AN ARKUS INNOVATION STUDIOS PUBLICATION

PEOPLE & POSSIBILITIES

The Arkus Signal

GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES WORTH PURSUING

FUNDING EDITION

14 OCTOBER 2026

ISSUE 05 / PRINT EDITION

GRANTS & RESEARCH FUNDING

The viruses that quietly live with us

An October 8 reissue offers small research grants to understand the healthy human virome. The current deadline is November 10, with an unexplained later date in the notice.



A scientist inspects carefully labeled biological specimen tubes and a sequencing workstation in a bright laboratory.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Not every virus in the human body announces itself with an illness. NIH's Human Virome Program studies the viral communities that normally live in and on us, and the tools needed to understand them. Its newly reissued pilot call invites researchers outside the existing consortium to contribute distinct work.

Inside: twelve funding stories, with checked official notices, useful repeat coverage and clear first steps. New features and newly issued calls are identified separately.

PARTNERSHIP DESK / ARKUS INNOVATION STUDIOS

Pursue it with Arkus.

Have a call in mind? Let's talk about the team it needs.

Arkus leads as prime
We lead the bid and coordinate the team. ↗

Arkus joins your team
Bring us in for part of the work as a subcontractor. ↗

First, we check whether the call allows that arrangement.

Email Nadia ↗

READ THE OPENING CONDITION

Two grants. Two different first steps.



NIH COMMON FUND, ADMINISTERED BY NIDCR

Map the viruses that live within.

NIH funds small studies that could open a path toward mapping the human virome. The award covers direct costs; the proposal date uses the applicant organization's local time.

Up to $100,000 / year

10 November · 5 p.m. applicant local

Read the call & how to apply ↗



THE JOHN A. HARTFORD FOUNDATION

Build care across more than one site.

Hartford seeks new partners with national or multi-site aging-care projects. Read the prior-grant rule and complete portal registration by the safe October 21 early gate before the October 27 inquiry.

Up to $300,000

Registration: 21 October · noon ET

Rules & application steps ↗

Generated editorial scenes. NIH's pilot supports research; Hartford's program supports aging care. Each has its own eligibility and first step. Read the full notices.

Read the story ↗

OPEN · REISSUED 8 OCTOBER / US APPLICANTS; INTERNATIONAL WORK FOLLOWS THE NOTICE

1 min read · Deadline in 27 days (as of 14 Oct)

The viruses that quietly live with us

An October 8 reissue offers small research grants to understand the healthy human virome. The current deadline is November 10, with an unexplained later date in the notice.

NIH Common Fund, administered by NIDCR · Pilot Projects to Enhance the Human Virome Program (R03 Clinical Trials Not Allowed), RFA-RM-27-024



A scientist inspects carefully labeled biological specimen tubes and a sequencing workstation in a bright laboratory.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Not every virus in the human body announces itself with an illness. NIH's Human Virome Program studies the viral communities that normally live in and on us, and the tools needed to understand them. Its newly reissued pilot call invites researchers outside the existing consortium to contribute distinct work.

The award allows up to $100,000 in direct costs per year for a maximum of two years, with both years' funds paid in the first year. Projects can improve assays, methods or models, or extend suitable sampling. Clinical trials are excluded. A credible pilot needs a clear connection to the program, rather than a general interest in viruses.

The current receipt date is November 10 at 5 p.m. in the applicant organization's local time. Start institutional and investigator registrations now. The notice also prints an October 2027 date after its stated expiration; treat that future cycle as unconfirmed. Domestic nonprofits and other listed US entities can apply; foreign applicants and funded foreign subawards cannot.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Up to $100,000 / year

Direct-cost ceiling, not a total-cost ceiling; both years are funded in year one. Approximately $2 million shared across about six anticipated awards in the full notice.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

10 NOV

10 November 2026 · 17:00 Applicant organization local

Deadline in 27 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start Listed US institutions, nonprofits, businesses and public entities may apply. Foreign organizations and non-US components cannot apply; foreign components are allowed, but foreign subawards/subcontracts are prohibited. No cost share.

