



FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING FUND

Funded by the GE Aerospace Foundation.

Advancing the future of manufacturing together.



GE Aerospace
Foundation

Meet the Team



Sue Casey-Leininger
Director, Impact



Laura Plaisted,
Grants Manager



Rayshawn Eastman
Sr. Manager, Workforce and
Education Pathways



Riley Theurer
Sr. Manager, Corporate Social
Responsibility



Candace Wang
Chief Educational Outcomes and People Officer

The Case

THE CHALLENGE

After choosing Cincinnati for GE Aerospace's headquarters, the organization established the GE Aerospace Foundation to invest in the community. Focusing on workforce development, they noticed disjointed local manufacturing programs and sought to streamline their support through funding.

THE SOLUTION

United Way organized sessions to explore manufacturing and supply chain career paths in our region. By collaborating with various organizations, they positioned the GE Aerospace Foundation as the hub for workforce programs, streamlining efforts and managing a \$1M fund to support the initiative.



Year 1 Recap: Future of Manufacturing Fund Impact

- Grantees have engaged nearly **3,000 individuals** through a range of advanced manufacturing initiatives.
 - Career awareness
 - Training
 - Workforce development activities
- **970 individuals** participated in coaching and hands-on STEM engagement to build early awareness and interest in manufacturing.
- **1,856 individuals** took part in manufacturing-specific programs and activities. Additionally, **4,500 students** attended a large regional work-based learning fair featuring manufacturing employers.
- **128 individuals** were reached through focused career readiness and pathway programming.
- **24 individuals** completed formal manufacturing training programs, with some partners still in the enrollment and outreach phase.



United Way of Greater Cincinnati

7,466 followers

2mo • 🌐

🌟 We celebrated [#ImpactInAction](#) with United Way's Future of Manufacturing Fund, made possible by the generous support of [GE Aerospace](#), at Advanced Manufacturing Design Day this past weekend!

In partnership with [LEAD Training](#), we hosted over 50 Greater Cincinnati high school students who joined us for a hands-on, competition-based event at the GE Aerospace Learning Center. The goal? Broaden students' understanding of advanced manufacturing through an exciting real-world design challenge.

Over 95% of participants said the challenge helped them understand real-world manufacturing problems!

💡 One student shared: "[My favorite thing about the day] was being able to truly brainstorm in a real-world way... there are almost no limits to complexity. This represented true freedom, true engineering."

📝 As a result of the event, over 93% of students left with increased interest in advanced manufacturing careers!

Thank you, GE Aerospace, for empowering this critical work and helping us build a stronger future!



Year 2 Recap: Future of Manufacturing Fund Impact

- Grantees have engaged over 5,000 individuals through a range of advanced manufacturing initiatives.
 - Career awareness
 - Training
 - Workforce development activities
- **120 individuals** Completed an advanced manufacturing education program (e.g., license, certification, or degree)
- **Over 180 individuals** secured employment through engagement with grantees programming





Program Details

FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING FUND

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Overview



The Future of Manufacturing Program, funded by GE Aerospace Foundation, will work to address the critical gap in the advanced manufacturing workforce.

Three-year initiative focused on increasing the pipeline of skilled workforce by funding projects to increase enrollment in, completion of, or job obtainment in the advanced manufacturing sector in Greater Cincinnati.

Grant funding will support community partners in **replicating proven practices** or **scaling existing solutions** to improve outcomes.

Funding will start on August 1, 2026, and implementation period of up to 12 months.

Organizations funded in years 1 and 2 are eligible for continued or new funding in year 3.

Organizations may only submit **one** application, and grants will range from \$20,000 - \$50,000.

A Coordinated Approach



- **This opportunity will** fund programs that **address the current constraints in workforce** needs in the advanced manufacturing sector.
 - Limited capacity of technical training programs, often driven by limited access to trained instructors.
 - Fragmentation across critical stakeholders and partners, such as public funders, educational and technical training providers, workforce development, and employers.
 - Insufficient, flexible funding to test new ideas and address emergent needs.
- **This opportunity will** bring together advanced manufacturing stakeholders, financial resources and technical assistance to **replicate and/or scale best-practices** to grow the advanced manufacturing workforce pipeline. Elements of the program include:
 - **Flexible funding** structure that drives coordination and collaboration.
 - **Cohort learning environment** for rigor and sharing of learning.
 - **Centralized coordination and technical assistance** to identify best practices, infuse quality improvement, document and track.
- **Projects funded by this opportunity will** have to demonstrate evidence of the solution they want to replicate or scale and set targets to improve program outputs and outcomes associated with: **Completion, Credentialing, and Employment.**

Eligibility



Organizations must meet the following criteria to be eligible for funding through this process:

Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or other tax-exempt educational provider, community-based group, entity or collaboration/coalition that operate like a nonprofit organization.

