REDWOOD REGION RISE IN-PERSON CONVENING
NOVEMBER 5, 2025

GRANT APPLICATION SKILLS FOR NEW AND GROWING ORGANIZATIONS
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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

General Grant Writing Tips and Templates

Grants.gov Community Blog: Grant Basics and more

Candid: Elevate Your Nonprofit Grant Writing Success With Expert Tips

Using AI to Prepare and Review Grant Applications

Summary: Funders may use AI to perform administrative functions like checking completeness, sorting content, etc., to save time as initial steps in the application review process. Policies are under development with consideration for possible risks and harm.

Philanthropy
Foundant Technologies, July 28,2025 The Rise of AI in Grant Applications: What Today's Grantmakers Should Know

Greg Stanley, October 24, 2023 Practical Applications of AI in Philanthropy

California
California Department of Technology COP Making AI Work for You

CA DGS State of California GenAI Guidelines for Public Sector Procurement, Uses and Training

Federal Government
On April 23, 2025, The Office of Management and Budget issued a memo to all heads of executive departments and agencies titled: Accelerating Federal Use of IA through Innovation, Governance and Public Trust which outlines guidance for implementing Executive Order (E.O.) 14179, Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence, signed by President Trump on January 23, 2025.

OMB Memorandum M-25-21d **does not specifically address** whether agencies are currently using AI to review grant applications. However:
- The memo encourages agencies to adopt AI broadly to "provide improved services to the public" and "increase government efficiency"
- Agencies are directed to develop AI strategies and inventory all AI use cases
- The memo **does not prohibit** using AI for grant review.

Federal agencies must disclose they use AI to review applications under certain conditions:
1. **AI Use Case Inventory (Annual):** All agencies (except DoD and Intelligence Community) must publicly post an annual inventory of their AI use cases on their websites. This would include AI used for grant review.
2. **If AI is "High-Impact":** Grant application review could potentially qualify as "high-impact AI" if the AI output serves as a principal basis for decisions affecting:
   o Access to critical government resources or services
   o Significant effects on rights or access to programs
3. **For High-Impact AI, agencies must:**
   o Complete an AI Impact Assessment
   o Publicly report determinations and waivers
   o Provide options for end users and the public to submit feedback
   o Ensure affected individuals have access to human review and appeals

Conclusion: If a federal agency uses AI to review grant applications, it would likely need to disclose this in its public AI inventory, and depending on how significantly the AI influences decisions, may need to provide additional transparency and appeal mechanisms.
Tip: Check the federal agency's website and complete preparatory research.

Budgeting and Funding Strategies

RRRISE Economic Development Finance (EDF) Working Group Expert Sessions

Scroll down the page to access recordings and materials for sessions on these topics:
- Project Development & Funding Strategies
- Grant Writing and Grant Management
- Regional Collaboration for Funding (Grants & Debt Finance)

Jobs First Implementation Phase FAQ 1 and 2

Implementation Full Application FAQ covers topics budgeting, funding, financial and grant structure, cost reimbursement and more.

Regional Investment Initiative – Implementation Phase FAQ #2 covers topics regarding partnership, regional coalitions, sectors, eligibility for lead applicants and more.