Official call & application details ↗ | Read the eligibility rules ↗ | Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN · OLDER DISCOVERY / US NATIONAL OR MULTISITE CARE

1 min read · Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

A new partner needs a wider map

Hartford offers up to $300,000 over two years for care improvements that can travel. Register by October 21, before the October 27 letter of intent.

The John A. Hartford Foundation · JAHF New Partners Program: National Initiatives Advancing Improvements in Care for Older Adults



Older adults and a family caregiver review a care-planning sheet with a clinician at a welcoming community health meeting.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A useful improvement in older adults' care should be able to leave the building where it began. Hartford's New Partners Program seeks national or multisite work in age-friendly health systems, family caregiving, or serious illness and end-of-life care. A single busy service site will not meet the brief.

Up to ten grants offer as much as $300,000 over two years, including indirect costs. The October 7 FAQ defines eligible new partners as organizations, or academic departments, without a board-authorized Hartford grant in the past thirty years. Never-funded applicants receive priority. Eligible fiscal sponsors can also provide the legal and financial home for a project.

Register in the grants portal by October 21 at noon Eastern; the letter of intent, a short opening proposal, follows October 27 at noon. Financial documents accompany that first proposal. Plan to explain how older adults and caregivers shape the work, how it can spread, and what sustains it. Routine services and general operating support are excluded.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Up to $300,000

Up to $150,000 per year, inclusive of direct costs, fringe and indirect costs; up to $3 million shared. Indirect costs are capped at 12.5% of direct costs excluding subcontracts. Match is not required.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

21 OCT

21 October 2026 · 12 p.m. ET

Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start US public charities, qualifying colleges/universities, hospitals and health care organizations; eligible 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsors are allowed. No board-authorized Hartford grant in the past 30 years; never-funded applicants receive priority. US older adults or caregivers must benefit.

Official call & application details ↗ | Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN · OLDER DISCOVERY / US STATES, DC AND TERRITORIES

1 min read · Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

The people behind the small businesses

Visa's flexible $100,000–$250,000 grants support organizations serving operating businesses. The applicant's annual budget must fall between $1 million and $10 million.

Visa Foundation, administered by Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors · Visa Foundation U.S. Small Business Growth and Innovation Program



A business adviser and a small shop owner study a cash-flow notebook beside a laptop in a modest working storefront.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

The adviser helping a shop owner untangle a cash-flow problem also needs time, tools and a salary. Visa's program funds organizations supporting small or microbusinesses already trading.

Anticipated twelve-month grants of $100,000–$250,000 share a $2 million pool and may cover staff and administration, starting January 2027. Eligible US public charities need annual operating budgets of $1 million–$10 million and two years of audited accounts or tax returns. Qualifying fiscally sponsored projects must meet those rules, too.

Apply October 21 by noon Pacific after organization verification. Upload the current board-approved budget and historical financials. One application is permitted per tax identifier; submissions are not confidential. Serving fewer than 200 businesses annually affects competitiveness, not eligibility. The linked full form was unavailable for review; read it before committing. Additional conditions may apply.

THE OPPORTUNITY

$100k to $250k

Flexible one-time grants for twelve months starting January 2027. Amount depends on organizational budget size. Staffing and administration may be funded; fewer than 200 businesses served annually affects competitiveness, not eligibility.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

21 OCT

21 October 2026 · 12 p.m. PT

Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start US-based 501(c)(3) public charities directly serving operating small or microbusinesses; qualifying fiscally sponsored projects and separately incorporated local chapters are allowed. Annual operating budget $1 million–$10 million; two years of audited financials or IRS Form 990s.

Official call & application details ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

ROLLING · OLDER DISCOVERY / GLOBAL RESEARCH; CONFIRM APPLICANT TYPE

1 min read · No fixed deadline (as of 14 Oct)

Research help that arrives as credits

Up to $50,000 per project can pay for Claude usage, not laboratory salaries. The rolling science program has a qualification question worth settling first.

