

SECTION 3: EFFECTIVE GRANT RESEARCH

Effective grant research is both an art and a science. It involves not only finding grant opportunities but also evaluating their suitability and relevance to your business. Below are actionable tips and resources to conduct thorough and effective grant research.

IDENTIFY YOUR BUSINESS GOALS AND NEEDS:

Before you begin your research, take the time to identify your business's specific goals and funding needs. What projects or initiatives do you want to pursue, and how do they align with your mission? Use keywords and phrases from these responses to begin as a catalyst to searching for grants. Example: healthcare (keyword) + grants



UTILIZE ONLINE DATABASES AND SEARCH ENGINES:

Numerous online databases and search engines are dedicated to listing grant opportunities. Some are free and some are paid. Websites like <u>Grants.gov</u>, <u>Instrumentl</u>, and <u>GrantWatch</u> are valuable resources. You can <u>filter grants based on keywords</u>, location, and areas of interest to find the most relevant opportunities.



LEVERAGE PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS:

Networking can be a powerful tool in grant research. Connect with professionals in your industry, attend conferences and workshops, and join relevant associations or organizations. These networks can provide insights into grant opportunities and introduce you to potential collaborators.



REVIEW GRANTOR WEBSITES:

Visit the websites of grant-making organizations and government agencies that align with your business's mission. Most major corporations have foundations that give away grants or sponsorships. Grantors often provide detailed information about their funding programs, eligibility criteria, and application processes on their websites.

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SUBSCRIBE TO GRANT ALERTS:

Many grant-focused websites and organizations offer email subscriptions or newsletters that deliver grant opportunities directly to your inbox. Subscribing to these alerts can help you stay updated on new funding opportunities.

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CONSULT WITH GRANT WRITING PROFESSIONALS:

Consider seeking guidance from grant writing professionals like me. We possess extensive experience in grant research and can help you identify opportunities that align with your business goals.



READ GUIDELINES CAREFULLY:

Once you've identified potential grants, read their guidelines and requirements carefully. Pay attention to eligibility criteria, deadlines, funding priorities, and any specific instructions for applicants. Note any potential red flags or deal-breakers that may disqualify your business.



EVALUATE FIT AND IMPACT:

Evaluate each grant opportunity's fit with your business and its potential impact. Consider whether the grant aligns with your goals, the scale of funding matches your project's needs, and the grantor's priorities align with your mission.



CREATE A COMPREHENSIVE CALENDAR:

Organize your grant research findings by creating a comprehensive calendar that includes application deadlines, submission requirements, and key milestones. We offer an interactive tool that helps you organize your findings. This document will help you stay organized and ensure that you submit applications on time.



SEEK PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE WHEN NEEDED:

Don't hesitate to seek professional assistance, especially when you encounter complex grants or need expert guidance.

Professional grant writers and consultants can provide valuable insights and help you navigate the nuances of grant research effectively.

NOTES

IT'S TIME TO RESEARCH GRANTS LIKE A BOSS

WHAT PROJECTS OR INITIATIVES DO YOU WANT TO IMPLEMENT AND HOW DO THEY ALIGN WITH YOUR MISSION?	WHAT ARE RELEVANT KEYWORDS THAT ALIGN WITH YOUR MISSION, PROJECTS, INTIATIVES, OR BUSINESS STRUCTURE?
WHAT GRANT SEARCH ENGINES WILL YOU USE FOR SEARCHING GRANTS?	
☐ GRANTWATCH☐ INSTRUMENTL☐ GRANTS.GOV	
☐ FOUNDATION DIRECTORY ☐ GRANT FORWARD	
GRANT SCANNER	