## Her Boss Hub by Dr. Karine Melissa - List of Grant Opportunities

This list is not associated with Dr. Karine Melissa or her companies. It is simply shared resources.

Good luck!

## **GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**Alibaba CoCreate Pitch 2025 -** CoCreate Pitch is the world's leading product-driven startup competition — where bold entrepreneurs pitch their vision, connect with top global manufacturers and investors, and compete for a share of \$1 million in prizes. Funding up to \$40,000. Apply by 8/15/2025 - <a href="https://pitch.alibabacocreate.com/">https://pitch.alibabacocreate.com/</a>

Amazon App Store Small Business Accelerator - The Small Business Accelerator Program allows developers that earn less than 1 million USD in total annual revenue in the previous calendar year to access additional benefits up to or equivalent to 20% of Appstore revenue. If eligible, you'll receive a 10% increased royalty payment and AWS credits equivalent to 10% of your app revenue. - <a href="https://developer.amazon.com/apps-and-games/small-business-program">https://developer.amazon.com/apps-and-games/small-business-program</a>

Amazon Small Business Success Studio - The free service offers lessons in finance, marketing, procurement and operations, along with tips from founders - https://business.amazon.com/en/small-business/success-studio/welcome

**American Express Leadership Academy -** The Academy is for people in the non-profit sector who are intentionally striving to be better equipped to respond adaptively to challenges, and to keep going in the face of adversity.

- https://commonpurpose.org/american-express-leadership-academy

**Antler Global Startup Program** - Antler is a global early-stage VC that runs multiple programs for business startups around the world. See the website for more info about the program and application dates. - <a href="https://www.antler.co/platform/#apply-now">https://www.antler.co/platform/#apply-now</a>

**Awesome Foundation -** Foundation distributes \$1,000 grants, no strings attached, to projects and their creators. At each fully autonomous chapter, the money is pooled together from the coffers of ten or so self-organizing "micro-trustees". Awarded monthly - <a href="https://www.awesomefoundation.org/en">https://www.awesomefoundation.org/en</a>

**Canva Pro For Nonprofits -** If you are a nonprofit, you can register now to get Canva's premium features for free. - <a href="https://www.canva.com/canva-for-nonprofits/">https://www.canva.com/canva-for-nonprofits/</a>

**Chat for Health & Al Accelerator** - The Chat for Health & Al Accelerator is a global program designed to fast-track the adoption of chat- and Al-powered solutions that expand access

to healthcare — particularly in low-resource settings. Funding of \$320,000. Apply by 7/31/2025 - https://www.turn.io/accelerators/chat-for-health-ai-accelerator

Emergent Ventures Grant/Fellowship Application (through Mercatus Center at George Mason University) - Emergent Ventures, a fellowship and grant program from the Mercatus Center, seeks to support entrepreneurs with highly scalable, "zero to one" ideas for meaningfully improving society. Projects will either be fellowships or grants: fellowships involve time in residence at the Mercatus Center in Northern Virginia; grants are one-time or slightly staggered payments to support a project. <a href="https://www.mercatus.org/emergent-ventures">https://www.mercatus.org/emergent-ventures</a>

**Etsy Disaster Relief Fund -** Sellers will be eligible for a grant if they experienced a federally declared natural disaster within the past year, have been an active seller on Etsy for at least one year, and their Etsy account is in good standing. Grants for \$2,500

https://advocacy.etsy.com/etsy-emergency-relief-fund-at-cerf/

**F6S List of Accelerators and Pitch Competitions -** Provides a list of accelerators, contests and pitch competitions around the world. <a href="https://www.f6s.com/">https://www.f6s.com/</a>

**Global Citizen Waislitz Award** - Are you an entrepreneur, innovator, or changemaker with a bold vision for ending extreme poverty? This is your moment to shine on the world stage! The Global Citizen Waislitz Awards, presented by the Waislitz Foundation and Global Citizen, are seeking passionate individuals who are making a real impact in the fight against extreme poverty. Funding of \$100,000. Apply by 6/8/2025

- https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/programs/waislitz-award/

**Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub** - Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub helps startups radically accelerate innovation by providing access to industry-leading AI services, expert guidance, and the essential technology needed to build a future-proofed startup. Up to \$150K in Azure credits - <a href="https://www.microsoft.com/en-ca/startups">https://www.microsoft.com/en-ca/startups</a>

