AN ARKUS INNOVATION STUDIOS PUBLICATION

PEOPLE & POSSIBILITIES

# The Arkus Signal

GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES WORTH PURSUING

FUNDING EDITION

26 OCTOBER 2026

ISSUE 06 / PRINT EDITION

GRANTS & RESEARCH FUNDING

## The city needs a place at the table.

A $50 million initiative offers $500,000 to $2 million for AI in public services. A city partner's signed commitment belongs in the first application.



Civic service workers and a community member examine a service journey in a municipal office.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A better public service starts with a problem the city actually wants to solve. Cities Deliver supports work in public health, economic mobility, environmental resilience and civic engagement. It launched October 14, seeking organizations that can build alongside municipal teams and underserved residents.

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. ↗

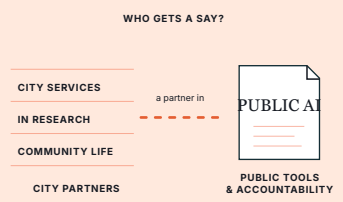
**Arkus joins your team**
Bring us in for part of the work as a subcontractor. ↗

First, we check whether the call allows that arrangement.

Email Nadia ↗

TWO WAYS TO WORK TOGETHER

## The right partners shape the project.




THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION AND OPENAI FOUNDATION; MANAGED BY RF CATALYTIC CAPITAL

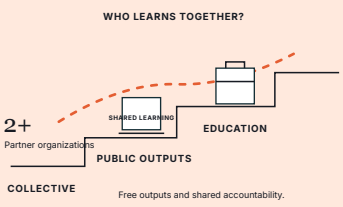
### Bring the city into the proposal.

A committed municipal partner is essential. Round one needs its signed letter; governments cannot lead the application.

**$500k to $2m**

29 November 2026 · 11:59 p.m. ET

Read the call & how to apply ↗




ATLASSIAN FOUNDATION

### Build the work collectively.

At least two organizations share goals, governance and learning. Nonprofits lead, and the request also depends on the lead organization's budget.

**Up to US$1m**

30 October 2026 · 11:59 p.m. AEDT

Rules & application steps ↗

An editorial comparison of the applicant and partnership conditions, not the issuers' scoring rules.

Read the story ↗

OPEN / SEATTLE CITY LIMITS, WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES

1 min read · Deadline in 81 days (as of 26 Oct)

# The door is open. Bring the neighborhood.

## Seattle's 2027 technology grants opened October 15, offering up to $45,000 with a community contribution worth one-quarter of the request.

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.

Getting online is easier when someone can help with the connection, device or skills. Seattle's Technology Matching Fund backs that practical combination: digital guides, classes, devices, technical support and connectivity for residents who face barriers to getting online. The 2027 application window opened October 15.

Eligible applicants need a Seattle address, and activities must happen inside city limits. The maximum grant is $45,000. Applicants must confirm a community contribution worth at least 25% of the request, so a full request needs $11,250 in eligible cash, time or materials. City resources cannot supply that match; religious organizations are ineligible.

The application deadline is January 15 at 5 p.m.; the published sources omit a time zone, so calendar reminders remain all-day. An optional in-person session is October 27. Organizations with an open city digital-equity grant contract on December 31 cannot receive a 2027 award, and groups that failed to complete a TMF project in the past two years are ineligible. Check the guidelines before applying.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Up to $45,000**

Award ceiling. Mandatory community match is 25% of the grant request, not total project cost. Current press release says $410,000 shared, subject to City Council approval; guidelines previously read in Issue 05 say approximately $455,000.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**15 JAN**

15 January 2027 · 5 p.m.; time zone not stated

Deadline in 81 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Seattle-based nonprofits, community groups, Tribes and Tribal organizations, PTSAs and nonprofit business associations. Non-501(c)(3) groups need an eligible fiscal sponsor to contract. School projects must serve the wider community outside the school day. Religious organizations are ineligible. An open Seattle digital-equity grant contract on December 31, 2026 prevents a 2027 award.