Operate services or programming to community members to support advanced manufacturing workforce development.

Operate programs or services that serve most people living within United Way of Greater Cincinnati's footprint including:

- Hamilton, Clermont, Brown counties in Ohio
- Dearborn and Ohio counties in Indiana
- Boone, Campbell, Kenton, Grant counties in Kentucky



The Tracks – Strengthening Career Pathways



Grants will be structured into two tracks to ensure representation in the cohort alongside all stages of the career pathway:

- **Workforce Architect Track:** Organizations that deliver comprehensive advanced manufacturing training programs and **directly** support participant progression through credential attainment and into employment.
- **Talent Connector Track:** Organizations that facilitate entry to advanced manufacturing training, employment opportunities, and support their progression through the workforce pipeline.

Both tracks should:

- Demonstrate existing, successful programs or partnerships that are ready to scale or replicate
 - Demonstrate capacity to execute against the fund's goals
 - Take a systems-focused approach
 - Demonstrate readiness to participate in a cohort model

The Tracks – Strengthening Career Pathways



Grants will be structured into two tracks to ensure representation in the cohort alongside all stages of the career pathway:

- **Workforce Architect Track:** Organizations that deliver comprehensive advanced manufacturing training programs and **directly** support participant progression through credential attainment and into employment.
 - Provide industry-recognized credentials or degrees in advanced manufacturing (e.g., CMfgE, CMfgA, CPT, certificate or degree programs)
 - Demonstrate strong completion and credential attainment outcomes
 - Maintain direct employer partnerships that result in job placement opportunities. In this case, “job placement opportunities” are defined as co-ops, internships, apprenticeships, full-time, and part-time employment.
 - Demonstrate data-backed results in placing participants into employment
- **Talent Connector Track:** Organizations that facilitate entry to advanced manufacturing training and employment opportunities and support their progression through the workforce pipeline.
 - Maintain established partnerships with training providers and/or employers
 - Demonstrate a defined pathway for participants to enter training, credentialing, and employment
 - Support participant progression into training and employment
 - Track participant outcomes, including entry into training programs and progression into employment, internships, or apprenticeships
 - May provide wraparound supports that improve retention, completion, and transition to employment

All organizations must:

- Demonstrate existing, successful programs/partnerships around advanced manufacturing that are ready to scale or replicate
- Illustrate existing capacity to execute against the fund's goals
- Be system's focused
- Willingness to collaborate in a cohort setting





Expanding Flexible Funding for Cohort

Mini-grants ranging from \$1,000-\$5,000 each will be available to the year 2 cohort throughout the grant year to support efforts such as:

- Recruitment efforts
- Barrier-removal efforts (e.g., short-term transportation support, scholarship funds, etc.)



Process and Key Dates

These dates may change. Any changes will be communicated in a timely manner.

June 1: Informational webinar

June 1: Application open

June 11: Office hours #1 at 1:00 p.m.

June 17: Office hours #2 at 9:30 a.m.

June 22: at 5 p.m.: Application closes in e-Cimpact

July 27: Decision letters

Aug. 21: Cohort convening + Kickoff

Aug. 25: Public cohort announcement





Quarterly Cohort Convenings

These dates may change. Any changes will be communicated in a timely manner.