**Savvy Fellowship -** Savvy is a 12-week virtual Fellowship program for young professionals seeking to be part of the new generation of impact entrepreneurs. Applicants should be 40 or younger - <a href="https://savvyfellows.com/team/">https://savvyfellows.com/team/</a>

**Social Shifters Global Innovation Challenge** - Must be a young founder (18-30 years) leading a project or startup with a focus on social impact. Open worldwide—except for countries under UK government financial sanctions (Russia, Belarus, Syria, North Korea, Iran, Cuba, Venezuela). Funding up to \$15,000 – Apply by 7/31/25

- https://www.socialshifters.co/global-innovation-challenge/

**South Park Commons (SPC) Founder Fellowship -** Are you an aspiring founder looking to build a high-growth, venture-backable startup—even if you don't yet have an idea? The South Park Commons (SPC) Founder Fellowship is accepting applications for its Fall 2025 cohort. This unique program is designed for exceptional individuals at the earliest stages of entrepreneurship. Funding of \$400,000 for 7% on a SAFE, with an additional \$600,000 guaranteed in your next venture round. Apply by 8/3/2025

- https://www.southparkcommons.com/founder-fellowship

**Streets Global Award** - Are you a mission-driven business, non-profit, or NGO that is making a difference in the world through hospitality or tourism? The STREETS Global Awards offers you a platform to be recognized for your social impact, innovation, and dedication to sustainability. If your organization is in the first 1–5 years of operation and is focused on creating positive change, this award is for you. Funding of \$10,000. Apply by 8/15/2025 - https://www.streetsinternational.org/global-awards

**Techstars Accelerators** - Techstars accelerators have one goal: to help entrepreneurs succeed. During each three-month program, they surround companies (companies should be based in North American time zones) with the best mentors and an unrivaled network of corporate partners, investors, and alumni. Companies can receive \$20K for 6% of company. Various locations and due dates - <a href="https://www.techstars.com/accelerators/">https://www.techstars.com/accelerators/</a>

**We Make Change -** Global initiative that matches small businesses (mainly not for profits) with volunteers who are professional individuals or are from companies (including blue chip) that have an interest in supporting not for profits. Helps impact startups build a remote volunteer team for free - <a href="https://www.wemakechange.org/">https://www.wemakechange.org/</a>

Western Union Global Fellowship Program - The Western Union Global Fellowship Program is a fully-funded Impact Fellowship, empowering individuals supporting or hailing from refugee, highly-marginalized, or forcibly displaced communities around the globe. Through this experience, Fellows will gain essential skills, resources, and networks to scale their ventures and accelerate their impact. Apply by 7/1/2025 - <a href="https://watson.is/western-union-global-fellowship-program/">https://watson.is/western-union-global-fellowship-program/</a>

## **AFRICA-SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES**

**Founders Factory Africa Gen F Incubator -** Gen F is for exceptional founders/aspiring entrepreneurs looking to build out and test their ideas, achieve commercial success, and create outsized, systemic impact and founders looking to build tech solutions that solve Africa's largest problems and catalyze change. Funding up to \$250,000

- https://www.foundersfactory.africa/gen-f-eir-initiative

**Grindstone incubator - I**ncubator will include training, corporate advisory, coaching, mentorship and funding. Specific interventions for each company include a structured gap analysis, understanding of the company value system, building a digital go-to-market strategy, financial modelling, intellectual property assessment, strategic and financial valuation as well as populating a data room - <a href="https://www.grindstonexl.com/grindstone-accelerator">https://www.grindstonexl.com/grindstone-accelerator</a>

#### **CANADA-SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES**

Amber Grants (\$15 application fee) - Must be a woman-owned business or non-profit in the US or Canada. Three \$10,000 Amber Grants are awarded each month. Three of the 36 monthly winners get an additional \$25,000 Year-End Amber Grant. - https://ambergrantsforwomen.com/

**Black Innovation Launchpad -** The Black Innovation Launchpad is a FREE virtual skills development platform focused on building the next generation of Black entrepreneurs. <a href="https://www.dmzlaunchpad.ca/courses/black-innovation-launchpad">https://www.dmzlaunchpad.ca/courses/black-innovation-launchpad</a>

