



IMAGINE Grant

2023 Proposal Guidelines & Instructions

Thank you for your interest in the [AWS IMAGINE Grant](#). Please consult the selection criteria below and review the terms and conditions carefully before applying.

About the Program

The 2023 AWS IMAGINE Grant program includes two award categories detailed below. Organizations may apply for **only one** of the award categories.

The application cycle will occur in two rounds. Round One applications are open to any eligible nonprofit that completes the required information within the deadline. Round Two applications will be **by invitation only** based on the evaluation of Round One applications. Organizations that are invited to Round Two will be provided instructions to submit full proposals for either the *Momentum to Modernize* or *Go Further, Faster* award categories. Round Two instructions will be provided to qualified applicants at the time of notification.

How to Apply

To submit an application for Round One, please prepare answers to the questions detailed on pages 4-7 of this document. The submission portal will open on May 1, 2023 and close on June 1, 2023. You will receive a link to the submission portal via the email address inputted to download the instructions, and a link to the portal will also be available on the [AWS IMAGINE Grant website](#) beginning on May 1, 2023. All Round One proposals must be submitted via the web application form by 11:59PM EST on June 1, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted.

Organizations will receive notification via email of their Round One application status and if they have advanced to Round Two by July 12, 2023.

Your project proposal should not contain any confidential information. Please see the terms and conditions (page 9) for additional information regarding treatment of proposal information. Please contact awsimaginegrant@amazon.com with any proposal-related questions and consult the [AWS IMAGINE Grant website](#) for resources and answers to frequently asked questions.

2023 Calls for Proposals

We are seeking proposals from nonprofit organizations for pilot projects, proofs of concept, and/or new or existing programs that utilize cloud technology. The U.S. AWS IMAGINE Grant is limited to U.S. nonprofit organizations with active 501(c) IRS status. Each organization must determine during Round One which award category best fits their proposed project. For a list of FAQs regarding eligibility, please consult the [AWS IMAGINE Grant website](#).

The 2023 AWS IMAGINE Grant categories and award details are as follows:

Momentum to Modernize:

As nonprofit organizations seek to transform and enhance their core mission operations with technology, organizations need funding for foundational technology projects, such as migrating servers to the cloud and modernizing new and existing applications. The *Momentum to Modernize* award will provide resources for these transformational cloud infrastructure projects, alongside AWS Promotional Credits and access to AWS training. Nonprofit organizations with specific workloads and outcomes that meet the

program criteria are welcome to apply. Projects may include but are not limited to: application migration and optimization, net-new application development, infrastructure expansion, and more.

Considering these types of cloud projects as mission-critical may [help your nonprofit organization lower costs](#), become more agile, develop new skills more quickly, and deliver reliable, globally available services to your beneficiaries. We are looking for nonprofit organizations who recognize that these IT projects are drivers of organizational change. Our goal is to help provide vital funding that is lacking in the sector to help implement cloud projects successfully which lay the groundwork for future innovation.

Momentum to Modernize awards may fund the following types of projects:

- Application Modernization
- Net-new application development
- Data Storage, Disaster Recovery and Backup
- Database Migration
- Systems Migrations

Please note, the above list is intended to serve as a reference only and is not an exhaustive list of projects eligible for this category. We encourage you to review some of the following nonprofit stories for additional examples: [Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Preserves Rock Music History and Modernizes on AWS](#) and [Easterseals DC MD VA Generating program-defining insights in seconds for child, adult, senior, and military services](#).

Momentum to Modernize awards packages may include:

- Up to \$50,000 USD of unrestricted financial support
- Up to \$20,000 USD in AWS Promotional Credit
- Project implementation guidance from AWS technical specialist(s)
- Access to AWS training and support
- An opportunity for AWS marketing promotion

**AWS reserves the right to determine actual awarded amounts at its sole discretion.*

Go Further Faster:

The *Go Further, Faster* award will provide support for think big, highly innovative projects that leverage the cloud. These projects will have the potential to produce scaled, repeatable solutions and may impact an entire industry or field. They will be force multipliers for organizations and will include the application of and/or seek integrations with advanced cloud services, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), high performance computing, IoT, and more.

