

# County of Maui

## FY27 Countywide Grants Modernization

### Committee Briefing Handout

The County of Maui is implementing a comprehensive modernization of the County's grants framework to improve transparency, consistency, compliance, and fiscal stewardship across departments. The following initiatives are planned for FY27.

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## 1. Countywide Grants Governance

### Countywide Grants Network

- Establishment of a Countywide network of departmental grant managers and staff
- Quarterly coordination meetings to share best practices, training, and compliance guidance

### Countywide Administrative Rules

- Adoption of uniform Administrative Rules under **MCC Chapter 3.36**
- Replaces fragmented department-level rules with a consistent Countywide framework

### Companion Countywide Grants Policy Manual

Operational policies supporting the Administrative Rules, including:

- Fiscal Sponsor Policy
  - Fiscal Sponsor Allotment Policy
  - Compensation of Board Members Using Grant Funds Policy
  - Grant Application Vetting and Scoring Policy
  - Conflict of Interest Policy for Evaluators
  - Interdepartmental Grant Transfer Policy
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## 2. Program Improvements

### Small Grants Program

RECEIVED AT BFED MEETING ON 3-10-2026

Cynthia Lallo

- New simplified application process for grants \$25,000 and under
- Maintains MCC 3.36 accountability while reducing administrative burden

### **Grantee Readiness Filter**

- Countywide readiness checklist to evaluate applicant capacity, including:
  - Organizational history
  - Fiscal controls
  - Prior grant performance
  - Administrative capacity

Organizations without a proven track record may apply using a **qualified fiscal sponsor**.

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## **3. Technology and Transparency**

### **Countywide Grants Management Platform**

Implementation of centralized grants software for:

- Application intake
- Evaluation and scoring
- Agreement management
- Payment tracking
- Compliance monitoring
- Closeout documentation

### **Centralized Grant Tracking**

Countywide tracking of both:

- Incoming grants (County as grantee)
- Outgoing grants (County as grantor)

### **County Grants Website**

A new centralized webpage providing:

- All County grant opportunities
  - Department program links
  - Grant writing resources and training materials
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## 4. Training and Professional Development

### Countywide Grants Summit

Annual summit for County grant managers and writers to focus on:

- Compliance and fiscal accountability
- Fraud, waste, and abuse prevention
- Industry best practices
- Updates to Federal and State grant requirements

### Ongoing Standardized Training

- Training for departmental grant staff
  - Resources for community applicants
  - Guidance on reporting and documentation requirements
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## 5. Operational Improvements

### Residency Area Funds

- Designation of a **Residency Area Grant Manager** to oversee compliance and coordination of Council residency-area grants.

### Advancement Documentation Timeline

- Standardized reporting timeframe extended from **30 days to 90 days** for documentation supporting advance payments.
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## 6. Recommended Code Adjustments (MCC Chapter 3.36)

To strengthen implementation and clarity, the following code updates are recommended:

### Allotment Payment Authority

Clarify the County's authority to issue grant payments through allotment-based disbursement structures when appropriate.

## **Countywide Administrative Rules**

Shift from department-specific administrative rules to a unified Countywide grants administrative rule framework.

## **Organizational Eligibility**

Require nonprofit applicants to:

- Demonstrate a minimum two-year operating history with the service or activity for which funds are sought, or otherwise demonstrate sufficient expertise with the service or activity.
  - Apply through a qualified fiscal sponsor that meets County eligibility standards.
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