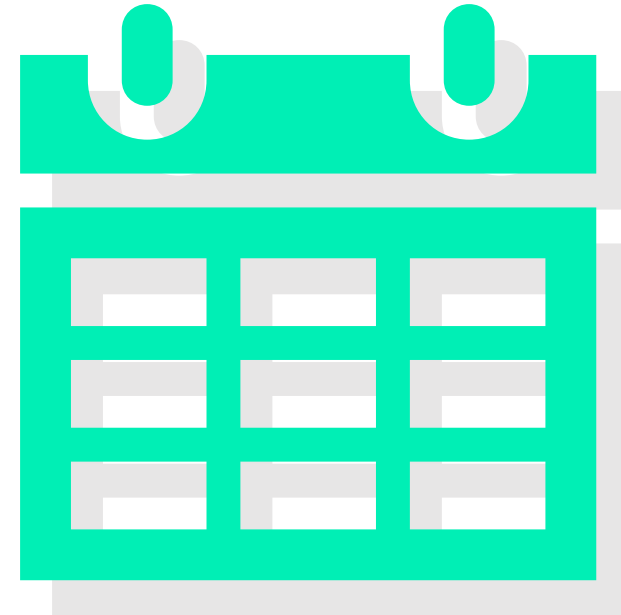
Aug 21: Cycle III cohort kick off meeting

Oct 23: Q1 Convening

Jan 22: Q2 Virtual Convening

April 16: Q3 Convening

June 11: Q4 Convening





Accessing the Application

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Access the e-CImpact online system by visiting:

[Partner With Us - United Way of Greater Cincinnati](#)

Scroll to bottom of page and click on the **e-CImpact Online Reporting Link.**

The screenshot shows the website's navigation bar with links for 'Impact', 'About', 'FIND HELP', and 'DONATE'. Below the navigation is a 'QUICK LINKS' section with three cards:

- Nonprofit Payment Portal**: Access your nonprofit agency's donor and payment information. Button: ENTER NOW →
- Find Volunteers**: Register for Volunteer Connection and find expert tips to succeed. Button: READ MORE →
- e-CImpact Online Reporting**: Log in and manage your organization's profile and information. Button: LOG IN NOW → (highlighted with a red circle)

At the bottom, there are two 'Funded Partner' logos: 'Full-color, Funded Partners Logo' and 'Reverse, Funded Partners Logo'.

Enter your Username (your email address) and your password to login to your organization profile page

Agency Site

UNITED WAY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

Please sign in to your account.

Username

Password

Sign In

OR

[Having trouble signing in?](#)

Forget your password?
Click the link here.

New to e-CImpact?

Create an e-CImpact account

To create a new account select the link below:

[Click here to create a new e-CImpact account](#)

Having difficulties? Email us at uwgce-cimpact@uwgc.org



United We Thrive



UNITED WAY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

United Way of Greater Cincinnati Agency Registration

Fields marked with an * are required fields.

Please complete the requested information below then click the 'Next' button in the bottom right corner of this page.

Agency Account Information

EIN:

Agency Name:*

Website URL:

Account Information

Description: *
Limit up to 4000 characters (0 used).

Address

Preferred Login

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS IS YOUR USERNAME

Enter a Password then retype the Password to confirm. Passwords must be at least 6 characters and 15 characters in length and contain at least 1 uppercase letter, 1 lowercase letter, 1 number, and 1 special character. Your Password may not contain the following characters: ", %, or any spaces.

Password Examples:

- abcdefg2 (valid, contains letters and numbers)
- pa\$\$word (valid, contains letters and numbers)
- 1234567# (valid, contains letters and numbers)
- abcdefgh (invalid, contains only letters)
- abc23 (invalid, less than 6 characters)

Preferred Username:*

Password:*

Confirm Password:*

Previous

Next

[Cancel and Return to Login Page](#)

New Users:

Complete all the required Agency information and choose a Username and Password.

Username must be your email address!

UNITED WAY OF GREATER CINCINNATI

Review Your Registration Information

EIN:

Agency Name: Another Test Agency

Website:

Additional Agency Account Information Summary

Description: Description

Agency Information Summary

Address: 1234 Road Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio
45202
(Main)

Email Address: impact@uwgc.org (Main)

Phone Number: (513) 000-0000 (Main)

Primary Contact Information Summary

Contact Name: Testing Person (Chief Executive Officer)

Job Title:

Preferred Login

Username: laura.plaisted@uwgc.org

Password: *****

Previous

Complete Registration

Complete registration

Getting Started



- ⚙️ Another Test Agency
- 📍 Home
- Agency Profile
- Contacts
- Agency Email History
- Reimbursement

🏠 Another Test Agency Home Page

From your home page click "Click Here to Begin an Application" link on the left and select the Future of Manufacture Fund Cycle III RFP

- ✍️ Apply / Report
- 📍 Click Here to Begin an Application

- 📁 Resource Center
- City of Cincinnati Human Service Fund FY26 RFP (2)
- City of Cincinnati HSF Impact Award FY26 RFP (2)

- ⚙️ A Test Agency
- Home
- Agency Profile
- Contacts
- Agency Email History
- Reimbursement

- ✍️ Apply / Report
- 📍 Click Here to Begin an Application

- 📁 Resource Center
- City of Cincinnati HSF Impact Award FY26 RFP (2)



📍 Application Selection

Please review the list of currently available applications below. Select from the list to request an application. Some investments may require pre-qualification information be provided.