Organizations who have already taken the initial steps in their cloud journeys and are looking to demonstrate a magnitude of return on their investment in cloud technology should apply for this category. *Go Further, Faster* applicants will be looking to integrate advanced services into already strong data and security practices and seek specialists, AWS training, and implementation support to ensure they are able to scale to meet their audacious, urgent goals.

Go Further, Faster awards may fund the following types of projects:

- Initiatives that use artificial intelligence or machine learning tools on AWS (e.g., [National Marrow Donor Program improves transplant patients' outcomes using AWS](#))

- Projects leveraging High Performance Computing (HPC) for mission areas such as genomics, conservation, health research, weather prediction, seismic imaging, and many other emerging applications
- Data lake/warehouse and big data projects
- Organizations seeking to create an industry- or sector-wide solution or resource (e.g., [JDRF uses the cloud to power T1 diabetes research](#))

Please note, the above list is intended to serve as a reference only and is not an exhaustive list of projects eligible for this category. We encourage you to review some additional examples: [2022 Special Olympics USA Games launch first-of-its-kind app with AWS](#) and [charity: water uses IoT to bring access to clean water](#).

Go Further, Faster awards packages may include:

- Up to \$150,000 USD of unrestricted financial support
- Up to \$100,000 USD in AWS Promotional Credit
- Project implementation guidance from AWS technical specialist(s)
- Access to AWS training and support
- An opportunity for AWS marketing promotion

**AWS reserves the right to determine actual awarded amounts at its sole discretion.*

Evaluation Criteria

AWS will judge proposals based on factors that include:

- Innovative and unique nature of the project;
- Impact on mission achievement;
- Clearly defined outcomes and milestones;
- Detailing and applicability of AWS Services within the project scope;
- Viability of proposed sustainability plan;
- Comprehensiveness of organization’s proposal and information requested;
- Submission of proposal in correct format and within the deadline.

Expectations from Award Recipients

Organizations may have the opportunity to work with the AWS marketing team to create a project impact story that may be used to generate visibility for their organization. Recipient organizations must be willing and able to provide project details to AWS for the purpose of creating a case study, reference, podcast episode, or testimonial, based on their program involvement.

 **2023 AWS IMAGINE Grant
Round One Application
Instructions**

Please enter the following information into the web application form between May 1, 2023 and 11:59PM EST on June 1, 2023. Selected applicants will be invited to submit a Round Two application for either the ***Momentum to Modernize*** or ***Go Further, Faster*** awards. Organizations may only apply for one category and must select which award category best fits their proposed project.

Organizational Information

Please note: this section is used to determine basic information about your organization and is not part of the selection criteria.

1. Full, Registered Organization Name
2. Tax ID
3. Website URL
4. Annual Organizational Revenue (most recent fiscal year's, in USD) [Select one]
 - a) Less than \$50,000
 - b) \$50,000 - \$999,999
 - c) \$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999
 - d) \$5,000,000 - \$9,999,999
 - e) \$10,000,000 - \$99,999,999
 - f) \$100,000,000 or more
 - g) Don't know/ Not sure
5. Annual IT Budget (most recent fiscal year's expenses in USD)
 - a) Less than \$10,000
 - b) \$10,000 - \$50,000
 - c) \$50,000 - \$150,000
 - d) \$150,000 - \$500,000
 - e) \$500,000 or more
6. Proposal Contact Information (First and Last Name, Email Address)
7. Role in Organization
 - a) President or CEO
 - b) Other C-Level of executive management
 - c) Vice president or equivalent
 - d) Board of Directors
 - e) Director or equivalent
 - f) Manager or equivalent
 - g) Generalist, staff, associate, or equivalent
 - h) Other
8. Functional Area in Organization
 - a) Leadership or overall management
 - b) Program management
 - c) Event management
 - d) Fundraising/ Development
 - e) Community outreach
 - f) Technology
 - g) Human resources
 - h) Marketing
 - i) Finance

