

GATA IS GOOD GOVERNMENT

- The Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) began as a grassroots grantee effort in 2009 out of frustration with burdensome redundancies in grant administration. The Management Improvement Initiative Committee (MIIC) (HB 5124 2010) laid the human services groundwork for GATA. Duplication is significant. 83% of grantees receive awards from more than one state agency. There are nearly 8,575 duplications of common requirements.
- Grants are a major component of the State's operations. Grants comprise approximately 66% of Illinois' general revenue budget. Illinois has over 7,000 unique grantees. Illinois was awarded over \$27.5 billion in federal aid in fiscal year 2017 per the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA).
- Under Governor Quinn, GATA became law in 2014 (30 ILCS 708) to establish consistent, federally compliant requirements for all grants regardless of the source of funding. The sunset provision was removed in 2018 with nearly unanimous support of PA 100-0676.
- GATA does not set grant management rules, but adopts federal Uniform Guidance for all grants. The same life cycle grant management rules would apply with or without GATA.
- Illinois was the first state to implement statewide lifecycle grant management. The Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recognized Illinois' efforts as a promising practice that eliminates redundancies, increases effectiveness and drives compliance in statewide grant management. The National Council of Nonprofits and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy heralds Illinois as a national model.
- Nationally, GATA is recognized as innovative legislation and best practice in life cycle grant management. Illinois' innovations in grant management have led to 38 states and jurisdictions and 3 federal agencies adopting GATA-like legislation or frameworks in whole or in part. Federal OMB is discussing the use of GATA frameworks and systems to promote grant compliance among federal agencies.
- GATA frameworks centralize federally required, common business practices. Compliance functions are performed once and relied upon by all agencies. Flexibility is accommodated through an exception process designed after the federal model.

For more information about GATA, visit our website at www.grants.illinois.gov.