



Common Grant Types for Nonprofits Quick Reference Guide

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Request consulting for a Northern Utah nonprofit (Ogden to Logan):

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Operating/General Support Grants

What: Unrestricted funding for day-to-day operations, overhead costs, salaries, rent, and core activities **Where to find:** Candid Foundation Directory, local community foundations, corporate foundations **Note:** Highly sought after but competitive; provides crucial organizational flexibility.

Program/Project Grants

What: Support specific initiatives, projects, or programs with defined goals and timelines **Where to find:** Candid Foundation Directory, Grants.gov, private foundations, corporate giving programs **Note:** Most common type for nonprofits; easier to obtain than general operating support.

Capacity Building Grants

What: Fund organizational infrastructure, staff training, technology upgrades, systems, or equipment to strengthen operations **Where to find:** Capacity-focused foundations, United Way, corporate foundations, management support organizations **Note:** Popular for organizational development and strengthening internal capabilities.

Capital Grants

What: Fund major purchases like buildings, renovations, equipment, or other fixed assets **Where to find:** Capital campaign consultants, major donor prospects, family foundations, corporate foundations **Note:** Often part of comprehensive fundraising campaigns; require detailed project plans.

Planning Grants

What: Fund feasibility studies, strategic planning processes, or preliminary research before launching major initiatives **Where to find:** Community foundations, planning-focused funders, management support organizations **Note:** Smaller amounts that can lead to larger implementation grants.

Multi-Year Grants

What: Provide funding over several years rather than single-year awards **Where to find:** Major private foundations, family foundations, some government programs **Note:** Preferred by nonprofits for program stability and long-term planning.

Emergency/Crisis Relief Grants

What: Immediate funding for disaster response, organizational crises, or urgent community needs **Where to find:** Emergency response foundations, community foundations, corporate emergency funds **Note:** Time-sensitive; often have rapid application and decision processes.

Suggestions for Grant Searching

- **AI Platforms** (i.e. ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, CoPilot...)
- **Candid Foundation Directory** - (schedule time to use this)
- **GrantSpace (Candid)** - grantspace.org - Free grant research tools and resources
- **Grants.gov** - grants.gov - Federal government grant opportunities
- **GrantWatch** - grantwatch.com - Database of grants from foundations, corporations, and government
- **Chronicle of Philanthropy** - philanthropy.com - Grant announcements and foundation news
- **Foundation Center (now Candid)** - candid.org - Comprehensive foundation research tools
- **United Way Worldwide** - unitedway.org - Local chapter funding opportunities
- **Network for Good** - networkforgood.com - Grant opportunities and fundraising tools
- **Idealist** - idealist.org - Includes grant and funding opportunity listings
- **Ford Foundation** - fordfoundation.org - Major private foundation with various program areas
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** - rwjf.org - Health-focused foundation grants
- **W.K. Kellogg Foundation** - wkkf.org - Children, families, and communities
- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** - gatesfoundation.org - Global development and US education