

2026 IMPACT GRANT FOR DEAF ORGANIZATIONS



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DEAF ORGANIZATIONS FUND**

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WEBINAR LOGISTICS



This call will be recorded and shared publicly at a later date.



Ensure your sound is on if you need to access our voice interpreters.



Click "CC" to view live captioning.



There's a small thick line between the speaker videos & slideshow. Use your mouse to drag this line and change the size of each screen.



Use the "Raise Hand" button if you wish to ask a question on-camera at the end of the presentation.



Please use Q&A button to type your question.

ABOUT DEAF ORGANIZATIONS FUND



OUR MISSION

Strengthening organizations working with deaf communities

OUR VISION

A future in which deaf communities have access to a wide array of services provided by thriving, well-resourced organizations

BETWEEN 2020-2025

Nearly half a million distributed to 32 grant projects

RESOURCES

Collaboration and consultant opportunities, educational webinars, technical assistance, grantee coaching, and more

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CURRENT STATE: DEAF NONPROFIT SECTOR

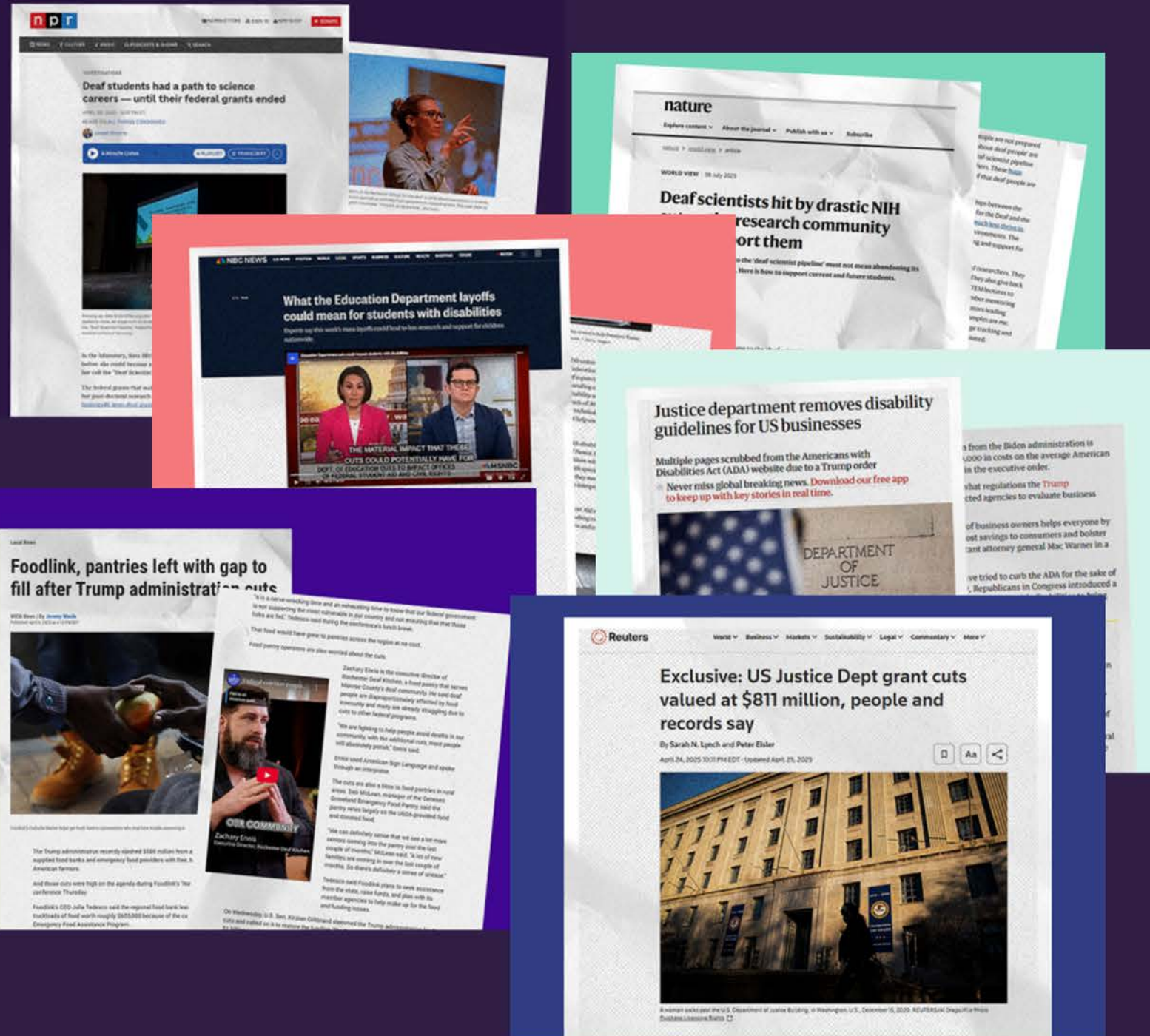
LESS THAN 1%

Deaf organizations receive less than 1% of the \$37.2 billion in grants awarded nationally each year