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

OPEN / FIVE NORTHWEST US STATES

1 min read · Deadline in 16 days (as of 26 Oct)

# A larger project gets its opening.

## Murdock's new inquiry window opened October 15. The request starts at $100,000, but the organization and project must clear separate tests.

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.

Some projects need a larger room in the budget before they need a larger room in the building. Murdock's strategic grants can support added staff, programs, facilities or equipment, with different rules for each. Its current letter-of-inquiry window opened October 15 and closes November 11.

The minimum request is $100,000, and the project's total budget must be at least $200,000. Those are floors, not a promised award or a universal matching formula. Eligible applicants include qualifying public charities, federally recognized Tribal entities and certain government entities. Three complete years of operating and financial history are required; fiscally sponsored organizations are excluded.

Read the sector exclusions before treating a regional address as sufficient. Senior centers, hospices and other services for aging are among the excluded applicants. The Northwest geography test also matters. Start with the portal eligibility quiz, then explain the specific change the grant would enable. Hiring, purchase and project-start restrictions vary by grant type; committing costs first can make an otherwise sensible request ineligible.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Request from $100,000**

Minimum total project budget $200,000. No published universal maximum or single matching percentage. Funding and project-start rules differ by grant type.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**11 NOV**

11 November 2026 · 5 p.m. PT

Deadline in 16 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Qualifying US public charities with their own IRS letter and three complete years of operations and financial history; certain Tribal/government entities also qualify. Northwest base or qualifying majority regional impact. Read excluded subsectors, including senior centers and hospices.

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

OPEN / CITIES WORLDWIDE, SUBJECT TO LEGAL/SANCTIONS RESTRICTIONS

1 min read · Deadline in 34 days (as of 26 Oct)

# The city needs a place at the table.

## A $50 million initiative offers $500,000 to $2 million for AI in public services. A city partner's signed commitment belongs in the first application.

The Rockefeller Foundation and OpenAI Foundation; managed by RF Catalytic Capital · Cities Deliver: AI Solutions for Public Services



Civic service workers and a community member examine a service journey in a municipal office.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A better public service starts with a problem the city actually wants to solve. Cities Deliver supports work in public health, economic mobility, environmental resilience and civic engagement. It launched October 14, seeking organizations that can build alongside municipal teams and underserved residents.

Seed grants range from $500,000 to under $1 million; scale grants offer $1 million to $2 million. Both last 24 months, with half paid initially and half when the recipient documents an agreed result. Recent generative AI must do meaningful work, but no particular provider is required. Funded software, models and documentation must generally be openly licensed, with exceptions for certain existing, third-party, confidential or security-sensitive material.

A committed city partner is essential, not a favorable extra. Round one needs the city's signed letter of intent, an eligibility check and a short proposal video by November 29 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern. Nonprofits and several other organizational forms can qualify under detailed conditions; governments cannot lead. Read the terms before promising a commercial benefit or treating a national agency as the required municipal partner.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**$500k to $2m**

US$50 million shared initiative. Seed $500,000 to less than $1 million; Scale $1 million to $2 million. Half initially, half after a documented midterm milestone. No promised follow-on award.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**29 NOV**

29 November 2026 · 11:59 p.m. ET

Deadline in 34 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Global organizational call. Eligible US public charities/equivalents, fiscal sponsors, universities and certain other nonprofits, public benefit corporations and limited for-profits under expenditure-responsibility and charitable-benefit conditions. Governments/individuals cannot lead. Sanctions/legal restrictions apply.

Official call & application details ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN / GLOBAL, SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS AND LEGAL ELIGIBILITY

1 min read · Deadline in 4 days (as of 26 Oct)

# A partnership needs more than a group photo.

## Atlassian offers up to US$1 million for education in the AI era, capped at one-quarter of the lead organization's two-year operating budget.