Anthropic · Anthropic AI for Science Program



A researcher reviews scientific computing results on a workstation while a notebook records a carefully framed research question.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Compute bills can interrupt a promising research question. Anthropic offers selected projects up to $50,000 per project in Claude usage credits, not cash for salaries, equipment or experiments. Approval is discretionary.

The announcement welcomes any researcher, but the live form describes qualified nonprofit and academic researchers unless otherwise specified. Applicants outside those groups should confirm their route. Credentials, likely research impact and whether AI meaningfully speeds the work guide selection. The form states monthly review, without promising a decision date.

Apply through AI for Science. The separate team-plan offer requires a principal investigator or equivalent at an academic or nonprofit research institution; its qualifications and benefits are different. Describe the research and expected model use, including usage restrictions. The credit call is rolling, with no published deadline. Choose your own reminder date.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Up to $50,000 in credits

Non-cash, discretionary usage credits. This does not pay salaries or equipment and is separate from the free/discounted scientists' team-plan offer. No cash award or guaranteed approval.

OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

PICK A DATE

Rolling; no submission deadline published

No fixed deadline (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start The current credit announcement says any researcher may apply; the live form describes qualified nonprofit and academic researchers unless otherwise specified. Applicants outside those categories should confirm the route. The separate team plan requires a PI or equivalent at an academic or nonprofit research institution.

Official call & application details ↗

Open the application portal ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN · REPEAT FEATURE / WASHINGTON BUSINESSES

1 min read · Deadline in 2 days (as of 14 Oct)

A small grant needs a working partnership

Fifteen fixed $10,000 awards close October 16. Partners, financial records and a plan for 35 Washington businesses need to be ready together.

Washington State Microenterprise Association · WSMA 2026–27 Statewide Grant Opportunity: Collaborative Projects



Business-support partners work through a service plan and an Excel budget together in a community office.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A collaboration becomes real when somebody can name who will teach, who will coach and who will follow up. WSMA's small grant asks two to five partners to reach at least 35 distinct Washington businesses. Shared work matters more than a collection of logos at the bottom of a proposal.

Each selected project receives exactly $10,000. That request may represent no more than 20 percent of the lead's prior calendar-year or recent twelve-month actual budget, so the relevant budget must reach at least $50,000. Embedded business-support programs use their own budget. Document two years of relevant experience, and make sure grant-funded partners have Evergreen BizLink enrollment or submitted profiles.

The October 16 cutoff is 5 p.m., labeled PST even though daylight time applies that day. Confirm the clock wording before relying on a timed reminder. Upload the required request spreadsheet in Excel, alongside the lead's current 2026 budget, prior actuals and nonprofit determination letter. The official FAQ clarifies the application instructions' awkward future-year budget wording.

THE OPPORTUNITY

$10k fixed

$150,000 aggregate planned funding, not one award. All awarded requests receive $10,000. The 20% limit implies at least $50,000 relevant prior actual budget. No cash match is stated.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

16 OCT

16 October 2026 · 17:00 PST, unresolved

Deadline in 2 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start Eligible nonprofits and qualifying business-support organizations serving Washington microbusinesses. Two years of relevant experience must be documented. Grant-funded partners need BizLink enrollment or submitted profiles. Academic institutions cannot receive funding; permitted outside-funded or consultant participation remains possible.

Official call & application details ↗ Open the application portal ↗ Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN · REPEAT FEATURE / US STATES AND TERRITORIES

1 min read · Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

Who gets to decide what AI does?

A short first round seeks community power over AI. Grants range from $75,000 to $1 million, and basic AI training is outside the call.

Humanity AI, with application support from Lever for Change · Communities Leading on AI



Workers, a student and an artist arrange community decision notes around a shared table with an AI system represented on a screen.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Teaching people how to use an AI tool and giving them a say over its use are different kinds of work. Humanity AI funds the second. Communities must set the goals, shape the approach and drive the proposal, whether they are workers, students, artists or other groups affected by AI.

The shared $10 million fund accepts requests of $75,000 to $1 million for up to three years. Work must connect education, labor and the economy, or humanities and culture with an eligible approach: shaping AI rules, building on community terms, or challenging unwanted deployments. Training-only, tool-adoption and research-only proposals are excluded. Using AI itself is optional.