Future of Manufacturing Fund

Future of Manufacturing Fund - Cycle II



Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle II Application

Overview: United Way of Greater Cincinnati announces the launch of the Future of Manufacturing Fund, powered by GE Aerospace Foundation, to address the critical gap in the advanced manufacturing workforce. This initiative seeks to strengthen the pipeline of skilled workforce by providing grants to a cohort of partners focused on recruitment, program completion, credentialing, job placement, and employer engagement in the advanced manufacturing sector in Greater Cincinnati.

Cycle II Focus Areas: Building on Cycle I's strong foundation in awareness and recruitment programming, Cycle II prioritizes organizations with robust credentialing and job placement capabilities.

Grant funding and technical assistance within a cohort setting will support community partners in replicating proven practices or scaling existing solutions to improve outcomes. Funding will start on August 4, 2025, with

United We Thrive



AAA Test Agency

Home

Agency Profile

Contacts

Agency Email History

Reimbursement

Funding Opportunities

Click Here to Begin an Application

Apply / Report

Future of Manufacturing Fund

Future of Manufacturing Fund - Cycle II

Future of Manufacturing Fund - Cycle II Q3 Report

Future of Manufacturing Fund - Cycle III

Future of Manufacturing Fund Application

AAA Test Agency Home Page

Apply / Report

Future of Manufacturing Fund - Future of Manufacturing Fund - Cycle III



Future of Manufacturing Fund

Advancing the future of manufacturing together.



Future of Manufacturing Fund

United Way of Greater Cincinnati is proud to support the Future of Manufacturing Fund, a program that advances the manufacturing workforce.

Cycle III Focus

Cycle III is designed to support manufacturing pathways and workforce development across participant engagement, training, and employment.

Organizations applying for funding must:

- Deliver or support advanced manufacturing education or training programs that lead to recognized credentials, certifications, or degrees
- Implement strategies to improve participant retention and completion, particularly for individuals already engaged in training programs
- Prepare participants for employment through the development of technical skills and essential workplace competencies
- Facilitate connections to employment, internships, or apprenticeships, either directly or through clearly defined partnerships with training providers and employers
- Engage employers in program design and implementation to ensure alignment with workforce needs and to expand access to employment opportunities

Organizations that do not directly place participants must demonstrate how they contribute to the employment pathway and track outcomes through partners; programs focused primarily on awareness without defined employment outcomes are unlikely to be competitive.

Grant Process and Key Dates:

These dates may change. Any changes will be communicated in a timely manner.

- June 1: Program Overview via Webinar (will be recorded)
- June 1: Application opens in e-Clmpact
- June 11 & June 17: Open Q&A Office Hours on Teams
- June 22: Applications DUE in e-Clmpact
- July 27: Funding awards announced
- August 1: Grant period begins

Access the application by clicking the link under 'Apply/Report' or from the Home Page

Future of Manufacturing Fund - Future of Manufacturing Fund - Cycle II

Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle II Application

Overview: United Way of Greater Cincinnati announces the launch of the Future of Manufacturing Fund, powered by GE Aerospace Foundation, to address the critical gap in the advanced manufacturing workforce. This initiative seeks to strengthen the pipeline of skilled workforce by providing grants to a cohort of partners focused on recruitment, program completion, credentialing, job placement, and employer engagement in the advanced manufacturing sector in Greater Cincinnati.