Atlassian Foundation · Atlassian Foundation Open Call for Proposals 2026



Adult learners and instructors from collaborating organizations work together in a community classroom.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Putting several logos on a proposal does not make the work collective. Atlassian's education call asks organizations to agree on the plan, do the work together and measure the results. The focus is disadvantaged learners, with a thoughtful response to the changes AI brings. A well-reasoned choice not to use AI can qualify.

Registered nonprofits can lead globally, with at least two organizations involved and a public and charitable benefit. The award ceiling is US$1 million over two years, also limited to 25% of the lead's operating budget for that period. This open call accounts for US$5.5 million within a broader US$8 million initiative.

Start the Goodstack eligibility step before polishing the application: the invitation can take a few days. Final submissions close October 30 at 11:59 p.m. Australian Eastern Daylight Time. Prepare the USD budget and shared answers offline; submitted tasks cannot be edited, and autosave follows the starting device. Partners must be ready to deliver together. A network that simply distributes one organization's proprietary program misses the point.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Up to US$1m**

Request capped at US$1 million and 25% of the lead organization's operating budget over the same two years. US$5.5 million through this call inside a US$8 million initiative. Direct-program-cost guideline is 60%; explain a lower share.

OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

**30 OCT**

30 October 2026 · 11:59 p.m. AEDT

Deadline in 4 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Registered nonprofit/charity or equivalent lead globally; initiative of two or more organizations with shared governance, joint delivery and measures. Direct relief of named learner disadvantage; charitable benefit. Sanctioned locations excluded. For-profits supporting only; outputs public/free.

Official call & application details ↗

Open the application portal ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN / WASHINGTON STATE

1 min read · Deadline in 23 days (as of 26 Oct)

# Environmental justice needs the people closest to it.

## Washington community organizations can seek one of eighteen $20,000 grants to strengthen their environmental work.

Frontline Funding Collaborative · HEAL Capacity Grant Program, Round 2



Community members meet around a table.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A community living with polluted air or unsafe water should have the people and resources to speak up. The Frontline Funding Collaborative supports Washington organizations that work with communities facing environmental harm and help put the Healthy Environment for All Act into practice.

The second round offers eighteen grants of $20,000 each. Washington 501(c)(3) community-based nonprofits and groups they fiscally sponsor may apply. A fiscal sponsor is a qualifying nonprofit that accepts financial responsibility on another group's behalf. Reviewers will look at how the work helps residents take part, addresses obstacles and connects communities with one another and state agencies.

Applications close November 18. The issuer does not state a cutoff time, so check before relying on a same-day submission. Applicants need a WizeHive account and a proposed project budget explaining how the funds would be used. The grant should help the organization do its work under the HEAL Act; it is not a grant for just any environmental project.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**$20,000**

Eighteen grants of $20,000 in this round.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**18 NOV**

18 November 2026 · cutoff time not stated

Deadline in 23 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Washington 501(c)(3) community-based organizations and organizations they fiscally sponsor, working with overburdened and vulnerable communities.

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

OPEN / UNITED STATES

1 min read · 4 days left to start SAM registration (as of 26 Oct)

# Treatment has to reach the young person.

## OJJDP offers up to $650,000 for treatment for youth with substance use disorders who are in or at risk of entering the justice system.

US Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention · OJJDP FY 2026 Expanding Youth Access to Community-Based Treatment



A young person speaks with two adult advisors.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A treatment program only works if a young person can reach it. OJJDP funds local treatment for youth with substance use disorders, including co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders, who are at risk of entering the juvenile justice system or have already entered it.

The agency anticipates six awards of up to $650,000 each over 36 months. Listed state, local and federally recognized Tribal governments and qualifying nonprofits can apply; nonprofit higher education institutions are excluded. No match is required. One organization leads each project. Partners can receive part of the grant to carry out their share of the work, but cannot apply as joint leads.

