



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

MOVE YOUR MISSION FORWARD PARTNER WITH REA ANALYTICS

Grant Trends and 2026 Outlook

What This Year's Shifts Mean for Funding Opportunities in 2026

Grant Landscape Snapshot

Delayed NOFO announcements and rushed deadlines caused significant challenges for applicants. Some September 2025 funding opportunities were announced only two weeks before the application deadline, requiring rapid mobilization of proposals, partnerships, and budgets. In 2026, organizations that plan ahead, maintain data readiness, and streamline proposal processes will be best positioned to compete.

2026 Outlook

Across agencies, competitive proposals increasingly required strong evaluation frameworks, measurable outcomes, and prior performance records. Late NOFOs escalate this challenge, forcing organizations to have data systems and monitoring processes established in advance.

Key actions to stay competitive:

- Maintain ready-to-use data, evaluation, and partnership materials to respond quickly to short-notice NOFO requests.

- Create contingency clauses in budgets and timelines to account for delays or accelerated award periods.
- Weekly monitoring of agency NOFO forecasts allows you to anticipate opportunities and prepare proposals ahead of time. REA Analytics monitors relevant grants for [free](#).
- Prioritize cross-sector collaboration to improve rapid response applications and demonstrate operational capability.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

This list of 2025 grants and forecasted funding opportunities is regularly updated on the REA Analytics [blog](#).

[Schedule](#) a FREE application meeting to discuss your grant opportunities.

Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program

Forecasted Opportunity

[FOA-VETS-26-01](#) - Est. Post Jan 12, 2026 up to \$500,000

To support America's veterans in achieving their full employment potential and securing high-quality career outcomes for veterans experiencing and at risk of homelessness.

Mental Health

Forecasted Opportunity

[SM-25-002](#) - Est. Post TBA up to \$1.3 million

Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances

[HHS-2025-ACL-AOA-CSSG-0034](#) - Est. Post TBA up to \$ 1,250,000

Advancing Strategies to Deliver and Sustain Evidence-Based Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs to Support Older Adults with Behavioral Health Conditions

Service Area Competition

Open Solicitation

[HRSA-26-006](#) - Due Nov 10, 2025 up to \$181,000,000

To support the delivery of comprehensive, high-quality primary health care services in the United States and its territories.

Youth Justice

Open Solicitation

[O-OJDP-2025-172446](#) - Due Oct. 23, 2025 up to \$1,980,000

OJDP FY25 Mentoring for Youth Affected by Opioid and Other Substance Use

Forecasted Opportunity

[RFA-CE-26-021](#) - Est. Post Sep. 30, 2025 up to \$150,000

Grants to Support New Investigators in Conducting Research Related to Preventing Interpersonal Violence Impacting Children and Youth.

[Schedule](#) a FREE application meeting to discuss your grant opportunities.

Email rea@reanalytics.com to be included in this funding alert and receive qualifying grant announcements.



5 Key Characteristics to Seek in a

Nonprofit Grant Evaluator

Data-driven grant strategies to increase program funding

First published November 2023

Selecting the right grant evaluator is pivotal for securing funding, efficiently allocating resources, performing program evaluations, and demonstrating meaningful impact. A well-qualified evaluator will reduce your administrative burden, allowing your organization to focus on program delivery rather than grant compliance. A program evaluator who has experience writing grants can provide you with a critical advantage from the start. Because they will ultimately be responsible for evaluating your grant-funded project, your evaluator will know how to develop challenging but achievable project goals and objectives that are measurable and tell a compelling story of how your grant-funded project will address a known need that your organization is uniquely qualified to lead. Whether you are just beginning to seek federal grants, or searching for an independent grant evaluator, here are five key characteristics to optimize your funding success.

1. **Experience and Comprehensive Understanding** – Inspect the evaluator’s portfolio to gauge their knowledge and proficiency. Skills in measurement, research design, statistical modeling, data analysis and visualization are necessary for required

reporting and provide a deep understanding of the impact of the programs they evaluate.

2. **Reputation and Success Rate** – Understand the organizations the evaluator has partnered with, and the time span of their collaboration. Seek feedback from current partners to understand their working dynamics and ensure they possess the capacity to see the grant process through to completion. Request a full list of the grants the evaluator has assisted in writing and their success rate in awards granted.
3. **Receptive and Responsive to Your Needs** – Collaborate closely with your evaluator to set tailored goals and strategic plans that align with your needs, resources, and capabilities. They should invest time in understanding your mission and programs. An evaluator who is receptive and prompt in their communication establishes trust, streamlines processes, and ensures accurate data collection, goal tracking, and thorough documentation for adhering to grant requirements.
4. **Data and Analysis Expertise** – Verify that your evaluator has demonstrated proficiency in data visualization software programs such as Tableau, Sales Force, Excel, or Power BI, and can transform data into compelling visuals and drive data-informed decisions. Ensure your evaluator has the expertise and technical infrastructure to ensure rigorous and high-quality data analysis that provides you with accurate and relevant information for your programs.
5. **Agile Adaptability** - Select an evaluator with the ability to adapt to evolving program goals, methodologies, and assessment criteria to ensure accurate and relevant evaluation throughout the grant period. The ability to problem-solve creatively and adapt to changes is a necessary skill for an effective evaluator.

Prioritizing these characteristics will help you determine an evaluator who aligns to your organization and contributes to future grant success. Ready to begin? Request a call or [submit a question](#).