

SCORE Kansas City Workshop:

Since 2019, we have had a local expert teach a Grant Writing 101 Bootcamp on how to research, plan and begin to write grant proposals. In 2024, we have sessions scheduled for June and October. They will appear on the website 1-2 months in advance of the event. Review and register for the upcoming workshops at: <https://www.score.org/kansascity/local-workshops>

Library Resources:

The Mid-Continent Public Library (mymcpl.org) has a series of classes available through Universal Class® including “How to Write a Grant Proposal”. To see courses and register, you must have a Mid-Continent Public Library card – for which you can apply online and instantly get a virtual card. <https://www.mymcpl.org/library-information/using-mcpl/get-a-library-card>

You can register in the normal mode (Certificate of Completion, requires assignments, etc.) or video audit only (just watch, no assignments, no certificate). Here is the link to Universal Class through MCPL (Again, Name is “How to Write a Grant Proposal”): <https://midcontinentmo.universalclass.com/register.htm>

Kansas City-specific Resources:

1. A 10-part guide from KC Sourcelink gives an overview starting with definitions, myths, types of loans, etc. <https://www.kcsourcelink.com/guides/funding-your-business/>
2. Alt-cap's annual grant competition (start is approximately August and deadline is approximately October; competition ends during Global Entrepreneurship Week; get on their newsletter for info): <https://www.altcap.org/acyb>
3. Greater Kansas City Community Foundation (now Non-profit focus; check the page regularly as grant opportunities open and close): <https://www.growyourgiving.org/nonprofits/grant/>
4. Kansas City Missouri Rebuild KC program (financing neighborhood improvements): <https://www.kcmo.gov/programs-initiatives/rebuildkc>
5. Kansas Community Development Block Grants (Kansas City, Manhattan, Lawrence, Topeka, Wichita and Leavenworth): <https://www.kansascommerce.gov/program/community-programs/cdbg/>
6. KC Hispanic Economic Development Corporation (Impacto Fund sometimes has grants but also has micro-loan programs): <https://www.kchedc.org/hedc/>

General Resources:

Please note any non-government sources cited are not an endorsement to use any services, merely intended to be a source of information.

1. SCORE: <https://www.score.org/search?keywords=grants>
2. Small Business Administration <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/grants>
3. Grants across the Government <https://www.grants.gov/>
4. Grant information from the US Chamber of Commerce <https://www.uschamber.com/co/run/business-financing/government-small-business-grant-programs>
5. Information from Missouri Department of Economic Development: <https://ded.mo.gov/mogov-search/results?search=grants>
6. Missouri-specific grants from Grantwatch.com (not an endorsement to use them): <https://missouri.grantwatch.com/cat/13/small-business-grants.html>
7. Missouri-specific grant information from USGrants.org (not an endorsement to use them): <https://www.usgrants.org/missouri/small-business-grants>
8. Kansas-specific grant information from the State of Kansas: <https://ksbiz.kansas.gov/plan/find-business-funding/>
9. Kansas-specific grant information from USGrants.org (not an endorsement to use them): <https://www.usgrants.org/kansas/small-business-grants>
10. A tool for non-profits (\$\$ to use this tool) <https://www.grantwatch.com/> YouTube video on how to use the site: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xTSPLyH8cjE>
11. Candid.org is the combination of two former organizations, Foundation Center and Guidestar. Their mission “...connect people who want to change the world with the resources they need to do it”. On their site you can find out information on **non-profits** (including their IRS990 form) or find information on foundations and grants: <https://candid.org/>
12. Go to your local library and ask for help! The KC public library (<https://www.kclibrary.org>) has access to databases to which they subscribe (\$\$\$) which you can search for foundations and grants <https://fconline.foundationcenter.org/fdo-search/member-index/> Ask for business help: <https://kclibrary.org/business>
13. National Association for the Self-Employed member Growth Grants (\$120/yr membership; up to \$4K growth grant): <https://www.nase.org/become-a-member/member-benefits/business-resources/growth-grants>
14. Fast Break for Small Business: Program to assist small business owners. <https://aofund.org/program/fastbreak/>
15. Hello Alice: small business owners—marginalized genders, people of color, veterans, the LGBTQ+ community, people with disabilities, and all entrepreneurs—looking to learn and grow. Hello Alice offers a variety of programs throughout the year that provide support throughout the U.S. <https://helloalice.com/funding/>

Information on Grants for Underserved people:

Please note: Read the information carefully. We are not endorsing using any services for grant writing or application submittal, we suggest only that you note/research the organizations providing the Grants.