The administrative work starts early. If registration or renewal is needed, the notice says to begin the SAM.gov process no later than October 30. Submit the SF-424 in Grants.gov by November 16 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern, then the full JustGrants application by November 23 at 8:59 p.m. Eastern. Check account readiness now.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Up to $650,000**

Per-award ceiling; six awards anticipated, $4 million shared. 36-month term; no match.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**30 OCT**

Start SAM registration by 30 October if needed; cutoff time not stated

4 days left to start SAM registration (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Listed state, county, city/township, federally recognized Tribal governments; nonprofits with or without 501(c)(3) status other than higher education institutions.

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

OPEN / UNITED STATES AND ELIGIBLE FOREIGN ORGANIZATIONS

1 min read · Deadline in 15 days (as of 26 Oct)

# A promising cancer tool still has to prove itself.

## NCI offers up to $150,000 a year for the direct costs of testing a new cancer-research tool.

National Cancer Institute · Early-Stage Innovative Technology Development for Basic and Clinical Cancer Research, RFA-CA-27-001



Researcher works at a microscope beside a scientific illustration.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A better way to examine a cell or handle a biospecimen can open a question that existing tools cannot answer. NCI's Innovative Molecular Analysis Technologies program supports early tests of new methods and instruments that could help researchers study cancer.

Up to $150,000 a year in direct project costs is available for up to three years. Projects must test whether the technology works; using existing tools only to study a new biological question does not qualify. Clinical trials are not allowed. Universities, nonprofits, businesses and foreign organizations may apply. This call prohibits passing funds to foreign partners through subawards or subcontracts. Applications close November 10 at 5 p.m. in the applicant's local time. Confirm registrations early: NIH says they may take six weeks or more.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Up to $150,000 per year**

Maximum direct costs each year for up to three years. NCI anticipates approximately 20 awards subject to appropriations.

APPLICATIONS OPEN

**10 NOV**

10 November 2026 · 5 p.m. applicant local time

Deadline in 15 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Eligible universities, nonprofits, for-profits, government and foreign organizations, subject to full notice.

Official call & application details ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN / UNITED STATES

1 min read · Deadline in 23 days (as of 26 Oct)

# Evidence needs a route into the real world.

## A group of health funders wants proven ideas put to work beyond a small pilot. Initial proposals close November 18.

Pathways for Health Research Collective; centralized intake by Doris Duke Foundation · Demonstrating Health Solutions Science in Action



A clinician and community members discuss health services.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Research can establish that an approach works and still leave a difficult question: how does it become part of care at a meaningful scale? The Pathways for Health Research Collective seeks projects that put existing health research into practice in the United States and carefully measure the results.

Teams need strong existing evidence, a three-year plan and a partnership between the researchers and the people who will put their findings to use. The idea must already have moved beyond an initial test, but still need work at a larger scale. Projects must show partner commitments of resources and other support. The funders expect both financial and in-kind contributions, such as staff time or facilities, to complement the grant.

Initial proposals are due November 18 at 3 p.m. Eastern. Most participating funders award to qualifying 501(c)(3) organizations; state universities may apply. The opportunity does not support for-profit entities directly or indirectly through nonprofit venture-philanthropy programs. Read the detailed eligibility and budget guidance before choosing a lead.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Amount varies**

Grant requests are expected to complement financial and in-kind contributions from partners; no single universal award amount is asserted.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**18 NOV**

18 November 2026 · 3 p.m. ET

Deadline in 23 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Qualifying 501(c)(3) organizations generally encouraged as leads; state universities eligible. For-profit support restricted under the request.

Official call & application details ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

Source check dates vary by story. Use the complete official notices to check the first step, eligibility and current terms before deciding to apply or bid.

OPEN / SEE FULL ANNOUNCEMENT

1 min read · Deadline in 339 days (as of 26 Oct)

# An open window still has a review schedule.

## DOE accepts applications across seven science programs, with requirements that vary by topic and review panel.

US Department of Energy, Office of Science · FY 2027 Continuation of Solicitation for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program, DE-FOA-0003665



Researcher works in a scientific laboratory.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

Not every research idea fits a single narrow call. The Department of Energy's Office of Science open solicitation covers seven program areas, from advanced scientific computing and energy sciences to fusion, nuclear physics and isotope research.