- j) Administration
 - k) Other
9. Primary Mission Area
- a) Arts, Culture, and Humanities
 - b) Credit Union
 - c) Education
 - d) Environment and Animals
 - e) Health
 - f) Human Services
 - g) International, Foreign Affairs
 - h) Public, Societal Benefit
 - i) Religion Related
 - j) Science, Technology & Social Science
 - k) Youth Development
 - l) Mutual/Membership Benefit
 - m) Public Utilities
 - n) Unknown, Unclassified
10. What role does technology play in your organization today? [Select one]
- a) It is a core part of our organizational strategy
 - b) It supports certain objectives but is not a core part of our strategy
 - c) We talk about it a lot but have not done much about it
 - d) We rarely talk about how technology supports our organization
11. Does your organization have an AWS account? [Yes/No]
12. Have you applied for an IMAGINE Grant before? [Yes/No]

Project Information

1. Which AWS IMAGINE Grant category are you applying for? [select one]
 - a. *Momentum to Modernize* award
 - b. *Go Further, Faster* award
2. What is your project and how does it relate to your organization's mission? [250 - 400 words]
3. What are the intended outcomes of your project? What new capabilities would it unlock for your organization? [250 - 400 words]
4. What is driving the need for this specific project? Why now? [250 - 400 words]
5. At what stage is your project currently? [Select one]
 - a. Concept
 - b. Planning
 - c. Under development
 - d. Currently running
6. What most closely aligns with what this project will enable your organization to do? [Select top three]
 - a. Better understand and leverage data for donor/member fundraising/engagement.
 - b. Enhance digital content/experiences for donors, members, beneficiaries, or other stakeholders.
 - c. Increase personalized donor/member targeting and communications.
 - d. Enhance programmatic insights with data analytics and visualization.
 - e. Improve impact evaluation and measurement of our programs.
 - f. Aggregate disparate data sources to enable collaborative research.
 - g. Leverage advanced services (e.g., AI/ML, High Performance Computing) to accelerate time to science.

- h. Increase security and governance of data/ ensure security compliance. (e.g. HIPAA, SOC)
- i. Migrate and modernize our IT infrastructure.
- j. Optimize IT infrastructure for increased cost efficiency.
- k. I don't know how AWS fits into my project at this time, but I am interested in learning more.
- l. Other

Technical Design

1. Describe your project's technical design at a high level. What does it do and how? [250 - 400 words]
2. What type(s) of workload(s) will your project include? [Select all that apply]
 - a. Digital content management (e.g. hosting and scaling websites)
 - b. Digital content delivery (e.g. virtual events, virtual learning platform)
 - c. Net-new application development (e.g. web app, mobile app, SaaS platform)
 - d. Application integration (e.g. serverless, microservices, distributed systems)
 - e. DevOps pipeline (e.g. CI/CD)
 - f. Container orchestration and management
 - g. Managed security services
 - h. Content storage and backup (e.g. disaster recovery)
 - i. Migration and optimization (e.g. systems, data, application)
 - j. Virtual desktop
 - k. Data lake
 - l. Data warehouse
 - m. Data analytics and visualization
 - n. Managed AI/ML services (e.g. intelligent document processing, image recognition)
 - o. AI/ML for research
 - p. AI/ML for predictive modeling
 - q. Customer experience (e.g. call/contact center, virtual assistant)
 - r. Internet of things (IoT)
 - s. Blockchain
 - t. Other. Please specify:
 - u. None of the above
3. Describe the resources and technical skills you may need to complete the project successfully. Do you have these resources in-house? If no, what will be your plan to acquire the skills needed? [250 - 400 words]
4. To successfully complete your project, would you need support from a technology and/or implementation partner? (Hint: An AWS Partner is an external expert who leverages AWS to build solutions and services for customers. See a list of [AWS Partners](#))
 - a. Yes, and I already work with a partner/plan to work with a specific partner.
 - i. [If selected] Please list partner:
 - b. Yes, I do not have a partner identified but would like a recommendation.
 - c. No, I do not plan to work with a partner.
 - d. Other. Please explain:
5. Is your organization's IT infrastructure currently: [Select one]
 - a. On-premises
 - b. On AWS
 - c. With another provider
 - d. Hybrid

6. Is the IT infrastructure for the project you are proposing for this grant opportunity currently:
[Select one]
 - a. On-premises
 - b. On AWS
 - c. Net-new to your organization
 - d. With another provider
 - e. Hybrid
7. If you were to not receive funding or be awarded the full amount of funding for either award, would your organization still be able to implement this project?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

Certification & Consent

Before submitting this application, please review how AWS processes the personal information you provide via this form.

