



Impact Austin 2026 Nonprofit Workshop

January 7, 2026 | Questions & Answers from Event

What major changes occurred in 2025?

- All grants awarded by Impact Austin will be unrestricted grants.
- The Initiative Budget is no longer required for your application.

What is the eligibility cut-off for prior awardees?

- Please refer to this chart, which is also available on Impact Austin's website, www.impactaustin.org/grantmaking -- see [Impact Austin Grant Application Guidelines](#). If the grant cycle when you received an IA grant is not specifically listed, then you are eligible. If you still have concerns about your eligibility, reach out to us at grants@impactaustin.org.

Community Partner Eligibility (Month of Award)	Spring 2026	Spring 2027	Spring 2028
Fall Primary CP 2023 (December)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fall Secondary CP 2023 (December)	Yes	Yes	Yes
g3 2024 (May)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Primary CP 2024 (June)	No	Yes	Yes
Secondary CP 2024 (June)	Yes	Yes	Yes
g3 2025 (April)	No	Yes	Yes
Primary CP 2025 (June)	No	No	Yes
Secondary CP 2025 (June)	No	Yes	Yes

g3 Grant Eligibility:

1. An Impact Austin Community Partner can apply for a g3 grant at any time.
2. A g3 Community Partner can apply for an Impact Austin grant at any time.
3. A g3 Community Partner cannot apply for a new g3 grant the year following its award.



Is it true that grants can support programs, projects, or capacity building?

- Yes, an Impact Austin grant can support the organization's mission and goals in any way needed.

Can a grant be used for grant writers, fundraising, or debt reduction?

- Yes, an unrestricted grant can be used for any of these purposes.

Which focus areas get the most applications? Can you help me select the best focus area?

- The number of applications received varies from year to year. Community, Education, and Health & Well-Being all receive a good number of applications, ranging from 30 to 50.
- Use the description on the [Impact Austin Grantmaking page](#) to decide which category your nonprofit best fits. Impact Austin does not offer help with selection.

Can an organization apply for only the secondary grant?

- No. You must apply for the unrestricted primary grant amount. If you are a finalist and don't receive the highest number of votes, then you will receive an unrestricted grant for the lower amount.

Could one organization apply in two categories simultaneously?

- No. Applicants may only apply in one focus area each grant cycle. Applicants in 2026 must choose whether to apply for a Community, Education, or Health & Well-Being grant.

What are the deadlines and timeline for the spring grant applications?

- The 2026 grants are open on January 8, close February 5 at 5pm, and will be awarded in June 2026.

Our development team always works together on a shared online workspace. Is there a template for the application questions (and any limitations on text) in advance so we can be working on it before we log into Impact Austin's system?

- The template for the application including word limits is available on Impact Austin's website, www.impactaustin.org/grantmaking -- see [Impact Austin Grant Application Guidelines](#).

Can I upload and save some documents, then come back later and add more? Can we include photos?

- As you work on your application you will save as Draft. This will allow you to make changes as necessary. Once you have completed your application and verified all attachments, you will submit the application. You will not be allowed to make changes once you have submitted the application. You cannot submit pictures in the application. If you make it to the Site Visit, you can share them at that time.

Is a 990EZ postcard acceptable?

- Yes.



Will there be a period that the financial docs are reviewed?

- When the applications have been narrowed down to six per focus area, we will review the financial statements to be sure the proper statements have been submitted.
- If there is an issue, we will reach out to the applicants and allow them to resubmit attachments curing their deficits. If you have questions about the required financial documents, please reach out to us at grants@impactaustin.org

Are you looking specifically to fund smaller or larger organizations, or is organizational budget size of no matter to Impact Austin?

- Impact Austin has funded both small and large organizations. The size of the organizational budget is not one of the criteria used in grant assessment. During the financial review, the relationship between the Impact Austin grant and the organization's total budget may be considered.

If we are awarded a grant, what is the term of a Community Partner's Impact Austin membership?

- Two years

Would something that has been funded in the past be considered again?

- Any new application is considered on its own merits by the Grant Review Committee for your selected focus area. Prior submissions are not part of the evaluation process.

What are the reporting requirements?

- All grants require a final written report (Impact Austin form) after one year.

Is there a rubric that applicants are graded on?

- There is no scoring rubric for applicants. Grant Committee Review members use the four key criteria:
 - Credible
 - Capable
 - Committed
 - Significance and Impact

Can the grant be used over multiple years, or does it need to be expended in one year?

- Since all grants are unrestricted, the timeframe to spend is up to the organization.

If our EIN is based in another state but we operate independently in Austin, do we qualify for a grant?

- Yes, as long as you provide services in Travis, Williamson, Hays and/or Bastrop County.



Can some of the grant funds be used to provide services outside the 4-county area?

- Yes. However, we are looking for initiatives that make an impact in our area. Compared to other applications, yours may not stand out.

Is the Education category more geared towards formal education vs. career training?

- Both types of applications are welcome.

How are site visits handled for organizations who don't have a physical location?

- The location of a site visit is determined by the nonprofit. A site visit can be virtual, in person, at the organization's site, or at an alternative location.

Is the Girls Giving Grants separate from Impact Austin's Grant?

- Yes, you can apply for a g3 grant in addition to an Impact Austin Grant. Applications for g3, which funds programs and projects that positively impact the lives of youth in our community, open in October. Awards are made in April. The grant amount varies and will be \$8,000 in April 2026.

Tell me more about the finalist video. What is the purpose of the video? What criteria is used to evaluate it?

- Impact Austin will show finalist videos at the annual meeting.
 - This is a **low-tech type of video** – video on a smart phone.
 - Film at about 12-inches.
 - The video should have a neutral background and no “props” are allowed.
- This is an opportunity to tell your organization’s story verbally to the Impact Austin Membership. This is also an opportunity to emotionally appeal to Membership who will vote on their top application.

Can an organization apply for a grant with a fiscal sponsor?

- Yes. The fiscal sponsor's financial information will be submitted under the financial statement requirements.