Applications close October 21 at 4:59 p.m. Pacific. Four main narrative answers total at most 750 words; a conditional question adds 50 words when closed models are central. A US nonprofit lead, eligible fiscal sponsor, Tribal government or public state university must fit the stated route. The short form still needs a serious answer about who holds power.

THE OPPORTUNITY

$75k to $1 million

Three request tiers: $75k–$150k, $150k–$500k and $500k–$1m. Duration up to three years; number of awards and tier allocations are not predetermined.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

21 OCT

21 October 2026 · 4:59 p.m. PT

Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start US/territory 501(c)(3) leads and eligible fiscal sponsors, plus qualifying Tribal governments and public state universities. For-profits and foreign entities may collaborate, not lead. 501(c)(4)s cannot join. Direct 2026 Humanity AI grantees cannot apply alone.

Official call & application details ↗ Open the application portal ↗ Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN · CATALOG FIRST FEATURE / US AND ELIGIBLE FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS

1 min read · Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

A transplant question can begin without pilot data

The Concept Award caps total costs at $200,000 over eighteen months. Its mandatory October 21 letter of intent comes before the November 4 application.

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs · FY2026 Reconstructive Transplant Research Program Concept Award, HT942526RTRPCA



A reconstructive-transplant research team studies a hand model and tissue-preservation equipment in a clinical research laboratory.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Restoring a hand leaves questions about rejection, preservation and recovery. The Concept Award backs a testable reconstructive-transplant idea linked to military and veteran health needs.

Up to $200,000 covers total costs, including indirect costs, for eighteen months. About three awards are anticipated. Eligible US and foreign organizations may apply with an affiliated investigator at postdoctoral level or above; an academic employer is unnecessary. Preliminary data and clinical trials are prohibited. The companion award's $1 million ceiling belongs to a different mechanism. File the mandatory eBRAP letter of intent by October 21, 5 p.m. Eastern. Submit the full application by November 4, 11:59 p.m. Eastern, and finish verification by November 9, 5 p.m. Eastern. No invitation follows intent. Each investigator may submit at most two Concept applications; the stages require separate preparation.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Up to $200,000

Includes indirect costs. Roughly $600,000 shared across approximately three Concept awards. The companion IIRA's $1 million cap and preliminary-data requirements are separate.

APPLICATIONS OPEN

21 OCT

21 October 2026 · 5 p.m. ET

Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start Eligible domestic or foreign nonprofit, for-profit, public and private organizations; investigator at or above postdoctoral level, affiliated with an eligible organization. No academic-employer requirement. Maximum two Concept applications per investigator; no eligibility cost-share requirement.

Official call & application details ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN · CATALOG FIRST FEATURE / US TRIBAL JUSTICE WORK

1 min read · Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

Justice support needs more than a toolkit

Three national support categories carry $400,000, $1.07 million and $400,000. The October 21 first filing must precede the October 28 full application.

Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs · BJA FY2026 Tribal Justice Training and Technical Assistance Program, O-BJA-2026-172727



Justice-program practitioners review a court implementation plan and training materials around a professional meeting table.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A Tribal justice team may need help turning its plan into a working court or treatment program. This call funds practical assistance in strategic planning, justice-system implementation and adult Tribal treatment courts.

Three anticipated twelve-month awards are $400,000, $1.07 million and $400,000, one per category, beginning January 1, 2027, from up to $1.87 million shared. Listed universities, nonprofits and businesses may apply. Consortia specifically must demonstrate national scope and on-site Tribal experience. No match is required.

File the mandatory Grants.gov first submission by October 21, 11:59 p.m. Eastern, then the complete JustGrants application by October 28, 8:59 p.m. Eastern. Check SAM/UEI and portal accounts early. Consortia need leadership agreements; a justified unsigned draft may be accepted. Choose the category that fits the work you can deliver, and document the relevant experience.