**BMO Community Giving Grant -** BMO has a long history of supporting registered charities and non-profit organizations. Funding applications are accepted online and are considered if you have a program or project that aligns with their focus areas and meets their eligibility criteria. Deadline of 9/30/25 - <a href="https://our-impact.bmo.com/our-practices/bmo-gives/">https://our-impact.bmo.com/our-practices/bmo-gives/</a>

**Coralus -** Designed to leverage all forms of capital that have laid dormant in traditional structures, undervalued for decades. There is no fee to apply as a venture. - <a href="https://www.coralus.world/">https://www.coralus.world/</a>

**Distilled Intelligence Pitch Competition** - Are you an early-stage startup ready to pitch your innovation to top-tier investors and industry leaders? The Distilled Intelligence Pitch Competition 2025 (DI 3.0) is a premier national investor summit and pitch event designed for Seed to Series A startups across North America and beyond. Funding of \$25,000. Apply by 8/15/2025 - https://fortify.typeform.com/distilledintel3

**Dragons Den Auditions -** Applications are open for season 20. They will start contacting select applicants in early 2025 to schedule an audition. Applicants must be based in Canada to be considered for the show. - <a href="https://www.cbc.ca/dragonsden/auditions">https://www.cbc.ca/dragonsden/auditions</a>

**FoundersBoost Toronto** - Are you an early-traction tech startup ready to accelerate your growth? FoundersBoost Toronto offers a 6-week, part-time, highly personalized pre-accelerator program designed to prepare founders for the critical transition from pre-seed to seed stage, focusing on accelerator entry, fundraising, and revenue growth. Apply by 9/10/2025 - https://www.foundersboost.com/programs/toronto

**FoundHers Innovation Labs -** FoundHers Innovation Labs invites early-stage, techenabled businesses led by women entrepreneurs to apply for our intensive 3-month hybrid accelerator. Through in-person workshops, virtual sessions, and one-on-one mentorship, this program is designed to help you scale your business and prepare for venture capital funding. Apply by 8/18/2025 - <a href="https://foundhers.vc/eligibility#application-form">https://foundhers.vc/eligibility#application-form</a>

**High Five Grant for Mom Entrepreneurs -** Mom entrepreneurs are invited to apply. Plan 30-60 minutes to complete your application. Open to business owners in Canada and the US. Funding of \$25,000. Applications open 9/1-9/30/25

- https://themamaladder.com/grant

Launchpad for Women Entrepreneurs - Launchpad for Women Entrepreneurs is designed to empower early-stage women entrepreneurs interprovincially by offering dedicated resources to kickstart and grow a successful business. Program is available via its ondemand self-paced learning platform nationally or through in-person sessions across Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia - <a href="https://www.launchpadforwomen.ca/">https://www.launchpadforwomen.ca/</a>

Ontario Community Changemakers Program - Ontario Community Changemakers Program is open to Canadians in Ontario who are 19 years of age or older and are passionate about community-building and improving public spaces. Ideal applicants will have a creative idea that addresses a local community challenge, promotes social inclusion, or enhances civic engagement. Whether your project focuses on urban design, public space transformation, or community development, this program encourages collaborative, innovative, and community-driven solutions. Funding of \$5,000. Apply by 8/25/2025 - https://www.880cities.org/applications-now-open-for-2025-occ-program/

**SheaMoisture Canada Dream Fund** - SheaMoisture, one of Canada's largest natural hair and body product retailers, is now accepting applications for its SheaMoisture Dream Fund Grant program. The SheaMoisture Dream Fund offers \$10,000 each to five Black Female-Owned business owners in Canada. Apply by 8/26/2025

https://www.instagram.com/p/DLkVkDFuZy /

**Stand With Owners Telus Business Grant -** The application is open to all small business owners (for profit and not for profit) who are residents of Canada. 30 winners will be chosen. Contest period runs through September but winners will be selected as early as June. Funding up to \$75000. Apply by 9/3/2025

- https://www.telus.com/en/business/small/campaigns/stand-with-owners/prizing

# **UNITED KINGDOM/IRELAND SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES**

**ACORNS** - The program, which supports early-stage female entrepreneurs in rural Ireland, has announced that applications for ACORNS 11 are now open, with a deadline of midnight on September 22. - <a href="https://acorns.ie/">https://acorns.ie/</a>

