Request for Proposals
2024-2025 Spark Grants

The Hadassah Foundation (the Foundation) is pleased to announce a request for proposals for its Spark Grants process, which awards grants to organizations based in Israel or the United States with modest budgets or in early stages of development. Spark Grants allow the Foundation to invest in new and timely ventures that address pressing issues impacting women and girls.

About the Grants

The Foundation welcomes proposals from organizations that:

- Work within the United States Jewish community or are based in Israel.
- Utilize a gender lens throughout their work by recognizing the ways gender influences people's needs, causes differing outcomes, and underlies various assumptions and norms. The work may occur in gender-specific (girls/women only) or multigender environments.
- Have key initiatives that improve the status and lives of women and girls by building on their unique strengths, perspectives, and experiences.
- Create social change by addressing the underlying obstacles that impede people's full participation in society.
- Display innovation, address a gap in the field, and/or focus on an emergent issue disproportionately impacting women and girls.

We anticipate awarding three (3) Spark Grants of $20,000 each. The grant cycle is 18-months, beginning in January 2025 and ending in June 2026. Grant recipients will receive two payments of $10,000, one at the start of the grant and the other at 1-year into the 18-month grant.

Eligibility

This opportunity is open to nonprofit organizations in the United States and Israel with a tax-exempt status or a fiscal sponsor with such standing. Organizations must meet at least one of these criteria:

- Have an organization budget of $500,000 or less (in U.S. dollars), OR
- Been in existence for 10 or fewer years

The Foundation accepts proposals from initiatives that are independent projects of larger organizations or institutions, as long as the initiative does not receive financial support (not including in-kind support) from the organization in which they are legally or structurally associated.

Process and Important Dates

1. **Grant proposals will be accepted until Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 12:00 pm ET.** Proposals must be completed and submitted on the online portal.
2. Hadassah Foundation will hold two optional Q&A sessions for prospective applicants on: **Tuesday, August 13th** and **Wednesday, August 28th** at 12:00 pm ET.
3. Conversations will be held by Zoom with finalist organizations in November, beginning on **November 4th and 5th** from 1:00 – 3:00 pm ET.
4. All applicants will be notified of funding decisions by **December**

Questions? Email us at hadassahfoundation@hadassah.org.

Hadassah Foundation's Spark Grants are made possible, in part, with support from the Julie Morris Ner Tamid Fund.

Exemplifying feminist and Jewish values, the Hadassah Foundation increases the impact of organizations advancing gender equity through collective giving, education, and relationship-building.

Please note: Grant proposals must be submitted through the online grants management portal. This PDF is for your reference only. To access the online portal, go to hadassahfoundation.evalato.com

Contact Information

- Organization Name
- Executive Director/CEO
  - Name, Email, Phone
  - CV, link to LinkedIn profile or short bio (max 300 words)
- Primary Contact (if different from Executive Director)
  - Name, Job Title, Email, Phone
- May we share your grant proposal with other foundations for potential funding opportunities?
- How did you hear about this grant opportunity?

Organization Overview

- **Website:**
- **Social Media:** Please provide links to your organization's social media channels.
- **Geography:** What geographic area(s) does your organization serve?
- **Board of Directors:** Please provide your board members' names, along with short 1-2 sentence bios or links to their LinkedIn profiles. Please share the number of your board members who identify as female or non-binary.
- **Professional Staff:** Please provide the names and job titles of your organization's full-time and part-time staff. Please share the number of your staff members who identify as female or non-binary.
- **Funding Sources:** Please list your organization's top five funding sources for your current fiscal year and indicate the amount next to each source.
- **Potential Conflict of Interest:** Do any employees, board members, or affiliates of your organization, or any of their family members have an ownership interest in or serve as a director, officer, trustee, member, consultant, or employee of, or have any compensation arrangement with either: The Hadassah Foundation; Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America; or any of their related entities or affiliates?
  If yes, please describe the nature of the relationship(s).

Financials

- **Total Budget:** Organization's total projected budget for 2024 (in US dollars).
  Budget Document: Please upload your 2024 organizational budget. A budget narrative may also be included and is optional. *Note: For organizations based in Israel, please write at the top of your budget if you are using shekels or US dollars.*
- **Financial Statement:** Please upload your organization's most recent audited financial statement. *Notes: If your organization does not have an audited statement, please upload the most recent unaudited statement. If your organization is fiscally sponsored and does not yet have a financial statement, please provide your fiscal sponsor's most recent financial statement. If your organization's financial statement is in Hebrew, please provide a short summary in English.*

Legal Status

For Organizations based in Israel, complete section A only. For organizations based in the United States, complete section B only.

Section A) Israel-based Organizations

- Select your organization's tax status
  - Amuta
  - Mossad Tziburi
  - Fiscally sponsored

  If fiscally sponsored, name of fiscal sponsor:

- **Documents:** Please upload <u>all</u> of the following:
  1. Proof of legal status (*amutah or mossad tziburi*) OR fiscal sponsorship agreement
  2. Certificate of Correct Management (*nihul takin*)
  3. Articles of Incorporation (*takanon*)

Section B) United States-based Organizations

- Select your organization's tax status
  - 501(c)3
  - Fiscally sponsored

  If fiscally sponsored, name of fiscal sponsor:

- **Documents**: Please upload either your organization's proof of 501(c)3 status or fiscal sponsorship agreement.

Narrative

Please try to limit each response to 500 or fewer words.

1. **Organization Overview:** Please share your organization's mission statement, vision statement (if you have one), description, and brief history.
2. **Need and Strategy**: What need was your organization created to address, and how does it plan to do this? How does your organization differ from or compliment any similar organizations in this field?
3. **Target Population and Impact:** What is the target population your organization serves? How many people do you expect your organization to impact over the 18-month grant cycle, and what specific impact do you anticipate your work will have on women or girls? If you do not anticipate having a direct impact in the next 18 months, but will be laying the groundwork for future impact, please describe the ultimate impact you hope your work over the next 18 months will make possible.
4. **Organization Goals:** What are your organization's major goals and benchmarks over the next 18 months, and over the next three years? How do you plan to measure progress and evaluate success?

Optional – Additional Documents

Feel free to upload or share links to up to three documents that may be helpful in further explaining your organization. (Examples: report, study, marketing material, video, memo of understanding, etc.)