THE OPPORTUNITY

$400k / $1.07m / $400k

Up to $1.87 million aggregate; three anticipated cooperative agreements, one per category, for twelve months beginning 1 January 2027. No matching funds required.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

21 OCT

21 October 2026 · 11:59 p.m. ET

Deadline in 7 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start Listed universities, nonprofits with or without 501(c)(3) status, businesses, and eligible consortia. Consortium eligibility expressly requires demonstrated national scope and on-site American Indian/Alaska Native expertise. Those additional conditions apply to consortium applicants. The notice lists other eligible entities separately.

Official call & application details ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

Sources checked 14 October 2026. Use the complete official notices to check the first step, eligibility and current terms before deciding to apply or bid.

OPEN · REPEAT FEATURE / SÃO PAULO AND OVERSEAS PARTNERS

1 min read · Deadline in 12 days (as of 14 Oct)

A research visit needs a research partner

October 26 is the first SPRINT deadline. Initial support pays for São Paulo researchers' mobility, with later funding dependent on real progress together.

FAPESP · SPRINT 2026: São Paulo Researchers in International Collaboration, Edition 1



São Paulo and visiting research colleagues compare laboratory notebooks beside a scientific instrument before a joint experiment.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Travel starts the collaboration; the research question gives it a purpose. SPRINT connects an eligible São Paulo project with one foreign research institution.

First-year mobility support reaches the equivalent of US$12,500. Later approved phases may add US$12,500 and US$25,000, with formal foreign cofinancing required only for phase three. A foreign partner must visit São Paulo in year one to reach phase two. Those additions are conditional.

Edition one closes October 26; no hour is published, so use an all-day reminder. Both researchers need complete SAGe records, an English proposal within five pages and a listed strategic theme. Start at least six months before the related grant ends. A proposal under review may enter conditionally, but SPRINT is canceled if that grant remains unapproved at selection. Edition two closes February 22, 2027.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Up to US$12,500

São Paulo-team mobility support. Phase two can add US$12,500 and phase three US$25,000, only after approved progress and conditions; up to thirty proposals per edition. Foreign research cofinancing must be formalized for phase three.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

26 OCT

26 October 2026 · cutoff hour unconfirmed

Deadline in 12 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start São Paulo higher-education/research investigators with eligible FAPESP grants and one foreign research institution. Related proposals under merit review may be submitted conditionally; SPRINT is canceled if the related grant remains unapproved at selection. Broad eligible grant categories apply.

Official information ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

UPCOMING · REPEAT FEATURE / AK, ID, MT, OR AND WA; STATED EXCEPTIONS

1 min read · Deadline in 28 days (as of 14 Oct)

A bigger project needs a durable organization

The inquiry window opens October 15. Requests start at $100,000, projects at $200,000, and the eligibility quiz must come first.

M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust · M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust Strategic Project Grants, 2026 Period 3



A nonprofit program director and facilities colleague review a concrete equipment-and-program expansion plan in an established workshop.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Equipment, a program and another staff member solve different problems. Murdock asks established Northwest organizations to choose their expansion and show how it will last.

Requests start at $100,000 for projects costing at least $200,000. These are minimums. Eligible US applicants need three complete years of operating and financial history; fiscal sponsors and specified aging services are excluded. Guidelines name British Columbia faith-based groups while excluding non-US entities. Confirm that conflict with the Trust.

Opening October 15, the eligibility quiz unlocks an inquiry due November 11, 5 p.m. Pacific. Approved inquiries alone reach the January 27–March 1, 2027 application window, closing at 5 p.m. Pacific. Arts and culture groups with annual operating budgets of $200,000 or less must speak with arts staff before their inquiry. Check project-specific purchase, hiring and financing rules.

THE OPPORTUNITY

From $100,000

Minimums, not guaranteed awards or a published award range. Staff/program expansion, capital, and equipment/technology have different financing and timing rules; no single match percentage applies to every project type.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

11 NOV

11 November 2026 · 5 p.m. PT

Deadline in 28 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start Qualifying US public charities, federally recognized Tribal entities and specified government institutions need three complete years of operations and finances, plus a Northwest base or qualifying regional impact. Fiscal sponsors and several aging-service subsectors are excluded. The guidelines name British Columbia faith-based organizations but also exclude non-US entities; confirm how that conflict applies to this request.

