

@mjkabir Notes



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Grants for Startups

Starting and growing a successful business requires access to the right resources, including funding, mentorship, and strategic support. For startup founders, finding the best platforms to secure grants, venture capital, and crowdfunding can be crucial to turning an idea into reality.

Whether seeking government grants, joining accelerator programs, or exploring equity crowdfunding, this list provides a comprehensive guide to the most impactful platforms and grant programs available. From popular platforms like Kickstarter and Techstars to niche opportunities like the Amber Grants for women-owned businesses, these resources can help startups at any stage secure the capital and support needed to scale.

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High Impact and Widely Used Platforms/Programs

- **grants.gov** – Central platform for accessing U.S. government grants.
- **sbir.gov** – This major U.S. government program for R&D funding is very important for tech and science startups.
- **Kickstarter.com** is a popular crowdfunding platform that is good for consumer products and creative startups.
- **Indiegogo.com** – Another widely known crowdfunding platform with a global reach.
- **Techstars.com** is a leading startup accelerator with great networking and funding opportunities.
- **masschallenge.org** – Global accelerator and competition offering equity-free funding.
- **500 Global Flagship Accelerator Program** – A top global startup accelerator.
- **score.org** – Provides free mentoring and resources for startups, highly recommended for early-stage businesses.

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Grant-Focused Platforms/Programs

- **Hello Alice grant platform** – Good for small business grants and educational resources.
- **Tory Burch Foundation** – Focuses on women entrepreneurs, provides grants and fellowships.
- **Amber Grants** – Grants for women-owned businesses, accessible and helpful for small startups.
- **Verizon Small Business Grant** – A well-known grant program for small businesses.
- **Amazon Small Business Grant** – Offers support for Amazon sellers and small businesses.
- **FedEx Small Business Grant** – Popular grant program with wide exposure.
- **Lenovo Evolve small-business grant** – Grant program targeting technology needs.
- **Venmo Small Business Grant** – Offers grants for businesses accepting payments via Venmo.
- **Visa Everywhere Initiative** – A competition offering funding opportunities for fintech startups.
- **Bizee Fresh Start Business Grant** – Aimed at providing financial support for new businesses.

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Crowdfunding and Equity Funding Platforms

- **Seedrs.com** – Leading UK-based equity crowdfunding platform.
- **Crowdcube.com** – Popular equity crowdfunding platform in Europe.
- **Startengine.com** – US-based equity crowdfunding platform with a large reach.
- **Microventures.com** – Crowdfunding platform focused on both equity and venture capital.
- **Crowdfunder.com** – Platform for startups seeking equity-based funding.
- **Fundrazr.com** – Crowdfunding for startups, social impact, and personal causes.
- **Fundable.com** – Crowdfunding platform for businesses with equity or reward-based options.

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Specialized Grants and Funding Platforms

- **OpenGrants.io** – Focused on grant funding, helpful for startups in need of capital.
- **International.grantwatch.com** – Global grant discovery platform for small businesses and startups.
- **Getfundid.com** – A platform offering resources and grants for small businesses.
- **Huawei Spark Ignite** – A grant and accelerator program focused on tech startups.
- **SubSummit Pitch Competition** – Focused on subscription-based startups.

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Business-Specific and Niche Grants

- Venmo Small Business Grant
- FedEx Small Business Grant
- Tory Burch Foundation
- Amazon Small Business Grant
- Verizon Small Business Grant
- Lenovo Evolve small-business grant
- Bizee Fresh Start Business Grant

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