



COMMUNITY QUARTERBACK

GRANT FOR SMALL BUSINESS

OVERVIEW

The Coalition is seeking local 501c3 organizations to serve as Community Quarterbacks for small business ecosystems in 14 select market areas throughout the country. The Community Quarterback Grant will support nonprofits that act as trusted coordinators and connectors, aligning partners, resources, and systems within the small business ecosystem to help businesses start, grow, and thrive.

GRANT DETAILS:

- ✓ **Award Amount:** Up to \$50,000
- ✓ **Use of funds:** Model replication of ecosystem coordination, partnership development, and small business support activities
- ✓ **Application Deadline :** March 20, 2026
- ✓ **Award Notification:** April 2026



Scan the QR Code to learn more about eligibility, requirements, criteria, and to apply!

WHO SHOULD APPLY:

This grant is intended for nonprofit organizations in AL, FL, GA, KY, MD, NJ, NC, OH (Cincinnati only), PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, or WV that:

- ✓ Serve small businesses and entrepreneurs
- ✓ Play a coordinating, convening, or ecosystem-building role (or want to)
- ✓ Connect businesses to resources, partners, and support services
- ✓ Work in collaboration with multiple stakeholders

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

Competitive applicants will demonstrate a clear role as a coordinator, connector, or convener within the small business ecosystem, supported by strong local partnerships. The grant is designed for organizations that are actively building or strengthening their capacity to connect small businesses to resources, partners, and support, particularly in under-resourced communities.

Interested organizations should closely review the eligibility requirements, the FAQ, and the application preview before applying. Contact Evette Banfield and Christian Oliver-Smith at DCSmallBizHelp@cnhed.org if you need additional support.

TO LEARN MORE AND APPLY, VISIT: WWW.THECOALITIONDC.ORG/CQG_SMALLBIZ/