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Organizations may only submit one application. Grants to reapply. 6-8 organizations will be funded and invited

We define Advanced Manufacturing as the use of innov

information, automation, computation, software, sensin

Key Technologies: automation, robotics, computer-int

Prominent Industries: Aerospace, Automotive, Medica

Career examples: CNC (computer numerical control) M

Organizational Eligibility: Organizations must meet t

- Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or other tax
- Operate services or programming to community
- Operate programs or services that serve a majori
 - Hamilton, Clermont, Brown counties in Oh
 - Dearborn and Ohio counties in Indiana
 - Boone, Campbell, Kenton, Grant counties

Priority Consideration: Organizations with demonstra

Grant Process and Key Dates: These dates may chang

- June 9: Application opens in e-Clmact
- June 17 & June 30: Open Q&A Office Hours on Te
- July 7: Applications DUE in e-Clmact

Status: ● Not Started

Due Date: 7/7/2025 4:30:00 PM

Remaining: 33 days 21 hours 46:01 minutes

[Click Here to Get Started](#)

Hello, Test Person My User Profile Change Password

Sign Out 1:58:44 Select Language

United We Thrive



AAA Test Agency

Home

Agency Profile

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Agency Email History

Reimbursement

Apply / Report

Community Impact Investment

Community Partner Funding
FY2026-FY2027

Community Partner Funding
Letter of Intent

Community Partner Funding
Responsive Services RFP

Community Partner Funding
Catalytic Change RFP

Community Partner Funding
Collaborative Impact RFP

City of Cincinnati HSF

FY 2026-2027

FY2026-27 City of Cincinnati
HSF RFP - Services

Black Empowerment Works

2023 Black Empowerment Works

2023 BEW Year End Reporting

Future of Manufacturing Fund

Future of Manufacturing Fund - Cycle II - Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle II Application

AAA Test Agency

Overview: United Way of Greater Cincinnati announces the launch of the Future of Manufacturing Fund, powered by GE Aerospace Foundation, to address the critical gap in the advanced manufacturing workforce. This initiative seeks to strengthen the pipeline of skilled workforce by providing grants to a cohort of partners focused on recruitment, program completion, credentialing, job placement, and employer engagement in the advanced manufacturing sector in Greater Cincinnati.

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Organizations may only submit one application. Grants will likely range from \$20,000 - \$50,000. Organizations funded in year 1 are eligible for continued or new funding in year 2 or 3 but will have to reapply. 6-8 organizations will be funded and invited to contribute to the cohort.

We define Advanced Manufacturing as the use of innovative technologies to create existing and new products. Advanced manufacturing can include production activities that depend on information, automation, computation, software, sensing, and networking.

Key Technologies: automation, robotics, computer-integrated manufacturing, 3D printing, artificial intelligence, and the Internet of Things

Prominent Industries: Aerospace, Automotive, Medical and Pharmaceutical, Electronics and Semiconductors, Energy and Renewable Technologies, and Commercial Production.

Career examples: CNC (computer numerical control) Machine Operator/Programmer, Machinist (operate, maintain/repair, etc), Welder, Additive Manufacturing Specialist, or Sheet Metal Worker

Organizational Eligibility: Organizations must meet the following criteria to be eligible for funding through this process:

- Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or other tax-exempt educational provider, community-based group, entity or collaboration/coalition that operate like a nonprofit organization.
- Operate services or programming to community members to support advanced manufacturing workforce development.
- Operate programs or services that serve a majority of people living within United Way of Greater Cincinnati's footprint including:

Registering a Program

Fund Application

These dates may change. Any changes will be communicated in a timely manner.

- May 14: Program Overview via Webinar
- May 16: Application opens in e-CImpact
- May 30 and June 10: Open Q&A Office Hours on Teams
- June 14: Applications DUE in e-CImpact
- July 1: Funding awards announced
- July 18 or 19th: Cohort convening (date to be finalized once grant awards are announced)
- August 1: Grant period begins

Additional information is available on our website here: <https://www.uwgc.org/for-nonprofits/funding-opportunities/ge-future-manufacturing-fund>

Each section listed below must be completed. To access a section, simply **click on the section** clicking on the link at the bottom of the section

the section, mark it completed by clicking on the of each section page. Once marked completed, the application may be submitted after than **June 14, 2024, by 4:30 PM.**

Click this link to create a new program and assign to application. At least one program must be added.

Assign Programs to this Application

At least one program is required for this application for funding.

To add a program to this application, select a program from the drop down (if available), or if there is no drop-down displayed, select 'Create a new Program.'

Click the link to 'Create a New Program and Assign it to this Application' to proceed to the Add new program profile page. Do not create duplicate programs.

Please ensure to click 'Complete Registration' on the Review page to successfully add your program to the application. When the Program Profile registration is complete, all of the forms for that program will display in your list of forms below.