STRUGGLING

Significant attacks on the nonprofit sector and disability rights

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2025 STATS

65%

of deaf organization
leaders felt uncertain
about future funding

55%

experienced or
anticipated a decrease
in funding

45%

experienced an
increased demand
for their services

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1% IS NOT ENOUGH

COLLECTIVE WIN

With the community's support, we raised \$200K in 2025 and will double the number of deaf organizations and programs typically funded.

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GRANT OVERVIEW



\$200K will be awarded amongst ten selected deaf organizations and programs in May 2026

Each grant award will be \$20K in unrestricted funding intended to support one-year grant projects

Applications are now open through **Tuesday, March 10th at 5:00PM CT**

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UNRESTRICTED FUNDING



An unrestricted grant is funding that supports an organization's overall mission. There are no rules governing how the grant dollars are spent, as long as the spending aligns with the organization's mission and operations.

PRIORITY is given to proposals that focus on:*

- immediate, urgent needs (community), AND/OR
- sustainable, long-term needs (organization)

**new this year on the application*

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FUNDING PRIORITY AREAS

COMMUNITY

Meeting the time-sensitive needs of community members. For example, food, housing, safety, and access to mental health services, among other fundamental aspects of well-being

ORGANIZATION

Addressing the capacity building needs of the organization. For example, cost-sharing of resources among partner organizations, development efforts, administrative needs, etc.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS



DEAF ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

Deaf-centric organizations and programs that primarily work with members of deaf communities.

Notes: Deaf communities include people who identify as Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, or Hard of Hearing. Deaf-centric programs housed within larger mainstream organizations are eligible to apply, as long as the grant proposal is tied to the funding needs of the deaf-centric program.






NONPROFIT STATUS

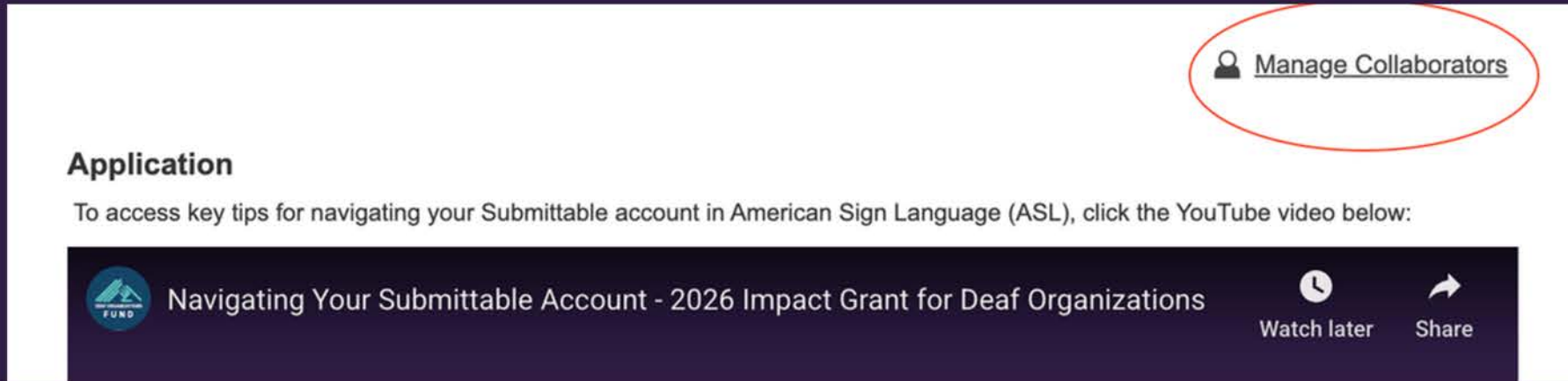
Organizations based in the U.S. with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status, or organizations that have a fiscal sponsor based in the U.S. with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status.