We will evaluate your application to qualify for the AWS IMAGINE Grant and will share this with teams working to evaluate the applications. If we select you to advance, AWS will notify you via the email provided in your application above. If we do not select you to advance in the application process, the information you provide us will be stored for future opportunities at AWS and your information will be processed in accordance with [AWS's privacy policy](#). If you withdraw your permission to store this information, please reach out to awsimaginegrant@amazon.com.

Given the volume of submissions we receive, we will not be able to respond individually or schedule follow-up calls or meetings.

By checking this box, I consent and agree to AWS processing my information as defined above. [Yes/No]

I certify that I have reviewed and agree to the AWS IMAGINE Grant Terms and Conditions. [Yes/No]

In addition to reviewing the FAQ on the [AWS IMAGINE Grant website](#), please review the questions below for helpful information in developing your proposal.

“This grant opportunity seems technical. Does my nonprofit have to be using AWS already to apply? How do I develop the technical portions of the grant?”

Usage of AWS is not a requirement for applying to the AWS IMAGINE Grant. However, for this grant opportunity, we do want to understand how the use of technology and services to include AWS are vital in helping you achieve your mission. We recommend involving your organization’s IT team as early as possible in your proposal development process.

“How do I get technical support for developing my proposal?”

AWS has a multitude of [self-service resources](#), [success stories](#), and [training resources](#). For specific technical questions, email awsimaginegrant@amazon.com to be connected with an AWS Solutions Architect or reach out to your AWS Account Manager.

“How do I figure out what my AWS usage costs will be?”

AWS offers you a pay-as-you-go approach for pricing for over 120 cloud services. With AWS you pay only for the individual services you need, for as long as you use them, and without requiring long-term contracts or complex licensing. AWS pricing is similar to how you pay for utilities like water and electricity. You only pay for the services you consume, and once you stop using them, there are no additional costs or termination fees. The AWS Pricing Calculator tool may help you get an estimate of your nonprofit’s anticipated AWS costs.

[AWS Pricing Calculator](#): Explore AWS services and create an estimate for the cost of your use cases on AWS. You can model your solutions before building them, explore the price points and calculations behind your estimate, and find the available instance types and contract terms that meet your needs. This enables you to make informed decisions about using AWS. You can plan your AWS costs and usage or price out setting up a new set of instances and services.

AWS Pricing Calculator is useful both for people who have never used AWS and for users who want to reorganize or expand their AWS usage. You don't need any experience with the cloud or AWS to use AWS Pricing Calculator.

“My organization is interested in using AWS but we’re not quite ready to apply to the IMAGINE Grant. How can I get started and learn more?”

Our [AWS Nonprofit Credit Program](#) is a great place to get started with AWS. This program provides access to \$1,000 in AWS promotional credits, enabling nonprofits to implement cloud-based solutions and meet their mission goals without upfront investment in physical infrastructure.

The following AWS IMAGINE Grant (“Grant”) Terms and Conditions (“Terms”) apply to your application to, and participation in, the Grant. These Terms are solely between Amazon Web Services, Inc. (“AWS,” “we,” “us,” or “our”) and the entity that you represent (“you” or “your”). By submitting an application to the Grant, you: (1) agree to the AWS IMAGINE Grant Terms and Conditions; and (2) represent and warrant that you have the full power and authority necessary to submit your application and accept these Terms. Capitalized terms not defined herein may be defined in the [AWS Customer Agreement](#).

