

Sustaining Your Mission

Competitive Grants Designed for Nonprofits

Today's Presenters



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TODAY'S AGENDA

01 | Steps to Grant Readiness

02 | Types of Grant Funding

03 | Federal and State Grants

04 | Foundation Funding

05 | Selecting Grants

06 | Grants Office Services and How to Engage



Steps to Grant Readiness

Tips for Getting Your Organization "Grant Ready"

1. Seek leadership support
2. Assemble your grant seeking team early
3. Confirm needed accounts/registrations are active
4. Prepare for grants before they open
5. Actively source opportunities
6. Create a grant seeking documents folder & calendar
7. Create and maintain relationships

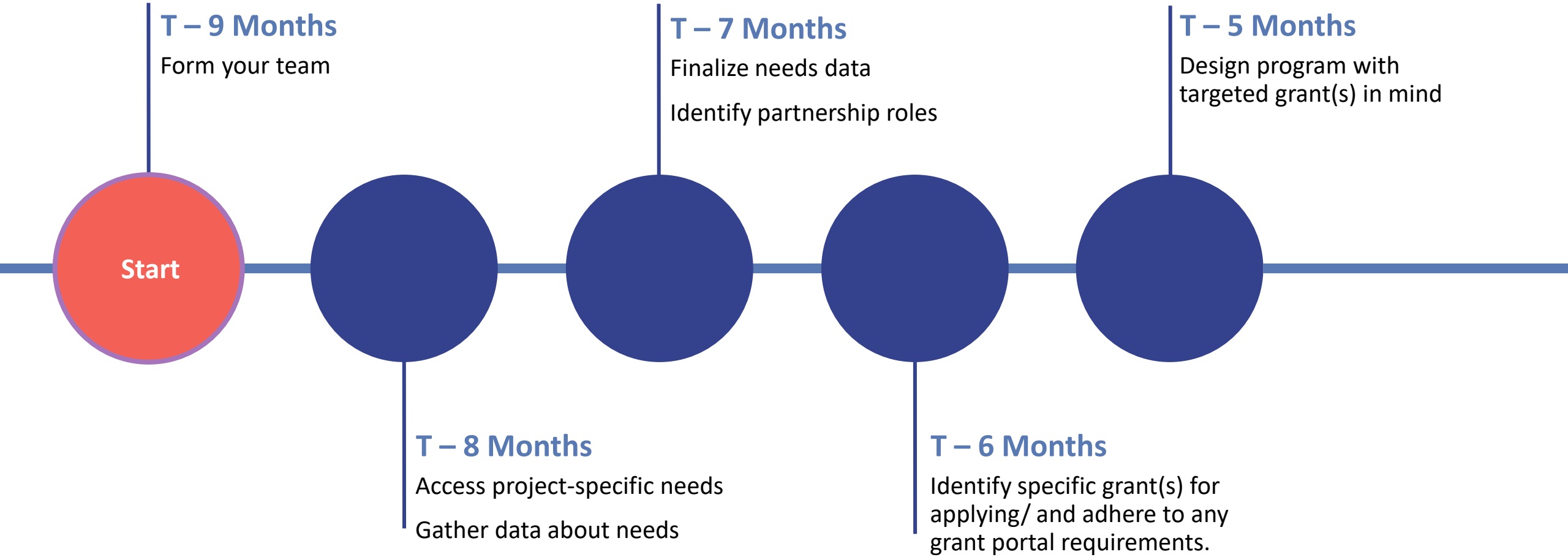


Tips for Getting Your Project Grant-Ready

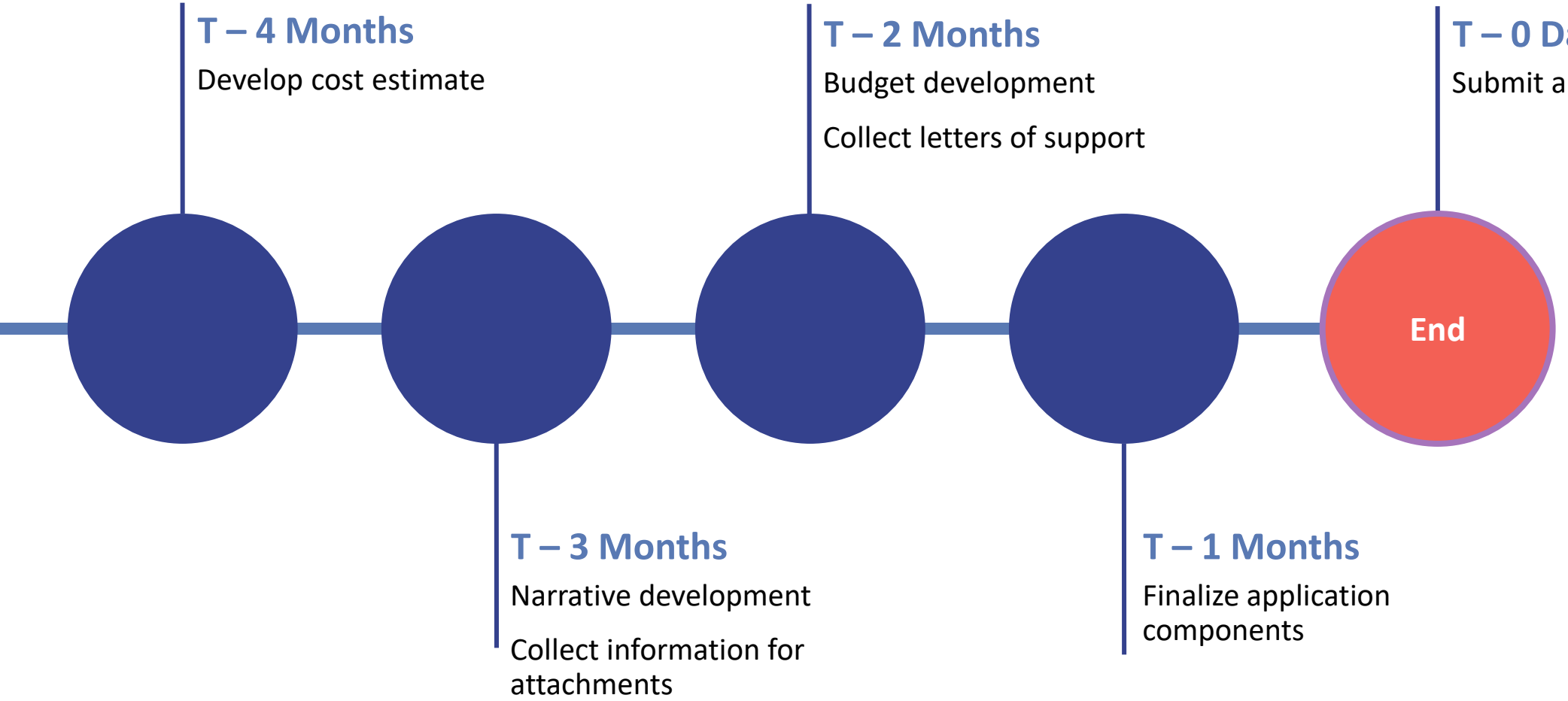
1. Craft your needs statement
2. Outline your project plan
3. Document your project goals
4. Confirm your required resources
5. Draft your story
6. Select your grants strategically