The open window is not a substitute for finding the right program. Some review panels require a short first application before the full proposal; for others it is optional. Individual topics may have scheduled reviews, and applications received after a panel's acceptance date can be held for a later review. The appropriate program office and full announcement provide the conditions for the chosen area.

The umbrella opportunity remains open through September 30, 2027, unless replaced by a successor. Amounts, eligibility and review requirements vary. Before setting a schedule, confirm the current notice and whether the intended panel has an earlier date or a required first step.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Varies by program**

Amounts and applicant requirements depend on the chosen program and opportunity provisions.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**30 SEP**

30 September 2027 · cutoff time not stated

Deadline in 339 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Varies by program and applicant type; consult the full announcement.

Official information ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN / UNITED STATES

1 min read · Deadline in 3 days (as of 26 Oct)

# Prevention needs people who will still be there.

## Up to $750,000 supports coordinated youth drug prevention. The October 29 filing comes before the full November 5 application.

US Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention · OJJDP FY 2026 Community and Schools Youth Drug Prevention Program, O-OJJDP-2026-172734



Young people paint and dance together in an imagined community arts studio.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A prevention program needs somewhere to send a young person after the assembly ends. This OJJDP call supports education, early intervention, mentoring and routes into treatment in schools and extracurricular settings. The work must connect local law enforcement with community coalitions, rather than treating a school as an audience to visit once.

The federal pool is $12 million for an anticipated 16 awards, each up to $750,000 over 36 months. Listed state, local and Tribal governments and qualifying nonprofits can apply, with no required match. When organizations work together, one applies and the others receive their share of the grant through the lead. Higher education institutions are outside the listed nonprofit category.

There are two deadlines: the SF-424 form in Grants.gov on October 29 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern, then JustGrants on November 5 at 8:59 p.m. Eastern. The notice told applicants to begin SAM registration by October 15, already passed. Existing registrants should check their status. A good coalition still needs the right accounts, a costed plan and evidence of staying power.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Up to $750,000**

US$12 million expected shared funding across 16 anticipated awards. Per-award ceiling, no match. Expected project period starts January 1, 2027.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**29 OCT**

29 October 2026 · 11:59 p.m. ET

Deadline in 3 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Listed US state, local and Tribal governments; nonprofits with or without 501(c)(3) status other than higher-education institutions. One lead, partners as subrecipients. Multiple applications allowed for distinct projects. No required cost share.

Official information ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN / UNITED STATES NATIONALLY, OR ILLINOIS REGIONALLY

1 min read · Deadline in 7 days (as of 26 Oct)

# Useful knowledge needs a way out of the room.

## RRF's November 2 inquiry round backs information that improves life after 60. National reach, or regional reach in Illinois, is essential.

RRF Foundation for Aging · RRF Knowledge Sharing and Awareness Raising Grants



Older-adult advocate and professional trainer prepare clear, accessible materials in a bright community room.
AI-generated illustration; not a photograph of this project.

A useful finding can have a quiet life inside a report. RRF backs work that carries it further: professional learning communities, practical tools, awareness and journalism about aging. Projects must intentionally address people aged 60 and older within a foundation priority area.

National US reach or regional reach within Illinois is required. A local project elsewhere does not qualify because its subject matters nationally. General operating support, new-technology development and biomedical research are excluded. The current page gives no award range; historical grants cannot establish a promised ceiling.

Take the eligibility quiz to unlock the letter of inquiry. Organizations normally submit one per deadline. Current round notices say November 2 at 5 p.m. Central; another passage says 11:59 p.m. Plan to the earlier clock and preserve the conflict. Explain how the knowledge will travel beyond a conference audience.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**No range published**

No current award range published. Historical grants are not a cap. Up to 10% of requested RRF funds may cover indirect costs.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**02 NOV**

2 November 2026 · cutoff time unconfirmed

Deadline in 7 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Nonprofit projects intentionally focused on people aged 60 or older, with national US or Illinois regional reach. Listed exclusions apply. Eligibility quiz unlocks inquiry; normally one per organization per deadline.