1. Grant opportunities for women through Grantsforwomen.org:
<https://www.grantsforwomen.org/p/grants-scholarships-for-women.html>
2. Grant opportunities for women through IFundWomen.com:
<https://ifundwomen.com/grants/apply-for-grants>
3. Support and grant opportunities through Ladies Who Launch:
<https://www.ladieswholaunch.org/launch-program>
4. Cartier Women's Initiative grants for women who have social or and/or environmental impact: <https://www.cartierwomensinitiative.com/>
5. AfricanAmericanGrants.org (Black women) <https://africanamericangrants.org/grants-for-black-women-federal-state-local-aid.html>
6. Tory Burch Fellows Program for women:
<https://www.toryburchfoundation.org/fellows/>
7. Amber Grants for Women (give a \$10K grant/month and a \$25K grant each year):
<https://ambergrantsforwomen.com/get-an-amber-grant/>
8. Coalition to Back Black Businesses (black owned businesses; check eligibility):
<https://webackblackbusinesses.com/>
9. Comcast Rise (people of color or women, must be in a Comcast supported area):
<https://www.comcastrise.com/>
10. Annuity Payment Freedom: Small Business Marketing grant for small BIPOC-owned businesses with free SEO evaluations, advice and planning.
<https://usbusinessgrants.org/grants/bipoc-small-business-grant-annuity-payment-freedom.html>
11. Black Ambition Prize: Provides a platform for Black and Hispanic founders across the U.S. to access growth capital, coaching, and a curated community of innovators and mentors. <https://blackambitionprize.com/>
12. Boss Impact Fund: Sage "Invest in Progress" Grant: Focuses on investing in Black-women-led businesses and preparing these entrepreneurs to build scalable, growth-aggressive companies. <https://www.bossimpactfund.com/>
13. Common Future: Accelerator - Supports organizations that are developing models to close the racial wealth gap by removing social, financial, and political barriers. The three-month-long program invests in a cohort of ten BIPOC women- and non-binary-led organizations that are actively working to dismantle economic inequality by giving power back to communities left out of prosperity.
<https://www.commonfuture.co/accelerator>
14. EmpowHer: Support for female entrepreneurs with businesses that address social issues. <https://boundlessfutures.org/our-impact/#grants>

15. Fearless Fund: Women-of-color-led businesses seeking pre-seed, seed level, or series A financing. The Fund's mission is to bridge the gap in venture capital funding for women-of-color founders building scalable, growth-aggressive companies.
<https://www.thefearless.foundation/>
16. Giving Joy: One-time microgrants up to \$500 to help women start or grow business.
<https://givingjoygrants.org/grant-application>
17. Her Suite Spot: Women of color creating innovative solutions that impact their community and that are often unable to secure funding for their small business.
<https://www.hersuitespot.com/herrise-microgrant-application/>
18. IFundWomen: Funding marketplace for women-owned businesses and the people who want to support them with access to capital, coaching, and connections.
<https://www.ifundwomen.com/grants/apply-for-grants>
19. Nex Cubed: Global accelerator that invests in diverse founders that are solving problems that matter. Nex Cubed provide early-stage capital, corporate relationships, and access to a global ecosystem that empowers startups, investors, corporations, and governments to bring new technologies to market, help rising companies scale, and provide paths to liquidity. <https://www.nex3.com/>
20. Stacy's Rise Project: Helps women throughout the United States (including Puerto Rico) and Canada grow their businesses through funding, mentorship, and community.
<https://www.stacyssnacks.com/riseproject>
21. VELA Education Fund: Everyday entrepreneurs (students, parents, educators, and community leaders) who are launching out-of-system learning models that serve learners and families in their communities. <https://vela.org/>
22. Wish Local: Black-owned small businesses have long faced hardship due to systemic racism. But small businesses like yours are integral to the makeup of America. So we are dedicating a \$2M dollar fund to give roughly 4,000 Wish Local small business partners financial support. The selected recipients will receive amounts between \$500 - \$2000. This program will only be open to Black-owned stores, to help promote equality and diversity in American business. <https://www.wish.com/local/empowerment>

Articles about Grants

1. NerdWallet Information about grants and applying <https://www.nerdwallet.com/article/small-business/small-business-grants>
2. 2024 Ultimate List of U.S. Small Business Grants
<https://bench.co/blog/operations/small-business-grants/>
3. Education about loans and grants <https://www.valuepenguin.com/small-business/small-business-grants>
4. This covers a gamut (a bit redundant to above):
<https://smallbusiness.chron.com/grants-startup-organic-farmers-women-13328.html>
5. Nerdwallet article (Minorities): <https://www.nerdwallet.com/article/small-business/small-business-grants-minorities>

6. Business.com 2024 update article (Minorities): <https://www.business.com/articles/small-business-grants-for-minorities/>
7. 2024 Fundera article (Black Women): <https://www.fundera.com/blog/grants-for-black-women>
8. Supporting Hispanic and Latino Owned Businesses: <https://www.smallbizrc.org/hispanic-owned-businesses>
9. 2025 Fundera article (Minorities): <https://www.fundera.com/blog/minority-owned-business>
10. Merchantmaverick.com 2024 update (Minorities): <https://www.merchantmaverick.com/business-grants-minorities/>
11. 2021 BlogHer.com article (Black owners): <https://www.blogher.com/feature/black-business-grants-911/>
12. Bauce Magazine 2019 article: <https://baucemag.com/business-grants-for-women/>

YouTube Videos on Grants:

1. 2024 Small Business Grants: https://youtu.be/ES7uMJvzwOI?si=TsamUUU9c_brxrlw
2. 2022 Lyfe Accounting -- Basics about Business Grants and how to start looking (15:24): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E8aIrNs29ck>
3. Grant Writing Playlist of 27 Videos (over 17K views) from MrGrantMoney: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLj6klb9QetA4DqzZqMdLfc04p9B28hv4I>
4. LearnGrantWriting.org (some free resources, pay \$\$\$\$ to join) -- 7 Steps to get started writing a Grant (15:08): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhlzOhbavUA>
 - a. Free resources (must register) <https://www.learngrantwriting.org/free-grant-writing-resources>
 - b. Free Grant Writing Class: <https://www.learngrantwriting.org/free-grant-writing-course>
5. Virginia Commonwealth University – Grant Writing 101 (academic view, 24:30): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFBRgiyTt7E>