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IMPACT GRANT CANNOT FUND:

-  Capital projects, such as construction, renovations, or physical expansions
-  An event(s), festival, or conference
-  Individuals not affiliated with a nonprofit organization, such as those requesting scholarships, loans, sponsorships, or funds for personal assistive devices

SUBMITTABLE



Account Holder:

The organization account holder is responsible for submitting the application and post-award materials, if awarded.

Collaborators:

Click the “Manage Collaborators” to send a link to individuals you want to work on the grant application with.

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APPLICATION

PART 1: ELIGIBILITY

- Employer Identification Number (EIN): tax-exempt organization or fiscal sponsor
- Four (4) multiple choice questions about who you serve and what you intend to request funding for

PART 2: PROPOSAL

- Organization's Profile
- Organization's Overview
- Proposal
- Optional Questions



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ORGANIZATION'S PROFILE

- Basic information about the organization
- List of Board of Directors, their titles, and professional affiliations
- Fiscal Sponsor's information (if using)
- Annual Operating Budget
- Mission, areas of focus, type of work*
- Conflict of Interest (COI)
 - Grant Review Committee, DOF, and Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc. (CSD)
 - Disclosing actual or perceived COI will not disqualify your application

**new this year on the application*

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ORGANIZATION'S OVERVIEW

- Three (3) open-ended questions about your program and resources, community members' role in your organization's work, and the organization's accomplishments
 - **ASL:** 2-minute video response per question
 - **English:** 350-word response per question

PROPOSAL

- Four (4) questions, with the last two being open-ended questions, about how much you are requesting, select the applicable funding priority area, what issue you are seeking to address with the grant, and plan for using the grant
 - **ASL:** 3-minute video response per question
 - **English:** 500-word response per question

OPTIONAL QUESTIONS

- **Do not require your response and will not affect the evaluation of your proposal**
- Four (4) questions, with the first two being open-ended questions and the last two being multiple-choice choices
 - **ASL:** 1-minute video response per open-ended question
 - **English:** 150-word response per open-ended question
- Questions address additional information you wish to share, feedback on the application, training topics you'd wish to see, and support needed with your administrative needs.

GRANT REVIEW PROCESS



Grant Review Committee
Deaf Organizations Fund (DOF)
Communication Service for the Deaf, Inc. (CSD)

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST (COI)

- Definition: actual or perceived COI
- Disclosure of COI
- Application question
- **Disclosing actual or perceived COI will not disqualify your application**

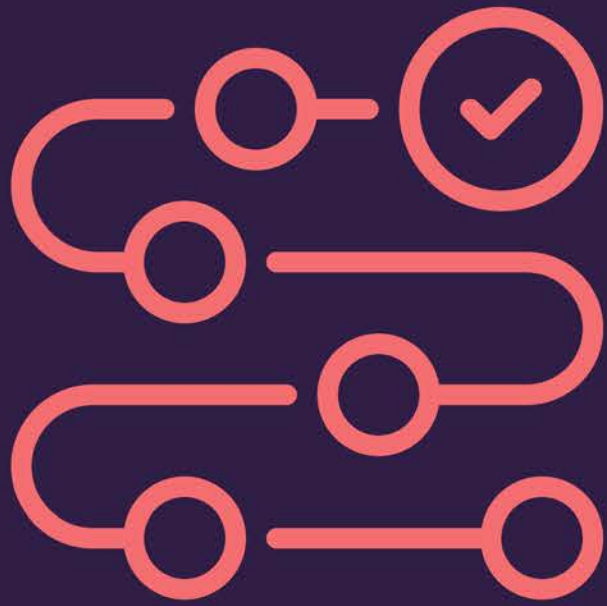
APPLICATION METRICS



Equity
Impact
Feasibility

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IF AWARDED:



- Timeline
 - May 2026 - May 2027
 - DOF + Grantee meeting
- Reporting Requirements
 - 6 months: Interim report
 - 12 months/project completion: Final report
- Optional additional Zoom meetings for support

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



Click "Raise Hand" icon and we will invite you as panelist to ask your question on camera



Click the "Q&A" icon and type your question

IMPORTANT LINKS



Grant overview:

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Submit your application:

deaforganizationsfund.submittable.com/submit

Technical difficulties?

submittable.com/help/submitter

Contact us at:

DOF@DeafOrganizationsFund.org

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THANK YOU!

Thank you for joining us! You will receive an email shortly with a brief survey asking about your experience with this webinar.

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