Grant Project Application Timeline



Grant Project Application Timeline

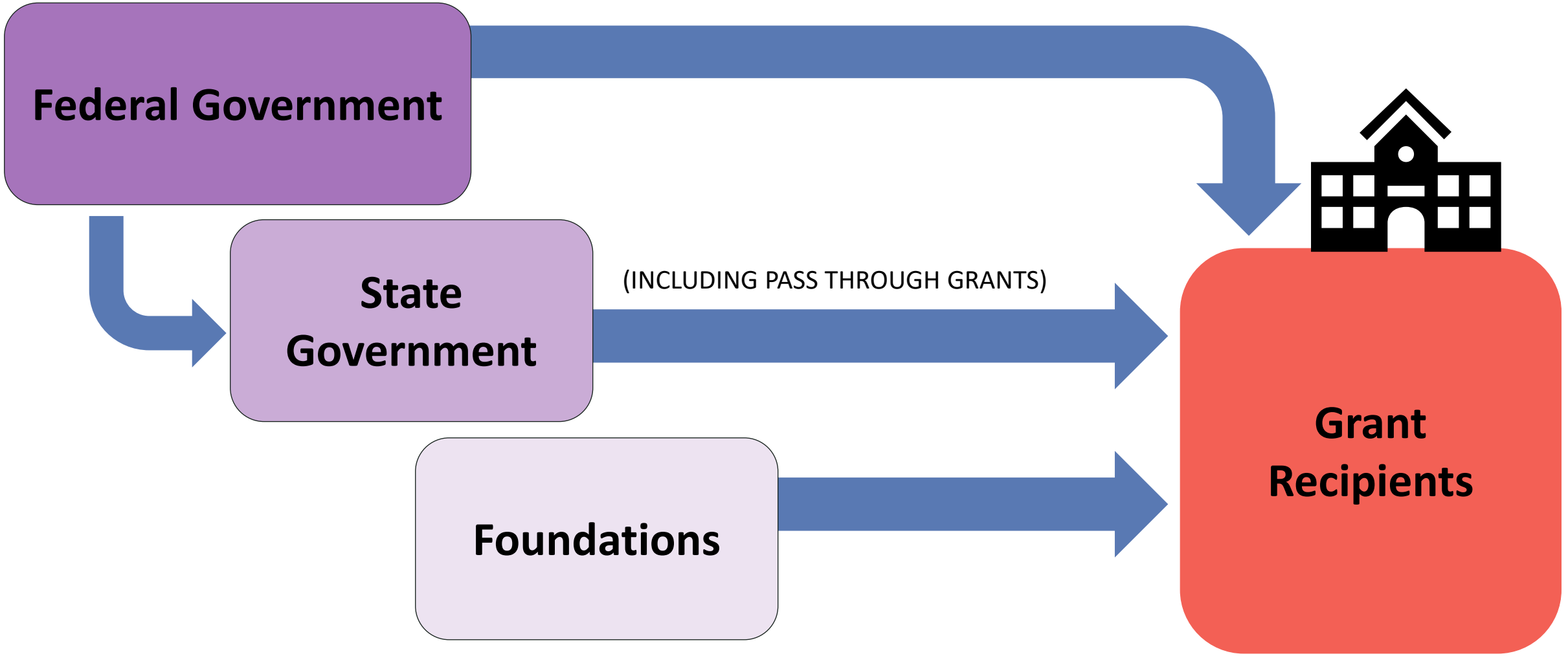


Types of Grant Funding

Grants are **funds given** by an entity (e.g. public body, charitable foundation, or a specialized grant-making institution) to another entity for a **specific purpose** linked to **public benefit**.



Sources of Funding



Top Sources of Grant Funding in the United States

Federal Government Agencies

Public Funding
$700B+ USD annually

State Government Agencies

Public Funding
$100B+ USD annaully

Family, Community, & Corporate Foundations

Private Funding
$70B+ USD annually



Funding Trends for Nonprofits

Federal Grants:

- Emphasis on Immigration enforcement and DEI restrictions

State Grants:

- States may expand grant funding to fill the gaps in federal restrictions

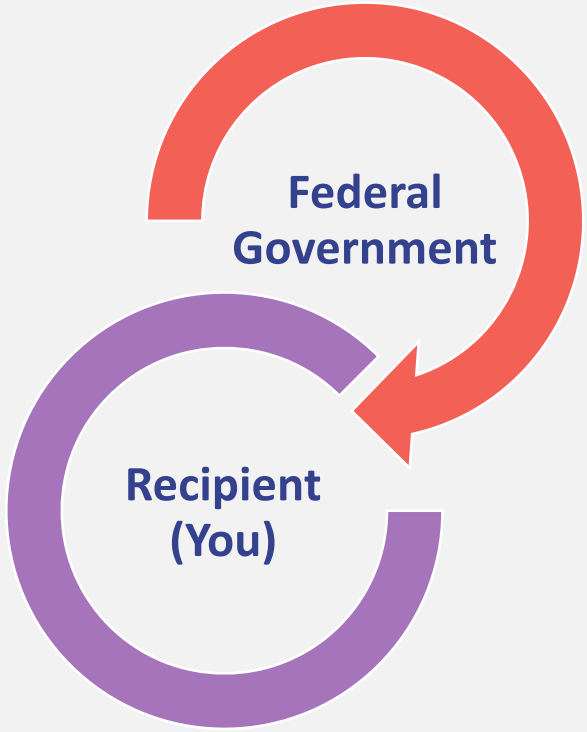
Foundation Grants:

