Types of Funding

Block Grant
A Block Grant is a type of mandatory grant in which the recipients (normally states) have substantial authority over the type of activities to support, with minimal federal administrative restrictions. The basic premise is that states should be free to target resources and design administrative mechanisms to provide services to meet the needs of their citizens.

Cooperative Agreement
An award of financial assistance that is used to enter into the same kind of relationship as a grant. It is distinguished from a grant in that it provides for substantial involvement between the federal agency and the recipient in carrying out the activity contemplated by the award. A Cooperative Agreement is a financial assistance mechanism used in lieu of a grant when substantial federal programmatic involvement with the recipient during performance is anticipated by the awarding agency. A Substantial involvement means that the recipient can expect federal programmatic collaboration or participation in managing the project.

Demonstration Grant
A grant made to establish an innovative project or program that will serve as a model to demonstrate the feasibility of an approach or theory. If successful, it may be an example for others.

Discretionary Grants
A discretionary grant awards funds on the basis of a competitive process. The department reviews applications, in part through a formal review process, in light of the legislative and regulatory requirements and published selection criteria established for a program. The review process gives the department discretion to determine which applications best address the program requirements and are, therefore, most worthy of funding.

Formula Grants
Formula grant programs are noncompetitive awards based on a predetermined formula. These programs are sometimes referred to as state-administered programs.

Planning Grant
The purpose of planning grants are to demonstrate the need for health services in a community from public or nonprofit organizations seeking a grant to plan for the development of a comprehensive primary care center under the Health Center Program authorized under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act.

Private Sector Grants and Funding
Foundation and corporate grants that allocate funds for a specified purpose.