**Innovate UK KTN -** Resource for sourcing grant programs available in the UK across all sectors. Funding opportunities section allows visitors to the website to filter grants by sector or type of funding required. - <a href="https://iuk.ktn-uk.org/opportunities/">https://iuk.ktn-uk.org/opportunities/</a>

## **UNITED STATES – SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES**

**Alliance Crypto Accelerator** - Alliance is a leading crypto accelerator and founder community offering \$450,000 funding for 9% equity on a SAFE, combined with a 1:1.5 token side letter. Applications close on August 22, 2025. - <a href="https://alliance.xyz/">https://alliance.xyz/</a>

Amazon's Black Business Accelerator - Dedicated to helping build sustainable equity and growth for Black entrepreneurs by enabling their success as sellers. Grow your business with access to financial support, strategic business guidance and mentorship, and marketing and promotional support. - <a href="https://sell.amazon.com/programs/black-business-accelerator">https://sell.amazon.com/programs/black-business-accelerator</a>

Amber Grants (\$15 application fee) - Must be a woman-owned business or non-profit in the US or Canada. Three \$10,000 Amber Grants are awarded each month. Three of the 36 monthly winners get an additional \$25,000 Year-End Amber Grant. - <a href="https://ambergrantsforwomen.com/">https://ambergrantsforwomen.com/</a>

Andreessen Horowitz TalentxOpportunity Accelerator - The Talent x Opportunity Initiative (TxO) by Andreessen Horowitz (a16z) is a hybrid accelerator program based in San Francisco, designed to support entrepreneurs building breakthrough companies rooted in cultural innovation. TxO specifically targets founders who have the talent, drive, and ideas to build great businesses but lack the networks and resources to do so. \$175,000 for 7% ownership stake. Apply by 8/1/2025 - https://info.a16z.com/TxO-Application-Form.html

**Backing Small Business (with AmEx) -** The program is accepting applications for grants of \$10,000 to fund projects that promote sustainable growth, enhance long-term resilience, and increase local impact. Funding of \$10,000. Apply by 7/31/2025

- <a href="https://mainstreet.org/about/partner-collaborations/backing-small-businesses">https://mainstreet.org/about/partner-collaborations/backing-small-businesses</a>

**Bank of America's Business Education Center for Entrepreneurs -** Visit Bank of America's Small Business Education site for access to free webinars on Accessing Capital, Building Business Credit and more - <a href="https://go.bofa.com/BusinessEducationCenter">https://go.bofa.com/BusinessEducationCenter</a>

**Black and Brown Fund Empower Growth Microgrant -** The Empower Growth Micro-Grant aims to provide a financial boost to two underrepresented entrepreneurs who have already

demonstrated business success by generating annual revenue in the last 12 months. This grant is designed to help scale, stabilize, or systematize their business growth. Funding of \$5,000 - https://blackandbrownfounders.com/egf

**Breva Thrive Grant for Small Business Growth** - Each quarter, one entrepreneur receives \$5,000 to invest in their business and community. Must be US based business with over \$35,000 in annual sales. Apply by 7/31/25 - <a href="https://www.breva.ai/thrive-grant">https://www.breva.ai/thrive-grant</a>

**Britt Assist Grant** - Must be an established business generating less than \$175K per year. Grant can provide business services and resources at no cost to deserving individuals, startups, and nonprofits. This fund is open year long and applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Two awards are given twice a year. - <a href="https://brittassist.com/assistfund">https://brittassist.com/assistfund</a>

Clever Girl Finance - Clever Girl Finance is one of the largest personal finance media/education platforms for women in the U.S. and has consistently been voted one of the best finance websites for women by the Plutus Awards celebrating excellence in financial media. The site offers free resources including personal finance courses, one-on-one mentor calls, articles, audio, and video content, an incredibly supportive community, and more. -https://www.clevergirlfinance.com/#