- May become more competitive due to federal funding restrictions

Federal and State Grants

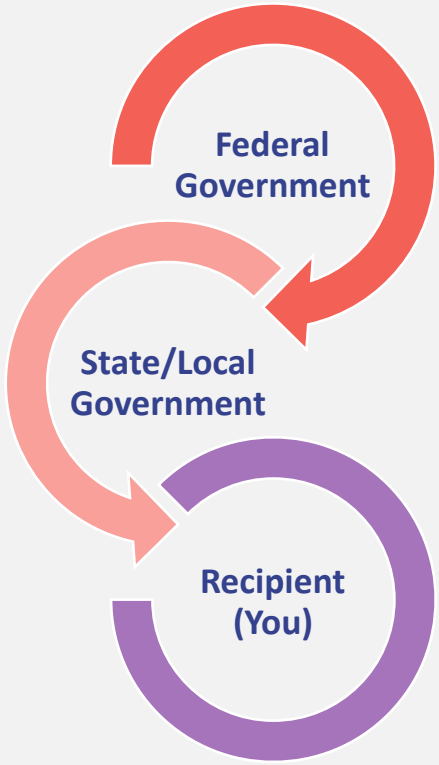
How does the funding flow?

Direct Funding



VS

Pass-Through Funding



Examples of Federal Sources of Funding

















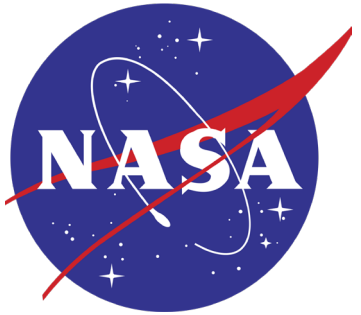














Nonprofit Security Grant Program



Description

The Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) provides funding support for target hardening and other physical security enhancements and activities to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of terrorist attack. It is also designed to promote coordination and collaboration in emergency preparedness activities among public and private community representatives, as well as state and local government agencies.

Core Areas

1. Enhancing the protection of soft targets/crowded places.

2. Supporting Homeland Security Task Forces and Fusion Centers

3. Enhancing Cybersecurity

4. Enhancing Election Security

5. Supporting Border Crisis Response and Enforcement

Funding Amount

Approximately $274.5 million distributed to all 50 states.

Deadline

Deadlines vary by state.

Eligibility Notes

- Eligible nonprofit organizations must be designated as a 501(c)3 agency and determined to be at high risk of a terrorist attack due to belief, mission, or ideology.

find this grant on
GRANTS OFFICE
COMMUNITIES

Continuum of Care Program



Description

Promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, states, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

Core Areas

1. Ending homelessness
2. Prioritizing treatment and recovery
3. Advancing public safety
4. Promoting self-sufficiency
5. Improving outcomes
6. Minimizing trauma

Funding Amount

Approximately $3.9 billion

Deadline

February 25, 2026 – A similar deadline is anticipated annually

Eligibility Notes

- Nonprofit Organizations
- State or Local Governments
- Public Housing Authorities

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YouthBuild



Description

Pre-apprenticeship occupational skills training, education, and job placement services to disadvantaged and low-income youth (individuals between the ages of 16 and 24, most who did not complete high school and face other barriers to employment).

Core Areas

1. Community support services (i.e. childcare facilities, community centers, fairgrounds, etc.)
2. Educational services (including libraries and museums)
3. Local food systems such as food pantries and community kitchens
4. Healthcare and public safety facilities

Funding Amount

Approximately $98 million

Deadline

March 2, 2026 – A similar deadline is anticipated annually

Eligibility Notes

- Nonprofit Organizations
- State and Local Governments
- Public Housing Authorities
- Tribal governments

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Examples of State Funding
(and how to find funds in your state)

California Digital Divide Grant Program

Minnesota Arts Organization Operating Support Grants

Idaho Workforce Development Training Fund

Check your state's official government website and specific state agency websites for grant opportunities.

Sign-up for email alerts from state agencies to stay informed of grant openings.

Think creatively – many other state agencies provide grant funding opportunities!

Foundation Funding

Benefits of Foundations

Open to a wider variety of projects

Not hindered by federal regulations on the use of funds

Must still fit within the mission!

Priority Alignment

Foundation Priorities Can Include

- Arts and Culture
- Community and Social Services
- Education
- Health and Wellness
- Libraries
- Research
- Workforce Development

Organizational Needs Can Include

- Project support
- Capacity building
  - Expansion Services
  - Infrastructure Improvement
  - Strategic Planning
  - Staff Development
- Operating/General Support

Societal Impact

The challenge is to align your need(s) with the Foundation's priorities to achieve common goals

Building Relationships with Foundations

1 Lead with mission alignment

Ensure outreach focuses on shared goals and are seeking genuine partnership rather than just funding.

