

U.S. Grant-in-Aid System: An Evaluation of Its Performance

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Abstract

This study is devoted to the evaluation of three major Grant-in-Aid systems ever implemented by the Federal Government. They are revenue sharing, categorical grant and block grant. Emphasis is placed on the analyses of the characteristics and functions of each of the three categories. In addition, the interactions between the Federal Government and state and local governments for carrying out the related grants have also been examined. Evaluations are based on two sources: the academical findings and studies, as well as the Congressional assessments, particularly those undertaken by the U.S. General Accounting Office for its evaluations of 13 states. In conclusion, the author makes a comment on the accountability relationship of the U.S. federal system, and forecasts its future development.