**Creator Innovation Fund** - The Creator Innovation Fund is an open pitch call designed to connect and empower content creators who have innovative ideas with seed funding that allows them to bring their ideas to life. This initiative will fund an array of creative digital projects about non-political issues such as pop culture, sports, lifestyle, documentary, etc. with subtle issue education components woven in to inspire social awareness in the long-term. Funding up to \$50,000 -https://www.trendingup.org/creator-innovation-fund/

**Distilled Intelligence Pitch Competition** - Are you an early-stage startup ready to pitch your innovation to top-tier investors and industry leaders? The Distilled Intelligence Pitch Competition 2025 (DI 3.0) is a premier national investor summit and pitch event designed for Seed to Series A startups across North America and beyond. Funding of \$25,000. Apply by 8/15/2025 - <a href="https://fortify.typeform.com/distilledintel3">https://fortify.typeform.com/distilledintel3</a>

**Door Dash Restaurant Disaster Relief Fund (DoorDash and HelloAlice)** - To help restaurants recover in times of critical need, DoorDash has partnered with Hello Alice to create the Restaurant Disaster Relief Fund. The fund supports restaurants impacted by natural disasters, severe weather events, or major infrastructure failures, and provides relief through \$5-15,000 grants. Apply by 9/29/2025

- https://app.helloalice.com/grants/doordash-local-business-disaster-relief-fund-summer-round-2025

**EmpowerHer Grant - Boundless Futures Foundation -** The Boundless Futures Foundation awards grants to U.S.-based female entrepreneurs and nonprofits that support female entrepreneurship. The EmpowHer Grant offers entrepreneurs up to \$25,000, with funds provided as reimbursements for business expenses upon proof of payment. EmpowHer Grant applications are accepted on a rolling basis - <a href="https://boundlessfutures.org/our-impact/">https://boundlessfutures.org/our-impact/</a>

**Entreprenista** - The Entreprenista site offers access to hands-on resources, a newsletter, enaging podcasts and more. It is the go-to resource for women leaders looking to build and scale their businesses, backed by a community that will be there to support you every step of the way. -https://www.entreprenista.com/newsletter

Entreprenista and Engine - Travel Credit Grant - The grant consists of \$2,500 in Engine travel credits. The travel credits will be loaded into the winner's Engine account. Engine is a travel platform for booking and managing work trips. To enter and be eligible to win, the Entrant must use their business email address to enter and have a business that is based in the US. Entrants must also have an account on Engine.com. Apply by 8/11/2025 - https://www.entreprenista.com/giveaways/engine?utm\_source=cornell

**eosera Foundation Pitch Competition** - This year, the pitch competition is open to women from around the United States who have been in business for three years or less. Applications will close Sept. 9, or once the maximum number of entries has been received. Funding up to \$30,000. Apply by 9/9/2025 - <a href="https://www.eosera.com/pages/pitch">https://www.eosera.com/pages/pitch</a>

First Interstate BancSystem Foundation grants - First Interstate Bank and the First Interstate BancSystem Foundation provide support in communities served by First Interstate Bank in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming. Must be a nonprofit to apply. The majority of the Foundation's grants are focused on alleviating poverty by assisting low- and moderate-income individuals and communities. Funding minimum of \$2500 -

https://www.firstinterstatebank.com/company/commitment/grants.php

Foot Locker Foundation Community Empowerment Program - The Foot Locker Foundation Community Empowerment Program offers two types of grants: Grants to support current youth programming, create new programming or extend existing programming. These grants will range from \$25,000 to \$75,000 over one year - and Grants to support capital improvement projects that enhance the impact of youth programming. These grants will range from \$25,000 to \$100,000 over one year. This funding opportunity is open to 501c3 nonprofit organizations that operate in low-to-moderate income

communities within the following 14 cities: Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, MD; Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Detroit, MI; Houston, TX; Los Angeles, CA; New York City, NY; Newark, NJ; Oakland, CA; Philadelphia, PA; San Francisco, CA; Tampa, FL; and Washington, DC. Apply by 9/30/2025 - https://www.lisc.org/our-initiatives/sports-recreation/foot-locker-foundation-community-empowerment-program/

**FORCE Microgrant** - Applications are now open for THE FORCE Grant - created to support women founders over 40 who are building impactful businesses and solutions. Funding of \$500. Apply by 8/29/2025 - <a href="https://www.thegenxperience.com/40-grant">https://www.thegenxperience.com/40-grant</a>

