

National Grants Website Login Issues

If you are having problems accessing our website through the newly implemented personalized login feature and are using one of the following versions of Windows:

- Windows 95
- Windows 98 First Edition

The problem may be due to the way that our new website uses authentication and cookies. Microsoft has not developed any newer versions of Internet Explorer for the above operating systems to address these issues. We have found that by using an alternate web browser, known as Firefox, we were able to get the National Grants website to function properly. Please follow the instructions below. The procedure has been tested and works successfully, but due to the fact that Microsoft no longer supports Windows 95 or the first edition release of Windows 98, no guarantees on its functionality are expressed or implied.

BEFORE TRYING THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE OR IF YOU ARE USING A DIFFERENT O.S. (OPERATING SYSTEM), DOWNLOAD ALL CRITICAL SYSTEM AND WEB BROWSER UPDATES.

Windows Updates:

<http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com>

Macintosh Updates:

<http://www.apple.com/support/>

Running Firefox in Windows 95 (and Windows 98 original release)

Despite installer issues, Firefox actually does work well when running under Windows 95, which is good news for people still running an operating system that Microsoft no longer supports. (The last version of Internet Explorer for Windows 95 was version 5.5SP2 and Microsoft no longer has it available for downloading.)

Installation Instructions

- There are a couple of tricks to getting it to work. Please follow the step-by-step instructions below:
- Run [Windows Update](http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/), (<http://windowsupdate.microsoft.com/>) if available to you, and install any outstanding patches, updates, etc.
- Download and install this [Microsoft Libraries Update for Windows 95](http://download.microsoft.com/msdownload/LibrariesUpdate/1.0/x86/en/SPEU.exe) (<http://download.microsoft.com/msdownload/LibrariesUpdate/1.0/x86/en/SPEU.exe>) ([explained here](#))

(http://www.microsoft.com/windows95/downloads/contents/WURecommended/S_WUServicePacks/MFCLibrary/Default.asp)

** Windows 98 users download the [Microsoft Libraries Update for Windows 98](http://www.microsoft.com/windows98/downloads/contents/WURecommended/S_WUFeatured/Libraries/Default.asp)
(http://www.microsoft.com/windows98/downloads/contents/WURecommended/S_WUFeatured/Libraries/Default.asp)

- NOTE: You will need to reboot once this is installed.
- Now download [a standard Firefox installer](http://www.spreadfirefox.com/community/?q=affiliates&id=4172&t=85).
(<http://www.spreadfirefox.com/community/?q=affiliates&id=4172&t=85>)
- Run Firefox Setup 1.0.exe and install as normal.
- Once you get to the point where Firefox launches for the first time, an error (This application has performed an illegal operation) will occur as Firefox attempts to start its Import functionality (which does not work in Windows 95). Just click close.
- Reboot your PC to return your operating system to a stable state
- Now, launch Firefox again using your Start Menu
- Click on the address bar in the top
- Type in the URL (web address) <http://www.nationalgrants.com>
- Hit the 'Enter' key
- When the website loads, you will notice that all of the images aren't viewable. Click on the link located in the center of where the image would be to download the plugin required to view the images.
- After the plugin is done installing you will be able to click on the 'Login' button and everything should work fine!

ALL OF THE INFORMATION BELOW IS OPTIONAL AND IS NOT NEEDED TO
MAKE THE NATIONAL GRANTS WEBSITE RUN PROPERLY.

These additional tweaks, though not mandatory, help the Firefox browser run more smoothly on older personal computers.

Fixing the Window Icon

By default, Firefox in Windows 95, 98 and Me will use a standard Microsoft Windows icon for its window icon when running. To fix this, do the following:

(Optional) Set icons to use 256 colors:

- Right-click on your desktop and select Properties
- Select the Plus! tab (Effects tab in Windows 98/Me)
- If you don't have a plus tab in Windows 95, download the [Windows 95 Font Smoother](http://download.microsoft.com/download/b/c/8/bc8e0960-c558-4c26-bae4-65d86023df31/w95gray.exe) (http://download.microsoft.com/download/b/c/8/bc8e0960-c558-4c26-bae4-65d86023df31/w95gray.exe) patch from Microsoft ([explained here](http://www.microsoft.com/typography/grayscale/smoother.htm)) (http://www.microsoft.com/typography/grayscale/smoother.htm)
- Check off "Show icons using all possible colors" (and "Smooth edges of screen fonts" if you'd like) and click OK
- If they weren't already checked, you'll probably have to reboot Windows
- Head to C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\Chrome and create a subdirectory called icons
- Within this new icons directory, create a directory called default
- Download this main-window.ico file and save it to the default directory you just created
- (Optional) Download this same icon as bookmark-window.ico and jsconsoleWindow.ico to use this as your icon for these Firefox windows as well.
- Restart Firefox for these changes to take effect.

Getting the Mouse Scroll Wheel Working

You may find that your scroll wheel doesn't work with Firefox, even though it works in other programs. Sometimes, scroll wheels don't work at all in Windows 95. The best bet to try to get things working is to install the latest drivers provided by your mouse's manufacturer (check their website). They should get things up and running in Windows 95 for you. You may be able to get it working by using Microsoft's Intellipoint software. Keep in mind... this is a bit of a hack... and could make your mouse stop working... but here's what you do:

- Head to the [Microsoft Mouse and Keyboard Download page](http://www.microsoft.com/hardware/mouseandkeyboard/Download.msp). (http://www.microsoft.com/hardware/mouseandkeyboard/Download.msp)

- For product, select Wheel Mouse
- For Operating System, select Windows 95
- For language, select your OS language
- Click on the GO button
- Download the file to your computer and then run it to install
- During install, if it asks which mouse you are using, select Wheel Mouse again
- Reboot when prompted
- Your mouse should now scroll in Firefox

Considerations

It is important to keep in mind that Firefox does not officially support Windows 95, so bug reports should not be sent back to Mozilla.

The preceding has been compiled by Christopher Stennie in the Proven Methods IT Department using information from various internet sites.