



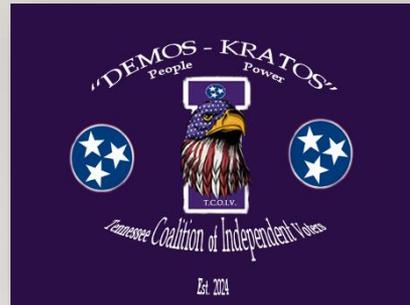
PART 2: HOW DO TAX DOLLARS FLOW DOWN TO CONSTITUENTS?

TENNESSEE HOUSE DISTRICT 53

VOTER EDUCATION SERIES

THD53

Voter Education Series



PART 2: OBJECTIVES

Upon the completion of this section observers will:

Be introduced to the formal process for setting the Tennessee State Budget

Learn how the Representative can act on behalf of constituents during the budget approval process

Be introduced to some methods for assisting community groups, grass-root efforts and government agencies to work collectively in the allocation and use of public dollars

THE TENNESSEE STATE BUDGET ALLOCATION PROCESS



BUDGETARY PROCESS



Planning and Estimation:

- Immediately after a new fiscal year begins each July, the staff of the Division of Budget begins making plans for the budget that will be considered by **the General Assembly** for the subsequent fiscal year.

Preparation of the Budget:

- After the receipt of agency budget requests, analysts with the Division of Budget begin the process of **balancing expenditures against estimated revenues**. Within this constraint, funds must be provided for **Administration initiatives of high priority**, activities that must be sustained as mandated by state or federal statute, and the day-to-day operation of state government.

BUDGETARY PROCESS CONTINUE



Legislative Deliberation:

- After the Budget Document and Budget Message have been presented, the appropriation process is initiated. The Appropriations Bill, prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, is introduced and referred to the Finance, Ways, and Means Committees of both houses of the Legislature. The Senate and House of Representatives must ultimately pass the exact version of the Appropriations Bill for it to be enacted into law.

Budget Execution:

- *When passage of the Appropriations Bill is complete and it is enacted into law, the execution of the act begins.* Invariably, there are changes from the Budget Document as presented by the Governor to the General Assembly and the Appropriations Act that is adopted.

ADMINISTRATIVE TENNESSEE AGENCIES



Subsequently after the general assembly has passed the budget and it is signed into law by the governor, it is in the hands of the various state agencies to administrate public funds. Their actions are directed in part by the input of legislators (the Representative) during the planning process. Relative agencies for our discussion are:

Department of Education

- 21st Century Community Center Grants
- Family Literacy Grants
- Supplementary Educational Support Grants

Department of Health

- Community Education Grant
- Other Subcontracts Opportunities

ADMINISTRATIVE TENNESSEE AGENCIES CONTINUE

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Economic & Community Development

- Community Development Block Grants
- Business Resources
- Entrepreneurism

Juvenile and Family Courts

- RFPS/Grants
- Identifying contractual opportunities

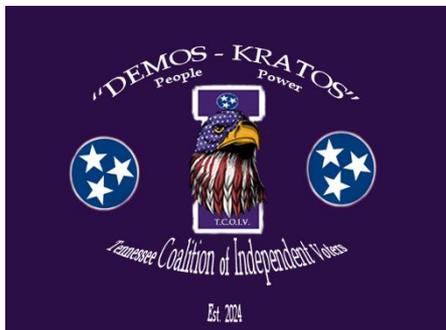


PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR USE OF STATE FUNDS



Based on the intended legislative purpose and description of qualified recipients, provisions and application of funding state sponsored programs, services etc., the designated state agency set requirements for granting awards, subcontracts and or grants. During the planning process involving members of the General Assembly, the Representative has the greatest opportunity to ensure that their constituent's needs are considered in the distribution formula.

GENERAL GRANT/CONTRACT APPLICATION PROCESS

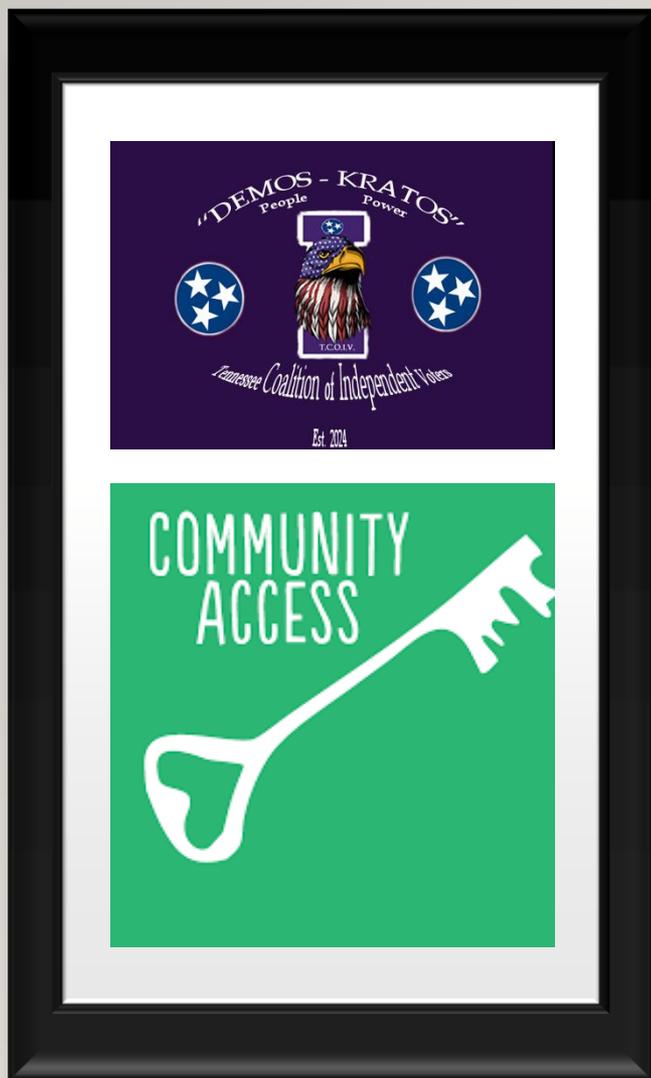


After eligibility guidelines are established each agency craft specific application requirements for applying for available grant funds and or contractual services. At this level there should be a clear means of informing constituents of opportunities and how to navigate the application process. Open communication between the Representative and constituents is very important for this to work effectively.

COMMUNITY ACCESS TO APPROPRIATED STATE FUNDING

As the candidate for the office of Representative is engaging constituents of their respective district, it is important to make sure that constituents are:

- Organized on the voter precinct level
- Aware of funding opportunities
- Trained in the process of searching out and applying for funds



STAY TUNED FOR
PART 3:

CURRENT STATUS OF
TENNESSEE HOUSE
DISTRICT 53- ISSUES
OF IMPORTANCE?

**TENNESSEE HOUSE
DISTRICT 53**

**VOTER EDUCATION
SERIES**