- (1) By submitting an application for the Grant you, on behalf of yourself, and the organization that will receive the award, represent and warrant (a) your receipt of the award is neither prohibited nor inconsistent with any applicable laws, regulations, or binding orders, including applicable ethics rules or internal institutional rules; (b) you have completed or will complete all legal and ethical requirements necessary to accept the award; (c) your receipt of the award will not create a conflict of interest for AWS or its affiliates; (d) you are not participating in, nor have any decision-making authority over, any procurements or purchasing decisions involving AWS or its affiliates on behalf of your organization; and (e) you meet the eligibility requirements listed in this application. AWS is not offering the award with the expectation or desire of favorable treatment or for the purpose of influencing you in the performance of your official duties. In the event that your representations and warranties under this Section 1 are or become inaccurate, any award your organization receives will be voidable.
- (2) Your participation in the Grant is subject to the general [AWS Customer Agreement](#) terms or other terms governing your use of AWS Services (“Agreement”). In the event of a conflict between these Terms and the Agreement, the Agreement will control with respect to your access to and use of the Service Offerings. Any use of AWS Promotional Credit will be in accordance with and subject to the [AWS Promotional Credit Terms & Conditions](#). In the event of a conflict between these Terms and the [AWS Promotional Credit Terms & Conditions](#), the [AWS Promotional Credit Terms & Conditions](#) will govern with respect to any AWS Promotional Credit you receive. Any use of AWS Training Services will be in accordance with and subject to the [AWS Training Terms & Conditions](#). In the event of a conflict between these Terms and the [AWS Training Terms & Conditions](#), the [AWS Training Terms & Conditions](#) will control with respect to your access to and use of any AWS Training Services.
- (3) If you are selected for an award, you will be required to complete certain administrative requirements to process your award. These requirements may include submission of a W-9 form, completion of a tax questionnaire, and registration in AWS’s Payee Central System. If you are selected for an award and your organization is unable to complete these requirements in a timely manner, AWS reserves the right to rescind the award. Any payment from AWS to you under the Grant may be issued by AWS purchase order. These Terms, the agreements referenced herein, and any other agreement regarding the relationship between you and AWS will constitute a Master Agreement under the terms of the purchase order.
- (4) Any information you provide to us is subject to the AWS [Privacy Notice](#). AWS does not accept any legal obligation (whether of confidentiality, compensation, return or otherwise) with respect to any application or information submitted. AWS and its affiliates reserve the right to implement ideas similar to those contained in any application in the future without restriction or obligation. To the

extent your application contains any third-party information, you are responsible for obtaining any required permissions and will defend, indemnify, and hold harmless us, our affiliates and licensors, and each of their respective employees, officers, directors, and representatives from and against any Losses arising out of or relating to any third-party claim arising therefrom.

- (5) Each organization may only submit one application per award cycle. You are responsible for all costs associated with preparation and submission of your application. AWS reserves the right to determine actual awarded amounts in its sole discretion. AWS is not required to accept additional terms presented by your organization. If you are selected for an award and your organization requires additional terms or conditions to accept the award, AWS reserves the right to rescind the award.
- (6) We may use your trade name, trademark, service mark, logo, domain name, and other distinctive brand features in presentations, marketing materials, customer lists, and website listings (including links to your website) in furtherance of the Grant.
- (7) You may not issue any press release or make any other public disclosure regarding the Grant or your participation in the Grant without our prior written consent. In addition, you agree not to misrepresent or embellish the relationship between us and you. For example, you agree not to imply that we support, sponsor, endorse, donate to, or contribute to you or your organization unless you have our written permission to do so. You may only use the AWS Marks in accordance with the [AWS Trademark Use Guidelines](#), [AWS Co-Marketing Guidelines](#), and other restrictions as determined from time to time by AWS. You will not imply any relationship or affiliation between us and you except as expressly permitted by these Terms.
- (8) Except as otherwise specified in an agreement between you and AWS, the laws of the State of Washington, without reference to conflict of law rules, govern these Terms and any dispute of any sort that might arise between the parties. Any dispute relating in any way to these Terms, the Grant, or the Service Offerings will only be adjudicated in a state or federal court located in King County Washington. Each party consents to exclusive jurisdiction and venue in these courts.
- (9) Except as otherwise specified in an agreement between you and AWS, we, our affiliates and our licensors, will not be liable to you for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential, or exemplary damages even if we have been advised of the possibility of such damages.
- (10) You agree to maintain all AWS Confidential Information in strict confidence in accordance with the terms of the [AWS Customer Agreement](#) or other terms governing your use of AWS Services.
- (11) You will abide by the policies, guidelines, and expectations for the Grant.