Official information ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

OPEN / UNITED STATES, WITH SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL BRANCH-CAMPUS INSTRUCTIONS

1 min read · Deadline in 9 days (as of 26 Oct)

# The dataset is old. The question can be new.

## NSF offers planning grants up to $200,000 to make existing scientific data more useful. Applications close November 4.

US 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 be expensive to collect and difficult to reuse. Missing context, inconsistent labels and uncertain permission can keep a scientific question out of reach. NSF's AI Datasets program funds work that makes existing community datasets more valuable by organizing, combining and managing access to the data.

Planning grants offer up to $200,000. Impact awards reach $2 million and flagship awards $5 million. Specified US research institutions, capable commercial research organizations and listed public entities may apply. Charitable status alone does not establish that every nonprofit qualifies for a listed category.

Proposals are due November 4 at 5 p.m. in the submitting organization's local time. Active SAM registration and a UEI are required. No inquiry or preliminary proposal is needed. One organization submits through Research.gov or Grants.gov and passes funding to its partners. Voluntary committed cost sharing is prohibited. Start with the dataset's scientific value.

THE OPPORTUNITY

**Planning: up to $200k**

Planning ceiling $200,000; Impact $2 million and Flagship $5 million over three years. Shared anticipated program funding $60–$100 million, subject to availability.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**04 NOV**

4 November 2026 · 5 p.m. submitting organization local time

Deadline in 9 days (as of 26 Oct)

**Before you start** Listed US research and education institutions, specified nonacademic nonprofits, capable commercial research organizations and public entities. Active SAM/UEI required. Single lead with subawards; no preliminary proposal or voluntary committed cost sharing.

Official information ↗

Talk to Arkus about this opportunity ↗

# The sentence that changes the plan

The condition that decides a project often lives beyond the announcement.

An opportunity can look unchanged while becoming a different proposition. The headline remains, the closing date holds, and one sentence in the detailed guide changes who may apply or how much they may request. For a small team, that sentence can matter more than the announcement. It deserves to travel with the story.

This week, the useful reading often happened beyond the first page. A program description introduces the ambition. An application guide defines the conditions. A frequently asked question may clarify an exception, or introduce a disagreement that the headline cannot resolve. Reading across those documents is ordinary preparation, even when the documents would rather be read separately.

The same care applies to partnerships. A government body may be an essential collaborator without being allowed to lead. A nonprofit may qualify in principle and still need a particular budget, operating history or service area. The people around the table can be right while the applicant named on the form is wrong.

A prominent funding figure needs its surrounding sentence too. A maximum request may also depend on the applicant's own budget. A program pool may support several grants. A consultant roster may offer a way to compete for future work without promising a contract. None of those distinctions makes the opportunity smaller; each makes it possible to understand.

The practical habit is to keep the promise and its condition together. Save the official guide, note when it was checked, and revisit the parts that determine the decision before committing to an application. When two official pages disagree, preserve the disagreement and ask the issuer. A tidy summary should reduce the reading burden without quietly removing the sentence that changes the plan.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

**Find sources**

Keep terms with dates.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

**Set roles**

Keep terms with dates.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

**Read terms**

Keep terms with dates.

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

OPINION / THE EDITOR'S VIEW

## A partner is a role

A partnership becomes useful when someone can explain who will do the work. The invitation to collaborate is a beginning. It still needs a lead applicant, agreed responsibilities, a credible budget and permission to use each organization's name. A familiar logo cannot supply those details. Nor can a long list of possible collaborators. Good public calls say what they expect from a partnership; good applicants make the arrangement concrete before describing it as settled. This is less glamorous than announcing an alliance, which may explain the relative shortage of photographs. It is also how the proposed work acquires people who can actually deliver it. Start with the responsibilities. The nouns can follow.

