



Research Resources

Some funding research web sites and databases cost money and will require a subscription, while others are free. To help you use your online research time wisely, we've compiled this list of our favorite funding research sites:

1. **The Colorado Grants Guide™** guide.crcamerica.org — The **Colorado Grants Guide™** is the most essential and up- to-date fundraising tool for nonprofit and community-based organizations in Colorado! This comprehensive resource guide contains over 600 profiles of local foundations and trusts, corporations, national funders, government agencies and religious organizations.
2. **Candid** candid.org/ — The combination of GuideStar (non-profit search) and the Foundation Center (now called Foundation Directory). There is a lot you can do here for free, but many of the more sophisticated search engines on the site are available for various fees. The 990-search function is free. The site also offers a variety of learning opportunities and other reports.
 - **990 Finder** — This service lists most of the IRS 990 forms for nonprofit organizations and private foundations and corporations. The 990s will provide you with information including staff salaries and grantees. Research the 990s on this site after you have found relevant funding sources.
3. **Independent Sector** independentsector.org/ — This is the national trade association for larger nonprofits, including many private foundations and corporations. The web site has many articles on public policy, lobbying rules for nonprofits, ethics, etc.
4. **Chronicle of Philanthropy** philanthropy.com — The Chronicle of Philanthropy is an online and print news source for the nonprofit sector, it offers lists of grants, fundraising ideas and techniques, statistics, reports on tax and court rulings, summaries of books, and a calendar of events.
5. **Charity Navigator** charitynavigator.org — Charity Navigator rates and evaluates nonprofits with a four- star rating system. Check out organizations you have heard of to see how they compare to others across the country and in your community. The web site is also host to a number of well-written articles.
6. **National Council on Nonprofits** councilofnonprofits.org/ — This is the grassroots independent sector site, which is the trade association of all of the statewide nonprofit associations in the country. The site is a great source of interesting information impacting grassroots and mid-sized organizations.
7. **State of Colorado** colorado.gov — Use the page's search capabilities to look for "Grants." A listing of all grant references in the different state departments will appear.
8. **IRS Charities and Nonprofits** irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits — This website provides tax information, tools, and resources for charities and other tax-exempt organizations.
9. **US Dept of Health and Human Services Grants.gov** grants.gov —This site contains information about Federal grant programs. Grants.gov is a searchable database of government grants policies governing the award and administration of grant activities, publishing these in grants policy directives, regulations, and/or manuals.

AREAS OF INTEREST

Foundations are also categorized in the Guide according to Areas of Interest. Funders have requested that we indicate the **primary and secondary** areas of interest to reduce the number of proposals received for marginal funding interests. Use the chart below to indicate the primary (P) and secondary (S) funding interests of your organization by checking the applicable boxes.

AREA OF INTEREST	P	S	AREA OF INTEREST	P	S
Abuse & Neglect Prevention			Health (cont.)		
Animal Protection & Welfare			Diseases, Medical Disciplines		
Arts, Culture & Humanities			Medical Disorders		
Education			Medical Research		
Historic Preservation			Mental Health Treatment		
Media, Broadcasting			Hospices		
Museums			Housing Security		
Performing Arts Organizations			Human Services		
BIPOC Individuals, Communities			Legal Services		
Children & Youth Services			LGBTQIA+		
Community, Public Affairs			Neighborhood Development		
Disability Community			Nonprofit Support		
Domestic Violence Shelters, Services			Older Adults, Aging		
Economic Development			Peace Issues		
Education			Philanthropy, Volunteerism, Grants		
Adult, Continuing Ed (Literacy, ESL)			Public Policy, Society Benefit		
Early Childhood			Public Safety, Emergency Relief		
Higher Education			Recreation, Sports		
K-12			Religion, Spirituality		
Libraries			Reproductive Rights		
Emergency Assistance			Rural Communities		
Employment, Job Training			Science, Technology Research		
Environment, Conservation, Climate			Social Justice, Advocacy, Civil Rights		
Food, Agriculture, Nutrition			Technology, Telecommunications		
Health			Veterans Affairs		
AIDS/HIV			Women		
Alcohol, Drug & Substance Abuse			Youth Development Activities		
Dental Health					



Types of Grants

Funding Type	Definition
Capital Improvement	Funding for long-term needs, usually associated with a facility; includes construction, acquisition, and improvements
Challenge	Conditional grant that requires recipient to raise additional funds on a matching or formula basis usually within a specified period of time; used to help develop and diversify funding base
Contracts for Services	Often used by government; NPO agrees to perform services for the agency and is reimbursed after services are performed
Emergency Loans or Grants	A one-time grant or loan to help NPO's meet a short-term funding crisis
Endowment	A gift that is intended for investment purposes, in which the principle becomes an asset of the NPO and the interest, a source of income. Donors may place restrictions such as; principle must remain intact in perpetuity
Equipment Purchase	A grant to purchase a vehicle, computer, furnishings or other tangible assets
General Operating	Also referred to as unrestricted grants; used to cover daily expenses or administrative costs
In-Kind Gifts	A donation of goods and services as opposed to cash
Matching	Grant with the requirement that the amount be matched dollar-for-dollar
Project/Program Support	A grant to support a specific project or program; money is restricted for this purpose
Research	Grant to support the costs of studies, surveys, or clinical trials, including demonstration and pilot programs. Grant awarded to individuals are usually called fellowships
Scholarships	A grant award to an individual, usually for education
Sponsorships	A grant or donation that provides a marketing opportunity for the donor
Start-up/Seed Money	Funding given in support of a new project that many cover salaries and other operating expenses
Technical Assistance	Grants that support operational or management assistance such as fundraising assistance, budgeting and financial planning, legal advice, technical advice, etc.