

## 2026 Co-op Innovation Award Frequently Asked Questions

### ***What is the purpose of the Co-op Innovation Award?***

The purpose of the Co-op Innovation Award is to fund organizations and businesses that are using the cooperative model to foster economic opportunity and address issues facing their community. Priority will be given to co-ops where the majority of members of the community served are living with low incomes. We want to amplify innovative models that can be replicated locally, regionally, or nationally. The award is intended to support early-stage projects and provide catalytic capital that will attract other funders.

### ***Which organizations are eligible for the 2026 Co-op Innovation Award?***

Your organization must be a nonprofit 501c3, have a nonprofit 501c3 fiscal sponsor, or cooperative entity to apply. There are no geographic restrictions within the United States; projects can be national, regional, or local.

### ***How can I apply for the 2026 Co-op Innovation Award?***

You can apply by clicking the following link (you will have to create a free account on Submittable):

<https://capitalimpact.submittable.com/submit/c42aa5e0-022e-4508-ad66-8073ce7ec853/view>

### ***Which co-op sectors can apply for the 2026 Co-op Innovation Award?***

All co-op sectors are invited to apply.

### ***Can I apply for general operating funds?***

No, you must apply for a specific project that has measurable outcomes in the next year. The funds also cannot be used to replace funding that has been cut or eliminated.

### ***Can I apply if I have not secured any other funding for the project?***

Yes. This project is meant to be seed funding for new, innovative initiatives. It should not be used for gap funding for projects that already have the majority of funding secured.

### ***What are the intended uses of funding for the 2026 Co-op Innovation Award?***

The uses of funding include, but are not limited to:

- Financial projections
- Project scope and design
- Feasibility analysis
- Operational and staff costs
- Training development
- Leadership and professional development
- Tools and technologies
- Outreach and marketing
- Contractors or consultants

### ***When is the deadline for the 2026 Co-op Innovation Award application?***

The deadline is June 12, 2026.

### ***What is the timeline and review process for the 2026 Co-op Innovation Award?***

We will review the applications (due June 12, 2026) and inform applicants by July 31, 2026 if they are finalists. Finalists will be required to provide organizational and financial documentation. The grant award will be announced in early October.

### ***Can previous applicants apply for the 2026 Co-op Innovation Award?***

Previous applicants can and are encouraged to apply. You will not be eligible for the award if you received the grant in 2025.

### ***What are examples of previous awardees?***

Examples of the award can be found on the [Capital Impact website](#) and [2025 Co-op Innovation Award Press Release](#).

### ***What are the reporting requirements for the 2026 Co-op Innovation Award?***

Grantees will be required to submit a mid-year and final narrative report and collect relevant data such as number of jobs created, demographics of community served or co-op members, and additional funding raised.

### ***How can I learn more about the grant?***

For more information, you are invited to attend one of the following webinars:

**May 27, 2026 @ 1:00-2:00 PM EDT. Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://momentuscap-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_nPz62UbKSSqLrVn8YBDqmA](https://momentuscap-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nPz62UbKSSqLrVn8YBDqmA)

**June 4, 2026 @ 12:00-1:00 PM EDT. Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://momentuscap-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Ukc0mFC6RxCrtdf9u5O7g](https://momentuscap-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ukc0mFC6RxCrtdf9u5O7g)

Further inquiries may be directed to Alison Powers at [apowers@capitalimpact.org](mailto:apowers@capitalimpact.org).