



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

July 23, 2014

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator  
170 Westminister Street, Suite 1100  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Senator Whitehouse:

Administrator Contreras-Sweet has asked me to respond to your recent letter in support of the Chafee Center for International Business at Bryan University in Rhode Island.

On April 20, 2014, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) issued a program announcement OIT-STEP-2014-01 regarding funding assistance under the State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program. We are in the process of reviewing the applications we received. We will give each application full consideration in accordance with the selection criteria listed in the program announcement.

We appreciate your support of SBA and the Rhode Island small business community. If you and your staff have any questions, please contact the SBA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-6700.

Sincerely,

Luz Hopewell  
Deputy Associate Administrator