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The Institute of Museum Services (IMS) is an independent Federal agency, established in 1976 to increase and improve museum services. You may be interested to know that IMS supports: aquariums, arboretums, and botanical gardens, art museums, children's and junior museums, general museums, historic museums, historic sites and houses, nature centers, natural history and anthropology museums, planetariums, science and technology centers, specialized museums, and zoological parks.

IMS programs are open to museums of all sizes — grantees include those with only one staff member and those with more than 2,000, and with annual operating budgets ranging from less than $10,000 to over $70 million. The focus of IMS programs is national: museums in urban, suburban and rural areas are all eligible.

The IMS provides funds through the following programs:

**General Operating Support Program (GOS) (FY89 - $17.3 million)**

GOS provides grants to museums for operations. Funds are awarded through a competitive peer review process, which focuses on the extent to which museums effectively use available resources. Grants are limited to 10 percent of the museum's prior year budget up to a maximum established annually. To be eligible for this program a museum must have been open to the public for two years.

Application available — August, 1989
Application Deadline — November 3, 1989
Recipients announced — May 18, 1990

**Conservation Project Support Program (CP) (FY89 - $3.2 million)**

CP provides matching grants to museums for projects to conserve the museum's collections. Awards are competitive and generally do not exceed $25,000. However, larger grants are available for projects designed to benefit a broad range of museums or types of collections. This program also requires that the museum has been open to the public for two years.

Application available — October, 1989
Application deadline — January 26, 1990
Recipients announced — August 10, 1990

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Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) (FY90 - $550,000 requested)

CAP is a pilot program that will fund an overall assessment of the conditions of a museum's environment and collections to identify conservation needs and priorities. Awards will be made on a first-come, first-served basis beginning in FY 1990.

Pilot program for 1990

Museum Assessment Programs (MAP, MAP II and MAP III) (FY89 - $400,000)

MAP funds an overall assessment of a museum's operations (MAP), or of collection-related policies and procedures (MAP II). An additional component, MAP III, is now being developed to provide assessments of the public dimension of museum operations. Awards are made on a first-come, first-served basis.

MAP application deadlines - October 27, 1989 and April 27, 1990
Recipients announced - two months after deadline

MAP II application deadlines - January 26, 1990 and July 27, 1990
Recipients announced - two months after deadline

Professional Services Program (PSP) (FY89 - $250,000)

PSP provides funds to professional museum associations for projects that serve the museum community. Awards generally do not exceed $50,000.

Application available - December, 1989
Application deadline - April 6, 1990
Recipients announced - August 17, 1990