



WOMEN'S FOUNDATION
OF ALABAMA

Fall 2025 Grant Cycle

Now Open: August 8th - August 29th , 2025
More information: wfalabama.org/grants



APPLY NOW





Fall 2025 Grant Overview

About this grant cycle:

The Women's Foundation of Alabama is excited to announce the Fall 2025 Grant Cycle, open to local, community-based organizations across the state. Through this grant cycle, we aim to provide greater capacity to innovative, high-impact programs that move women toward economic opportunity by awarding **\$50,000** to nine organizations across the state. Funded projects will advance bold ideas that align with our strategic goal of moving **10,000** women to work and on the path to economic opportunity by **2027**. This targeted grantmaking approach reflects our commitment to community-driven solutions and to accelerating the pace of progress for working women & their families.

What's new in 2025?

This year's grant cycle will offer a set number of awards - nine grants of \$50,000 each - rather than a range of funding amounts. Organizations will still apply under one of our three focus areas; however, we are prioritizing projects that demonstrate clearly defined and measurable impacts on participants' economic mobility. Given the specific priorities of this year's grant cycle, we ask that you please review the focus areas below before submitting a brief proposal.

3 Focus Areas

The projects and outcomes listed below are designed to illustrate the types of grants the foundation may make in each focus area, but are not meant to be exhaustive.



01.

Women + Work

Programs that equip women with the education, skills, coaching, and support needed to access quality jobs and thrive in the workforce. This includes career readiness, training, and placement services that help women enter, re-enter, or advance along meaningful career pathways.



02.

Women + Leadership

Programs that build women's personal and professional leadership capacity—fueling career advancement, economic mobility, and community influence. From mentorship and public speaking to executive coaching and civic engagement, these initiatives help women lead with impact.



03.

Women + Wellbeing — Financial Wellbeing:

Programs that enhance the financial position and possibilities of women and their families. From matched savings and down payment assistance to legal services and debt reduction, this category includes any initiative that improves the bottom line for women & families, laying the foundation for intergenerational wealth.

01. Women + Work



WOMEN + WORK

Programs that equip women with the education, skills, coaching, and support needed to access quality jobs and **thrive in the workforce**. This includes career readiness, training, and placement services that help women enter, re-enter, or advance along meaningful career pathways.

Potential projects:

- Job training, upskilling, and credentialing
- Wraparound supports (e.g., transportation, childcare)
- Policy advocacy focused on issues like fair chance employment and equal pay

Potential outcomes:

- Number of participants securing new jobs
- Number of participants receiving training or credentials
- Increased hourly wage or household income

02. Women + Leadership



WOMEN + LEADERSHIP

Programs that build women's **personal and professional leadership** capacity—fueling career advancement, economic mobility, and community influence. From mentorship and public speaking to executive coaching and civic engagement, these initiatives help women lead with impact.

Potential projects:

- Leadership coaching and mentoring
- Professional development and skill-building programs
- Peer or intergenerational mentoring

Potential outcomes:

- Number of participants receiving a promotion
- Number of businesses started
- Increased access to networks and/or resources impacting professional growth

03. Women + Wellbeing



WOMEN + WELLBEING

FINANCIAL WELLBEING

Programs that enhance the **financial position and possibilities** of women and their families. From matched savings and down payment assistance to legal services and debt reduction, this category includes any initiative that improves the bottom line for women & families, laying the foundation for intergenerational wealth.

Potential projects:

- Homeownership training with down-payment support
- Low-cost lending, guaranteed income, or direct cash transfer models
- Advocacy or organizing focused on issues like paid family leave and payday loan reform

Potential outcomes:

- Number of participants able to purchase a home
- Increased ability to manage economic uncertainty
- Increased access to education that results in improved financial behaviors

Timeline

The deadline for submitting brief proposals is Friday, August 29, 2025 at 11:59 p.m. For this cycle, we are following a two-stage process (brief proposal and full proposal stages). For applicants advancing to the full proposal stage, site visits will take place in October, and final decisions will be announced in December.

Application & Proposal Guidelines

- Applicants must be currently designated a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the IRS; or be a 501(c)(3) exempt religious institution; or be a government entity.
- Applicants may use a fiscal sponsor.
- Applicants must provide services in Alabama.
- Large organizations with many branches or departments (e.g. colleges, universities, YMCA, public libraries) should submit requests from the president's office or the development office.

Submission Requirements:

Organizations applying for funding are required to submit 501(c)(3) documentation, audited financial statements, and the most recently submitted IRS Form 990. The most competitive organizations for this grant cycle will have an established history of successfully meeting program outcomes and administering grant funds.

No Grants Will Be Made To or For:

- Individuals
- Religious organizations for religious purposes
- National fundraising drives
- Sponsorship of fundraising events
- Political organizations or candidates for public office
- Debt reduction
- Scholarship or campership programs
- Replacement of government funding cuts
- Indirect costs above 10% of the total project budget



We believe big ideas need bold funding.

Apply now until August 29th, 2025 at 11:59 CST.

Women's Foundation of Alabama utilizes an online grants management system, Foundant. To access the application portal, [click here](#) or head to wfalabama.org/grants/

APPLY NOW



Questions?

For more information or to ask questions, please contact a member of the Philanthropy & Learning Team:



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Frequently Asked Questions

Where in Alabama do you fund?

Women's Foundation of Alabama makes grants to organizations in all 67 counties across the state.

Which focus area should I apply under?

If you feel your project fits into multiple focus areas, please select the one that best describes your project. A program officer can assist if you want to discuss which focus area is the best fit for your project.

Can I submit more than one application?

Given the competitive nature of this year's grant cycle, we ask that you only submit one brief proposal.

Can I submit for general operating support and/or staff salaries?

Yes, we understand that organizations need general operating support. Bear in mind, however, the metrics you are measuring and communicating must align with our mission and focus areas. WFA will fund staff salaries, but the most successful proposals will include a sustainability plan for staff positions that are grant-funded.

Can I apply for a multi-year grant?

For the Fall 2025 grant cycle, awarded grants can be paid out over one or two years.

Will you fund my entire project?

In general, Women's Foundation of Alabama will not be the sole funder of a project.

If I was funded last year, can I apply this year?

It depends. If you were awarded a two-year grant in 2024, you are not eligible for funding this cycle. If you have already received your final grant payment, you may apply for funding again this year.

If I applied in the past and my project was denied, can I apply again?

Yes, you may apply again. If you would like to apply for the same project/program, we recommend you reach out to a program officer to receive feedback on your previous application.

Do I have to submit a grant report?

Yes, organizations that are awarded grants will have to submit a report at the end of their grant period, one year following the grant award.



**WOMEN'S FOUNDATION
OF ALABAMA**

Thank you.



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