2 Keep it simple

Keep communications focused and brief to be respectful of their time by providing concise overview and questions.

3 Provide transparency

Show credibility by sharing challenges, outcomes, and lessons learned.

4 Stay in touch

Remain connected year-round with quick updates on progress and impact.

Selecting Grants

Selecting the “best-fit” grant

01 Do we meet the Eligibility Requirements?

Organization type, IRS designation, geographic scope, population served, etc.

02 Timeline until Submission Deadline

Do we have enough time and the capacity to make a high-quality submission?

03 Funding Priority

Does the purpose of these funds align with any of our overarching goals? Does the grant have a competitive priority we can address for “bonus points”?

04 The Award

Will this fund the line items we want? Is the size of the grant appropriate for our needs? If there is a cost-share/match requirement, can we meet it?

05 Peripherals

Is collaboration required and do we have any possible partners? Do we have the capacity to address the reporting requirements if awarded?

06 Funder History

Does the funder have an established history giving to organizations or projects like ours already? Or do they prefer innovative projects only, in which case is our idea new?



A Grant “Fits Best” When There is Alignment



Design by PresentationGO.com

Tips for Making Your Next Grant Proposal More Competitive

Tip #1	Tip #2	Tip #3	Tip #4	Tip #5
Remember, most grants fund **comprehensive projects**, not just products.	Let your project's **needs and objectives** determine the technology you acquire and the team you build.	Read the **application guidance** to learn as much as possible about the grant program before you apply.	Include SMART Goals: **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**esults-focused, **T**ime-bound	Get an outside set of eyes to **review and edit** your final proposal before submitting.

Join Communities, your new *grant search* and *collaboration* platform...

FREE 2-week trial!

SCAN HERE

GRANTS OFFICE
COMMUNITIES

Key benefits of Grants Office Communities

Find and share funding opportunities.

Manage proposals with confidence.

Collaborate with team members.

Access support from the experts.



Find Grants to Support Nonprofit Organizations

nonprofit

PROJECT CATEGORIES

ELIGIBILITIES

STATES/TERRITORIES

FUNDER TYPES

CLASSIFICATIONS

† This deadline is anticipated and has not yet been officially announced.

Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) (Texas)
Deadline: March 12, 2026
Authority: Texas Office of the Governor
Eligibility: Non-profit Organizations

Add to Project

Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) (Iowa)
Deadline: January 16, 2026
Authority: Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department
Eligibility: Non-profit Organizations

Add to Project

Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) (Rhode Island)
Deadline: January 19, 2026
Authority: Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA)
Eligibility: Non-profit Organizations