Goldman Sachs 10000 Small Businesses - The Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program is actively seeking ambitious entrepreneurs to join their upcoming cohorts. The program aims to help entrepreneurs increase revenues, create jobs, and stimulate economic opportunity in their communities. It provides a mix of training and support to enable small business owners to grow their companies and make a meaningful impact. Apply by Nov 2025 - https://10ksbapply.com/program-details

**HerRise Micro-Grant** (\$10 fee to apply) - Each month a \$1000 micro-grant will be awarded to a for-profit small business owned by women of color. Past recipients used their growth grants for computers, equipment, marketing materials, software purchase, website creation and more. - <a href="https://www.hersuitespot.com/herrise/">https://www.hersuitespot.com/herrise/</a>

**Hey Helen Microgrant** - Are you a woman entrepreneur building an impact-driven, for-profit business in the U.S.? The Hey Helen Grant, a privately funded initiative by Visionaries, is investing in your next big leap. One founder will receive a \$5,000 unrestricted cash award—use it however you want to propel your business forward, whether that's operations, growth, marketing, hiring, or infrastructure. If more than 1,000 qualified applications are received, an additional \$1,000 award may be unlocked. Funding of \$5,000. Apply by 8/29/2025 - https://visionaries.co/helen-grant

**High Five Grant for Mom Entrepreneurs** - Mom entrepreneurs are invited to apply. Plan 30-60 minutes to complete your application. Open to business owners in Canada and the US. Funding of \$25,000. Applications open 9/1-9/30/25

- https://themamaladder.com/grant

Impact Accelerator Program - From October 17th to December 5th, 2025, immerse yourself in a dynamic, virtual environment designed to help you achieve dramatic leaps in revenue and prepare your business for investment. The curriculum is packed with quick-start tools, actionable strategies, and hands-on learning, all led by industry experts who have helped countless entrepreneurs succeed. Apply by 9/29/2025

https://seedspot.org/impact-accelerator/

Independent Restaurant Coalition and Chase Innovator Grant - The IRC and Chase Innovator Awards will recognize 40 independent restaurants and bars with \$25,000 grants to strengthen the ideas, practices, and business models that promote sustainability and environmental innovation. This includes zero-waste kitchens and low-carbon menus, as well as workforce and industry innovation like childcare support and leadership or culinary training. Apply by 8/27/2025 - <a href="https://ircinnovatorawards.chase.com/">https://ircinnovatorawards.chase.com/</a>

Josephine Collective - The Josephine Collective looks at deals on a rolling basis, and founders can apply to be considered at any time. Goal is to have the entire process take no more than 3 weeks from presentation to wire. They invest anywhere from \$10K to \$100K depending on the Collective's interest. JC prefers early-stage tech-enabled businesses. Companies must be for-profit, US-domiciled, and have an expectation of becoming large-scale businesses. "Lifestyle" businesses, single location businesses with no current plans to scale, and non-profits will not be considered.

- https://joinjosephine.com/

KFC Foundation's Kentucky Wishes Grant - The KFC Foundation's Kentucky Wishes program provides grants to support capacity-building projects that expand access to food and shelter in local communities. Examples of eligible projects include remodeling food pantries, creating community gardens, upgrading animal shelters, and repairing or renovating buildings. Eligible applicants must be local nonprofit organizations, or local chapters/affiliates of larger nonprofits, that directly serve their communities. Funding up to \$10,000. Apply 7/14/25 - 7/31/25 - https://kfcfoundation.org/wishes/

**Maesa Magic Incubator (beauty industry) -** Program welcomes all under-represented communities in the early launch phase—an unprecedented opportunity from a company with a history of transforming unmet consumer needs into scalable brands. Should be in the beauty and wellness space. Funding of \$35,000. Apply by 8/6/2025

- https://maesamagicincubator.awardsplatform.com/

**Military Entrepreneur Challenge -** The Military Entrepreneur Challenge is a nationwide grant program that gives veteran, military spouse, and Gold Star Family entrepreneurs the opportunity to network, learn, and compete for capital to grow their small business.

