



**FEMA**

**FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017 PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (PSGP)  
NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO) – KEY CHANGES**

**Authorized Use of Contractual Grant Writers**

For FY 2017, grant writer services as a pre-award cost will be allowed. Costs resulting from pre-award grant writing services provided by an independent contractor shall not exceed \$1,500. Grant writing contractors will be allowed to assist the applicant in preparing, writing, and finalizing grant application materials and assisting the applicant with handling online application and submission requirements in Grants.gov and ND Grants. Grant writers may assist in a variety of ways up to and including the actual submission of the application. Applicants are informed that ultimately, the application and all information contained therein is the sole responsibility of the eligible applicant. As with all grant-funded procurements, grant writing services must be procured in accordance with the Federal procurement standards at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317 – 200.326. No employee, officer, or agent of the recipient may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) considers a contracted grant-writer to be an agent of the recipient for any subsequent contracts the recipient procures under the same Federal award in which the grant-writer provided grant writing services.