[Create a New Program and Assign it to this Form Packet](#)

Application Status

[View Printable Version of this Entire Application](#)



Item (* indicates Required Item)	Last Updated	Status	Options
★ AAA Test Agency		Not Started	

Future of Manufacturing Fund - Organization Information*

Not Started

Application Sections





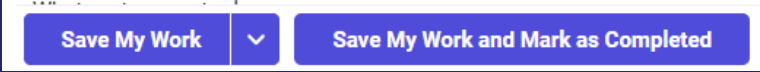
When all sections of the application have been marked completed, the application may be submitted. Applications must be

Late applications will not be accepted.

Submission Deadline: June 22, 2026, by 8:30 AM

Remember to save!

Select 'Save My Work and Mark as Completed' when finished



Click these blue link to begin the application. Each section must be completed. They can be done in any order.

Future of Manufacturing Fund Application Status

[View Printable Version](#)

Item (* indicates Required)	Last Updated	Status	Actions
1 Not Started ★ AAA Test Agency		Not Started	Print
Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle III - Organization Information*		● Not Started	
Optional Attachments		● Not Started	
★ AAA Test Program		Not Started	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Include? Print
Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle III - Overview of Program & Services*		● Not Started	
Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle III - Proposed Project*		● Not Started	




Future of Manufacturing Fund Application Submission Details

Executive Director*:

Send Submission Confirmation Email To*:

I certify that the information submitted in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge*:



 **Submit This Future of Manufacturing Fund Application**

When all sections are Completed/Ready to Submit, you may submit the full application by clicking the red button.

Future of Manufacturing Fund Application Status

[View Printable Version of this Entry](#)



Item (* indicates Required Item)	Last Updated	Status	Options
★+ AAA Test Agency	5/21/2026 1:18 PM (CST)	Completed / Ready to Submit	Print
Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle III - Organization Information*	Test Person 5/21/2026 1:18 PM (CST)	● Completed / Ready to Submit	
Optional Attachments		● Completed / Ready to Submit	
★+ AAA Test Program	5/21/2026 1:18 PM (CST)	Completed / Ready to Submit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Include? Print
Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle III - Overview of Program & Services*	Test Person 5/21/2026 1:18 PM (CST)	● Completed / Ready to Submit	
Future of Manufacturing Fund Cycle III - Proposed Project*	Test Person 5/21/2026 1:18 PM (CST)	● Completed / Ready to Submit	



Selection Process

FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING FUND

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Proposal Process



Details and requirements for proposals are explained in the Future of Manufacturing Fund Request for Proposal at online at [United Way of Greater Cincinnati \(uwgc.org\)](http://United Way of Greater Cincinnati (uwgc.org))



Once the online portal (e-C Impact) opens on Monday, June 1, 2026 complete the application:

Enter answers to application questions online.



Applications are due at 5:00pm on Monday, June 22, 2026.

Late applications will be deemed ineligible and will not receive funding



Grant Period starts on August 1, 2026



Selection Details

Proposals will be reviewed by United Way of Greater Cincinnati staff and a group of volunteer reviews from GE Aerospace and workforce development professionals based on the following criteria:

- 1. Demonstrated expertise in workforce development, education or training**
 - Demonstrates current programs / services and impact aligned to the goals of this funding opportunity
 - Demonstrates the capacity, experience and expertise to implement the proposed program(s) within the grant period.

- 2. Evidence of Data-Informed Approach(es) and Proposed Impact**
 - Clearly demonstrates the problem the proposal seeks to address as it relates to the goals of the grant
 - Provides clear data and evidence to support the proposed program or services as a solution to the challenge to be addressed.

- 3. Contributions to and Participation in a Cohort Environment**
 - Demonstrates the capacity to participate in the cohort learning environment
 - Shares anticipated learning and challenges.

Information Sessions, Technical Assistance & Other Support



We will hold **open office hours** on:

- June 11 (1pm-2pm)
- June 17 (9:30am-10:30pm)

Potential grantees can log on and ask questions. Teams links are available on our [website](#).

Send us an email at impact@uwgc.org with your communication preference (email or phone) to ask questions, schedule a technical assistance meeting to navigate the application system or discuss a concern. The appropriate staff will connect with you within 1-2 business days of receiving your email.

Access online materials at www.uwgc.org/grants. All materials, including a recording of the information session, the RFP and additional resources, will be posted on United Way's website.





Q & A



Thank you!