- https://secondservicefoundation.org/mec/

**Minority Business Circle -** Supportive network for diverse entrepreneurs in various industries, offering opportunities like grants, loans, significant discounts on essential business products, and a comprehensive step-by-step guide with customized tools to track progress and foster growth. See link for info - <a href="https://minoritybusinesscircle.com/">https://minoritybusinesscircle.com/</a>

Mona Access To Capital Initiative - Mona is a social venture whose mission is to connect underserved small business entrepreneurs to affordable loans and grants. It has so far connected 100+ entrepreneurs across the U.S. to \$1 million in low-interest loans. All U.S. based small businesses are eligible. When completing the application, enter "BofA Institute" as your referral, and a Mona team member will reach out to help you find a funding match. <a href="https://www.mona-ventures.com/mona-capital">https://www.mona-ventures.com/mona-capital</a>

**Next 1B program (by McKinsey) -** The Next 1B program from McKinsey is designed to support Black-owned brands in the United States. Eligible businesses are typically more than one year in maturity with anywhere from \$250k-\$5M in annual revenue, and sells consumer products - <a href="https://www.mckinsey.com/bem/overview/next-1b">https://www.mckinsey.com/bem/overview/next-1b</a>

**NSF Seed Fund -** NSF helps startups navigate the earliest stages of technology translation, investing roughly \$200 million annually in approximately 400 startups. Each startup can receive up to \$2 million to support translational research and development. From advanced manufacturing to artificial intelligence to biological technologies to environmental technologies, they fund nearly all areas of technology.

- https://seedfund.nsf.gov/

**Prose Emerging Entrepreneurs Grant -** In partnership with Ellis Brooklyn, Prose will award the grant to an AANHPI-led business to help fuel their mission and growth. Funding of \$10,000. Apply by 8/1/2025 - <a href="https://form.typeform.com/to/MvSIzHmM">https://form.typeform.com/to/MvSIzHmM</a>

**RestorHER Micro-Grant -** A quarterly funding opportunity designed to provide financial support to women business owners who are committed to building sustainable, purpose-driven businesses while prioritizing their well-being. Funding up to \$500. Apply by 7/31/25 or 10/1-10/31 - <a href="https://cheyathousand.com/micro-grant">https://cheyathousand.com/micro-grant</a>

**Service2CEO program -** Service2CEO Is an entrepreneurship program for military-connected entrepreneurs. The program provides resources, networks of people committed to your success, and an actionable curriculum that accelerates your business to the next stage of development. - <a href="https://www.therosienetwork.org/service2ceo-program">https://www.therosienetwork.org/service2ceo-program</a>

**SheScales Cohort** - The program provides cohort participants with up to one year of consultation on their marketing campaigns and channel strategies, including audits and recommendations for brand strategy, paid and organic social media, email marketing, website content and strategy, CTV, linear TV, audio and more. Apply by 9/15/2025 - https://www.shescales.com/insights-resources/shescales-wants-you-apply-for-the-2025-2026-cohort/

**ShesConnected with AT&T** - Apply for the chance to win \$50,000, a year of AT&T service with a new device, and the opportunity to share your small business story with your own

AT&T content piece alongside #ShesConnected talent!. Apply by 9/30/2025 - <a href="https://www.att.com/shesconnected/">https://www.att.com/shesconnected/</a>

Small Business Hero Grant - Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and the Small Business Hero Program is a way to give back to those who fuel our neighborhoods and communities. By nominating a small business, you are helping them access crucial resources to continue making a difference and further their impact. Funding of \$20,000. Apply by 8/14/2025 - https://quickbooks.intuit.com/offers/small-business-hero-program/

**Small Business Readiness for Resiliency grant -** Developed in partnership with founding sponsor FedEx, the Small Business Readiness for Resiliency Program (R4R) is a multi-year initiative to empower small business owners to proactively mitigate the risks posed by disasters. Funding of \$5,000 - https://www.uschamberfoundation.org/solutions/disaster-response-and-resiliency/small-business-readiness-for-resiliency

Small Certified Supplier Innovative Finance Program - Targeted to small certified suppliers in California, Georgia, Kansas, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas and Washington, the Small Certified Supplier Innovative Finance Program is designed to engage diverse suppliers in educational funding readiness training and funder matching to support capacity building. Funding for \$5,000 - https://foundersfirstcapitalpartners.com/small-certified-supplier-innovative-finance-program/