Official information ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

UPCOMING · REPEAT FEATURE / SEATTLE CITY LIMITS

1 min read · Deadline in 93 days (as of 14 Oct)

The match can be time, materials or money

Seattle's October 15 opening offers up to $45,000 for digital access. A maximum request needs $11,250 in documented community contributions.

City of Seattle, Seattle IT Digital Equity · Technology Matching Fund 2027 Grants



A digital navigator helps an older resident use a laptop at an accessible Seattle neighborhood technology space.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A laptop helps when someone can connect it and ask for help. Seattle's fund backs that practical chain: devices, connections, skills and navigation.

Awards reach $45,000 from about $455,000 shared. Match must equal at least 25 percent of the request: $11,250 at the maximum. Document confirmed donated time, services, materials or money; City resources do not count. Applicants need a Seattle address, with all work inside city limits.

The window opens October 15 and closes January 15, 2027, 5 p.m.; the time zone is unstated. Use an all-day reminder. Request optional draft feedback by November 17; in-person session times also conflict. Eligible community groups may use a fiscal sponsor. It can sponsor several groups. One application per applicant is allowed. An existing digital-equity contract at December 31, 2026 disqualifies a 2027 award. Verify the Fluxx account and match before applying.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Up to $45,000

A ceiling, with 25% match based on the grant request, not the total project cost. At $45,000, match is $11,250. Eligible volunteer, staff, professional-service, material or cash donations count; City resources do not.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

15 JAN

15 January 2027 · 17:00 Unpublished time zone

Deadline in 93 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start Eligible Seattle nonprofits, community groups, Tribes/Tribal organizations, PTSAs and nonprofit business associations. Non-charitable groups need an eligible fiscal sponsor for contracting. Seattle address and all activity inside city limits; current digital-equity contracts at 31 December 2026 disqualify a 2027 award.

Official information ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN · REPEAT FEATURE / US-BASED RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS

1 min read · Deadline in 21 days (as of 14 Oct)

The data already exist. The hard work remains

NSF's planning grants offer up to $200,000 to prepare scientific datasets for new AI uses. November 4 is the deadline, and this is a return from Issue 02.

U.S. National Science Foundation · Unlocking Dataset Value for AI-Enabled Scientific Discovery (AI Datasets), NSF 26-512



Research colleagues compare an organized scientific dataset and its documentation on large monitors in a shared research workspace.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A dataset can cost years of work and still puzzle the next researcher. NSF supports preparing existing scientific data for useful AI research, including questions beyond their original purpose.

Planning grants offer up to $200,000; separate Impact and Flagship tiers reach $2 million and $5 million. These are ceilings, subject to available funds. New data collection is outside scope. Eligible US educational and research organizations can lead, alongside other listed applicants; nonprofit status alone is insufficient.

Apply November 4 by 5 p.m. in the submitting organization's local time. Choose that time zone before a timed reminder. Prepare SAM/UEI and portal accounts, name one lead to channel subawards, and use the Planning title prefix. Explain curation, reuse, security and community benefit. Do not promise extra resources as voluntary cost sharing; planning still requires a thoughtful proposal.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Planning: up to $200k

Approximately 10–20 planning awards anticipated. Impact: up to $2 million for three years; Flagship: up to $5 million for three years. Counts and budgets depend on available funds; planning duration is not assigned the larger tiers' three-year limit.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

04 NOV

4 November 2026 · 17:00 Submitting organization local

Deadline in 21 days (as of 14 Oct)

Before you start Listed US educational institutions, qualifying non-academic nonprofits directly associated with research/education, capable US businesses, state/local governments, Tribal Nations and specified federal entities. No PI or organization proposal limit is stated.

Official information ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

Read the small date first

The first action, the right applicant and the meaning of the amount belong in the same plan.

