

**661—600.9(80) Competitive grants.** If funds are available to the board to award grants on a competitive basis for projects to further the purposes of the board, the chairperson shall appoint an advisory committee to review grant applications. The chairperson of the advisory committee shall be a voting member of the board, although other members may be members of the board or other persons with expertise helpful in evaluating grant applications. The statewide interoperability coordinator shall, prior to the solicitation of applications for the grant funds and with the approval of the board, develop a grant application form and an evaluation methodology which shall be understandable and made available to any prospective applicant. The availability of grant funds shall be made known as widely as practicable prior to the deadline for accepting applications.

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