Add to Project

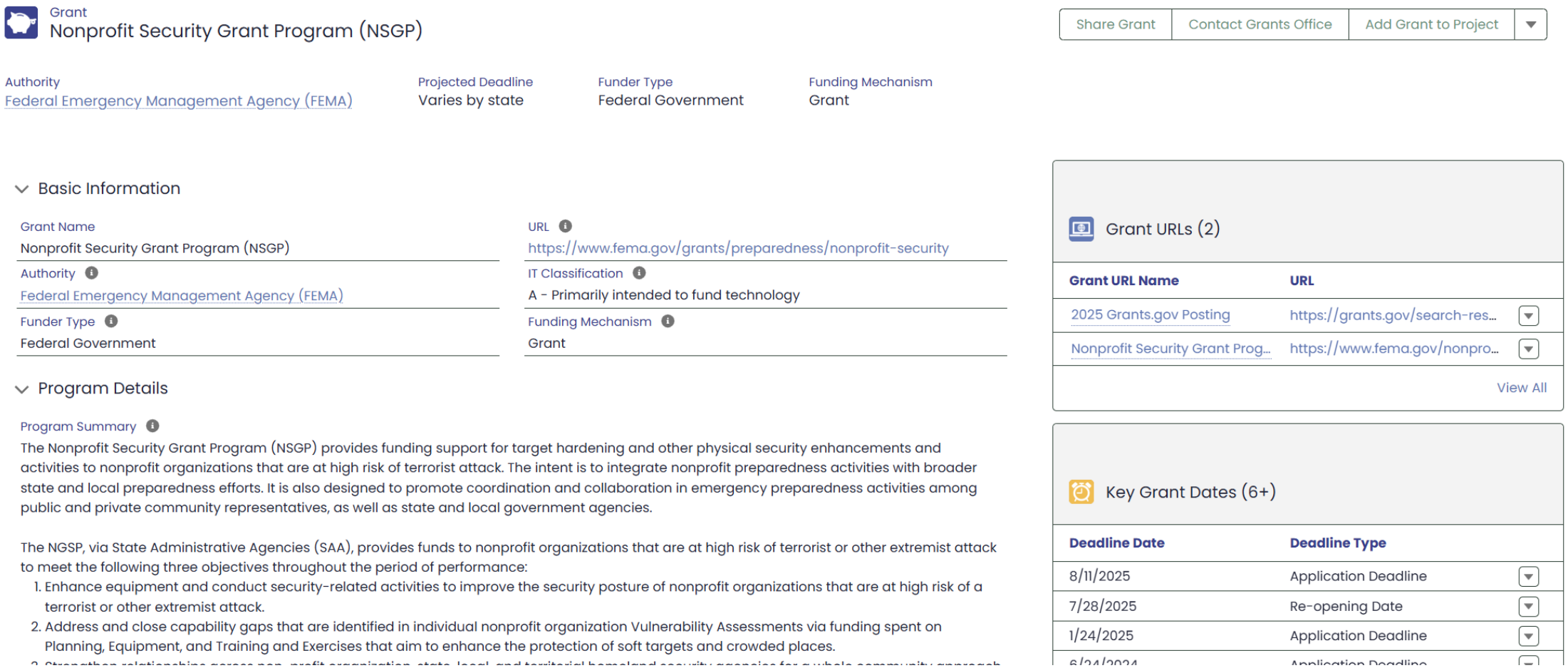
Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) (Illinois)
Deadline: January 2027†
Authority: Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)
Eligibility: Non-profit Organizations, State/Regional Government

Add to Project

Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) (New York)
Deadline: January 2027†
Authority: New York Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES)
Eligibility: Non-profit Organizations

Add to Project

See Details on a Specific Program in Grants Office Communities



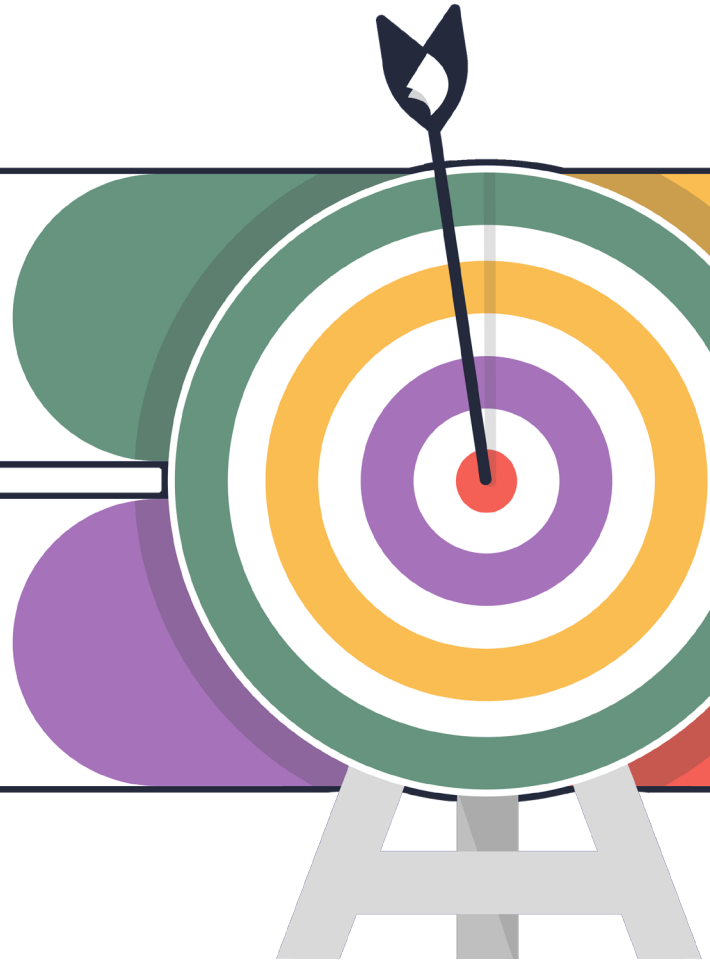
Grants Office Services

Research & Consultation

Identify best-fit grants for upcoming projects and provide next steps.