Imagine a small team finishing a thoughtful proposal on a Wednesday afternoon. The budget adds up, the work is sensible, and the final deadline is still weeks away. Then someone finds a sentence about a notice of intent due yesterday. This is a hypothetical scene. The distinction it illustrates deserves a real place in the plan.

An opportunity has more than one clock. There is the date the issuer opens the door, the date an applicant must make a first move, and the date the finished application is due. A question window may be optional. A first-stage submission may determine who can continue. Treating every date as a deadline conceals precisely the difference a reader needs.

Money has similar qualifications. A shared program budget, a maximum request and a typical assignment describe different things. A place on a consultant list offers a way to be found; it does not promise a purchase. The large figure should be prominent, with its meaning just as easy to see.

Useful preparation begins with the decisive condition: the right legal applicant, the right place, the required partner or the first submission. Finding that condition early can prevent wasted work. It can also reveal a sensible role for a team that should join another applicant instead of leading alone.

The practical reading order is simple. Find the first action. Check who can take it. Understand what the amount covers. Then open the official notice and read the whole route. A calendar can remember a date. It cannot supply a missing partner, a registration or permission to enter the next stage. Those still require people.

READ THE OFFICIAL NOTICE

Find the first action

Keep the requirement with the date.

READ THE OFFICIAL NOTICE

Check who can apply

Keep the requirement with the date.

READ THE OFFICIAL NOTICE

Read the amount

Keep the requirement with the date.

Based on current official notices: Read the issuer’s complete instructions ↗ The opening scene is hypothetical.

OPINION / THE EDITOR’S VIEW

A deadline deserves a verb

A date without an action asks the reader to guess. Does it mean send a question, register, declare interest or submit the finished proposal? A neat calendar entry can preserve that ambiguity with impressive efficiency. Publishers should give each date a verb and say whether it is required. Applicants should read the original notice before turning the verb into a plan. When the issuer supplies contradictory times, report the contradiction and seek clarification; confident typography does not settle it. Good opportunity reporting makes the difficult distinction visible at the moment it matters. A reminder is useful because it carries the next move, not because it can count the days. The date needs a job.

Choose Your First Move

Choose what matters most today. Your result suggests a reading order, not whether you qualify.

First, check:	Your likely role:	Bring to the conversation:
◯ The entry gate	◯ Lead the application	◯ The official notice
◯ Who can apply	◯ Join the team	◯ Your relevant capabilities
◯ What the amount covers	◯ Prepare for later	◯ The open questions

Circle one answer for each question. Turn your first choice into a source check, your second into a possible role and your third into something useful to bring. There is no score. Use the official notice to test your plan, then bring the remaining questions to the conversation.

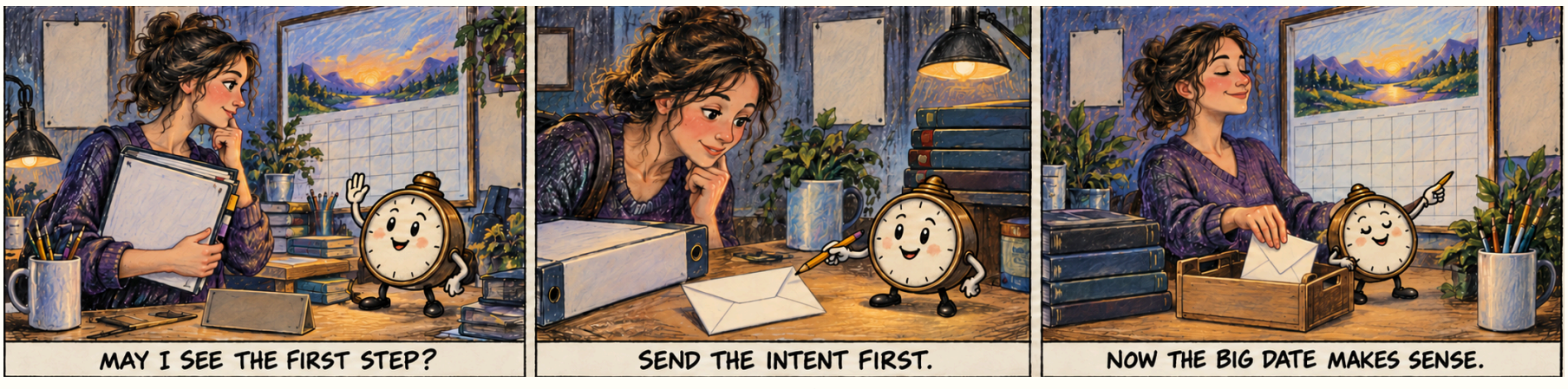
A reading prompt, not an eligibility decision.

