

Grant Development Training Series - Grants 101

Raising money through grant writing can be one way of getting funds for your program to help you be strategic in achieving short and long-term goals. How can you maximize how successful you are in obtaining grant funds?

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Be mindful that grants are not easy to apply for and they take time to write. It can be done if you have a good understanding of the specifics of the grant you are applying for and the requirements needed. It's important to understand the grant cycle and how the deadlines align with your existing capacity, job requirements, and roles that you play.

DEEP DIVE

- **WHAT IS A GRANT?** - Grants are a method of implementing goals in the strategic plans of an organization. It is crucial to have a good understanding of what a grant is to write a successful proposal.
 - [Grant Professional Association- What is a Grant?](#)
- **TYPES OF GRANTS** - It's important to remember that funding types come in all shapes and sizes and what is requested from funders in a grant application will vary as well. Be sure to have a clear understanding of your project so you know how to select the right type of grant. Here are some examples to help identify funders:
 - [Candid Learning - Types of Support](#)
 - [The Grantsmanship Center - Find the Right Funders](#)
- **GRANT READINESS** - To be successful in securing grant funding for your community, a grant writer needs to be able to clearly identify short and long-term goals and the priorities of the proposed project or program. Grants often have short turnaround times. Here are some things you can do now to be better prepared to respond to grant opportunities:
 - [Grantsmanship Consulting LLC - Grant Readiness Assessment](#)
- **COMMON GRANT COMPONENTS** - It is important to be familiar with and comply with submission requirements. Every grant will have its own list or description of required proposal elements. Here are some examples to help get the job done:
 - [Council of Michigan Foundations - Common Grant Application Template](#)
 - [Grantsmanship Consulting LLC - Sample Grant Timeline](#)

Common Grant Myths/Things to Avoid:

- Paying for grant writing services out of the grant budget (pre-award costs)
- Grants are "free money" and will not require any investment
- There is an excess amount of grant funding that goes unspent
- Any project can be funded by a grant - avoid mission drift



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