, other health activities

Providers of Assistance to the Homeless-must include a letter from a Public Official of the town/city stating the applicant is recognized as a necessary Provider of Assistance to the homeless individuals in the area. Also required is, a copy of the IRS Certification letter under section 501 of the IRS code (501 C3) and an in depth narrative describing services offered. A copy of your Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. Assurance that the applicant will comply with GSA's regulations on non-discrimination. If applicable a license may be required. These documents will need to accompany your application. Failure to do so will only prolong the application process.

Keep in mind that if you are qualifying as a provider of assistance to the homeless, your primary function must be to, (i) serve people who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence or they serve people that have a nighttime residence in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations, (ii) an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or (iii) a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. The term does not include any individual imprisoned or otherwise detained pursuant to an Act of the Congress or a State Law.

Providers of Assistance to the Impoverished-must include a letter from a Public Official of the town/City stating the applicant is recognized as a necessary provider to the impoverished individuals in the area. Also required is a copy of the IRS certification under the section 501 of the IRS code (501 C3) and an in depth narrative describing services offered. A copy of your Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. Details on your physical facilities including hours your facility is staffed; qualifications of staff and general duties as appropriate. Assurance that the applicant will comply with GSA's regulations on non-discrimination. If applicable, a license may be required. These documents will need to accompany your application. Failure to do so will only prolong the application process.

You need to be aware that your primary function as Providers of Assistance to the Impoverished, is to serve people primarily below the poverty level.

Eligibility rules are quite detailed, and all applications are carefully examined and determination of eligibility is made on a case-by-case basis.