Between the lines.

Three scenes, each sparked by an opportunity in this week's editions.

The Clock Has a Question

At the opportunity desk, the small date requests a moment.



The smallest date can decide the largest plan.

The Dual-Fuel evaluation requires intent before the final proposal. Official opportunity details ↗

THE MATCH HAS TWO HANDS

A good idea arrives at a very practical counter.



Even generosity has accounting.

Seattle's Technology Matching Fund requires a match worth 25% of the requested grant. The scale is a metaphor, not a percentage diagram. Official opportunity details ↗

One Headline, Several Projects

The large number enters the room before the explanation.



A useful number comes with its denominator.

Energy Trust's community-resilience figure is shared across two funding streams, not an award to one provider. Official opportunity details ↗

Two grants. Different first steps.

WATCH THE STORY / 24 SECONDS

THE ARKUS SIGNAL

FUNDING / 14 OCT 2026

Two calls. Two different questions.



NIH VIROME PILOTS

Up to $100,000/year

Direct costs · two years maximum.
10 November · 5 p.m. applicant local



HARTFORD NEW PARTNERS

Up to $300,000

Two years · multisite US care.
Register 21 October · noon ET

AI-generated scenes. Editorial illustrations, not photographs of these projects.

A short guide to NIH virome research and Hartford's new-partner care grants. Silent, with on-screen captions. Photographs are generated illustrations. The official notices control.

About Arkus

Research, design and practical judgment for the next useful decision.



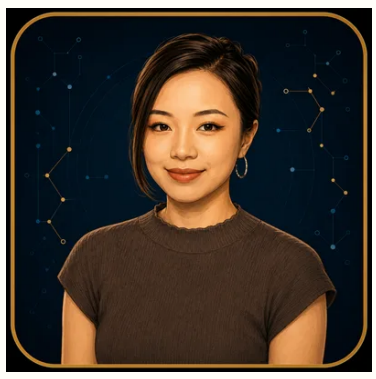
Chandler Lewis
Founder and Managing Director



Walter Benadof
Partner - Global Markets and Investments



Nadia Lerouge
Arkus Deputy Managing Director



Cloud (Yiyun) Qiu
Partner · Design and Innovation Strategy



Aarav Ghai
Research Analyst

Arkus Innovation Studios is a commercial innovation studio working with founders, investors and enterprise teams. We help people examine an idea, understand its market and decide what deserves to be built. The work begins with evidence: what is known, what remains uncertain and which next step would make a decision more useful.

Our work includes the **Startup Diagnostic**, **Portfolio Diagnostic** and **AI Workflow Sprint**. Research, design and commercial judgment belong in the same conversation. A technically interesting idea still needs a credible user, a workable route to market and an honest account of its limits. We help make those questions concrete before a team commits to a larger plan.

Arkus, 360 Social Impact Studios and Enough Ventures are separate organizations with different legal structures. Arkus carries commercial advisory and building work; 360 SIS carries nonprofit social-impact work. The distinction matters when an opportunity specifies who can apply or which organization should contract. A shared method does not make their eligibility interchangeable. The Arkus Signal brings useful opportunities, their decisive conditions and official sources into reach. Our team works in English and Portuguese, helping readers turn careful questions into a practical next step.

To explore working together, send Nadia the public call, your idea or capabilities, and the role you have in mind: nadia@arkusinnovationstudios.com. We can then discuss what the work requires and whether Arkus can help.

Bring Arkus an idea to examine
nadia@arkusinnovationstudios.com ↗