## The Deadline Desk

A fictional planning puzzle. Three teams each handle one task on a different day, Monday through Wednesday. Registration happens Monday. Beacon works Wednesday. Cedar confirms the partner. The budget check happens the day after Cedar works. Use the clues to answer all three questions.

**Who handles registration?**

- ◯ Team Alder
- ◯ Team Beacon
- ◯ Team Cedar

**When is the partner confirmed?**

- ◯ On Monday
- ◯ On Tuesday
- ◯ On Wednesday

**What does Beacon handle?**

- ◯ Portal registration
- ◯ Partner confirmation
- ◯ Budget check

Solve the fictional clues and circle one choice per question. Solution: Alder registers Monday, Cedar confirms the partner Tuesday, Beacon checks the budget Wednesday. These are not issuer deadlines. Registration is Monday. Cedar handles the partner before the budget check, so Cedar works Tuesday. Beacon checks the budget Wednesday, leaving Alder on registration.

A fictional planning puzzle, not an application calendar.

# Between the lines.

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

## Another Front Door

**A complete proposal approaches the entrance.**




**The smallest gate can still stop the whole plan.**

For OJJDP's youth treatment call, begin SAM.gov registration or renewal by October 30 if needed. Official opportunity details ↗

## AFTER THE LAUNCH

**The launch party has one final agenda item.**




**Running the course is part of the work.**

Energy Trust's learning contract includes ongoing administration and learner support. Official opportunity details ↗

## Different Badges

**Two collaborators arrive with one promising plan.**




**Collaboration improves when the roles are clear.**

Cities Deliver requires a municipal partner, while government cannot lead the application. Official opportunity details ↗

# Two calls. Shared public work.

WATCH THE STORY / 24 SECONDS

THE ARKUS SIGNAL

FUNDING / 26 OCT 2026

## Two calls. Two different questions.



CITIES DELIVER

**$500,000 to $2 million**

24 months · US$50m shared initiative.
29 November · 11:59 p.m. ET



ATLASSIAN FOUNDATION

**Up to US$1 million**

Max 25% of lead's two-year operating budget
30 October · 11:59 p.m. AEDT

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

A short comparison of Cities Deliver and Atlassian's collective education call. Silent, with on-screen captions. Photographs are generated illustrations. The official notices control.

ABOUT ARKUS

MEET THE FULL TEAM ↗

# About Arkus

**Evidence, design and commercial judgment, brought together for practical decisions.**



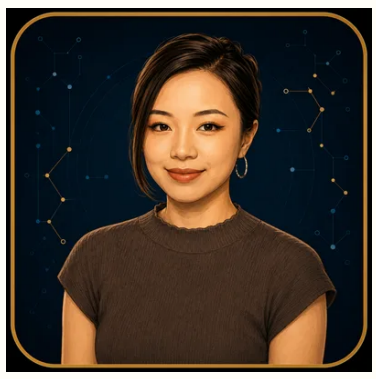
**Chandler Lewis**
Founder and Managing Director



**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 venture studio and innovation advisory firm. We help founders, research institutions, investors and corporate teams decide what is worth building, then turn that decision into practical work. We start with the technology, the people who need it and the questions still unanswered.

Our work includes the **Startup Diagnostic**, **Portfolio Diagnostic**, **Innovation Compass** and AI Workflow Sprint. Research, design and commercial judgment belong together. We examine the market, make uncertainties visible and help teams choose a useful next step. A working product and a convincing proposal each need more than an interesting idea.

**Bring Arkus an idea to examine**
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Arkus works alongside two legally separate organizations: 360 Social Impact Studios, which carries nonprofit and social-impact work, and Enough Ventures, a capital platform established in 2024. Each has its own structure and responsibilities. Those differences matter when a call restricts who may apply or sign. The Arkus Signal brings opportunities and their decisive conditions into one readable place. Our team works across the United States and Brazil, with English and Portuguese delivery.

To discuss working together, send Nadia the public call, your idea or relevant capabilities, and the role you have in mind. We can then examine how Arkus can help.