Project Building

Advise on project development and material gathering with a particular grant in mind.



Grant Proposal Writing

Write a competitive and engaging proposal.

Grant Proposal Review

Provide feedback on application materials, ensuring compliance with submission requirements.

Engage with Grants Office

Step 1

‘Contact Us’

Fill out an Information Collection Tool to engage with the Grants Office Helpdesk.

Step 2

Initial Meeting

Meet with a Grants Office Consultant to discuss your project goals and technology needs.

Step 3

Funding Opportunity Report

Your Grants Office Consultant will provide you with a report detailing applicable grants.

Step 4

Consultative Call

Meet with your Grants Office Consultant to plan and prepare your application.

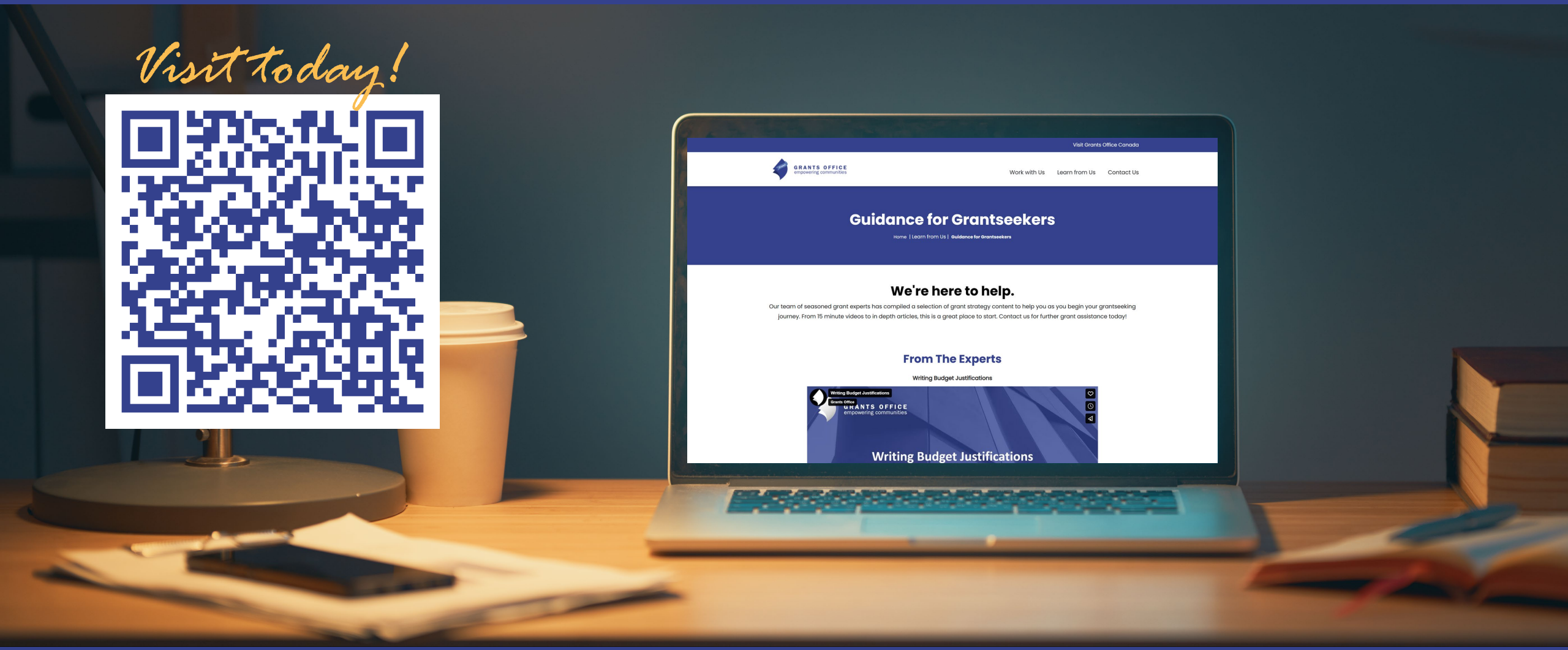
Step 5

Submit Application

Once completed, you submit your grant application and let us know when you win!

Start here!

FREE RESOURCES: Guidance for Grantseekers



Questions?

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empowering communities

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