**SPUR (Shared Purpose, Unlimited Reach) Pathways -** Through an integrated and collaborative approach, Macy's, Inc. and Momentus will provide access to a range of capital options from microloans to growth capital to equity investments. This represents a commitment to underrepresented businesses and aims to galvanize the retail industry to invest in the next generation of entrepreneurs

https://www.macysinc.com/purpose/spurpathways

**Start Small Think Big** is a nonprofit that helps small businesses with high potential and limited access to the resources needed to create thriving businesses. They partner with small business owners, providing personalized business support and building connections with local communities. Applicants should have at least \$500 in recurring sales over the past 3 months and total household income must fall below 750% Federal Poverty Guidelines. If you are interested in being considered as a "client" for free services, you can fill out this form <a href="https://partner.startsmallthinkbig.org/bofainstitute">https://partner.startsmallthinkbig.org/bofainstitute</a> (check toggle on side for English/Spanish). They also offer free webinars (in Eng and Span) with upcoming events listed here - <a href="https://www.startsmallthinkbig.org/events-for-small-businesses">https://www.startsmallthinkbig.org/events-for-small-businesses</a>

**Substack Creator Accelerator Fund -** The Substack Creator Accelerator Fund is for creators who are ready to expand their reach and subscription business by taking advantage of Substack's growth network and full suite of publishing, community, and discovery tools. Any U.S.-based individual creator, or small group of creators, who have a monthly recurring revenue (MRR) of at least \$2,000 can apply. - https://read.substack.com/p/substack-creator-accelerator-fund

This Woman Knows Grant (\$15 app fee) - The This Woman Knows Grant opens May 1 and is available to U.S.-based women who are entrepreneurs, artists, or creatives bringing their ideas to life. The grant is designed for women who are bootstrapping their dreams, navigating reinvention, or simply trying to make ends meet while bringing something meaningful into the world. Funding of \$500. Next deadline is 7/20/25 (offered monthly) - https://thiswomanknows.com/grant/

**Truist NonProfit Grant -** The Truist Foundation supports nonprofits with grants that target leadership development, economic mobility, thriving communities and educational equity. Quarterly deadlines - <a href="https://www.truist.com/purpose/truist-foundation/grant-application">https://www.truist.com/purpose/truist-foundation/grant-application</a>

**U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation Grant -** The Program Grants will be awarded from the U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation (USV/SFF) to help the disadvantaged, improve the quality of people's lives, and strengthen our communities. The Foundation will consider a broad range of requests including specific program needs, capital or general operating support. A charitable organization will typically receive no more than one program grant per calendar year. Apply quarterly (7/25/25, 10/24/25)

- <a href="https://www.usventure.com/giving-back/us-venture-schmidt-family-foundation/program-grants/">https://www.usventure.com/giving-back/us-venture-schmidt-family-foundation/program-grants/</a>

**Veterans Business Outreach Center -** The Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) program offers resources to veterans who are interested in starting or growing a small business. There are 22 locations (soon expanding to 35) and they offer workshops, training, counseling, and mentorship opportunities. - <a href="https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/veterans-business-outreach-center-vboc-program">https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/veterans-business-outreach-center-vboc-program</a>

**Wish Local Empowerment Program -** You must be a Black-owned business with a brick-and-mortar shop within the United States and less than 20 employees. If selected for the program, you must join Wish Local (which is free). Grants for up to \$2000 - https://www.wish.com/local/empowerment

**YippityDoo Big Idea Grant – For For-Profits and Non-Profits (\$15 application fee) -** Each month, one \$1000 grant is awarded to a woman, age 18 or over, in the US to invest in their Business or Idea. It can be used as a start up grant, marketing grant, operational grant or

whatever you need to help you to the next level with your idea or business – For profit link

- https://www.yippitydoo.com/small-business-grant-optin/ Non-profit link
- https://www.yippitydoo.com/small-business-grant-optin-non-profit/

**Zendesk Tech for Good** - The Zendesk Tech for Good program partners with over 110 nonprofits across the globe to give them free Zendesk software, grants, and pro bono support, empowering more organizations to leverage technology and serve more people. Apply by 8/15/2025 - <a href="https://techforgood.zendesk.com/hc/en-us">https://techforgood.zendesk.com/hc/en-us</a>