**1. Grants.gov**

* **What it is:** A database of federally sponsored grants, including grants for small businesses.
* **How to apply:** Visit the official government grants website, Grants.gov, and check out their section on grant applicants to see if you are eligible.

**2. National Association for the Self-Employed (NASE) Growth Grants**

* **What it is:** These grants are awarded to any small business owner who is a NASE member and can demonstrate a specific need for the money.
* **How to apply:** Apply online at NASE website.
* **Potential benefits:** Multiple grant prizes of $4,000 each

To qualify for their [Growth Grants program](https://www.nase.org/become-a-member/member-benefits/business-resources/growth-grants)—in addition to being a NASE member—you must demonstrate a specific business need that could be aided by the grant. You must also show how the grant will improve your business’s overall growth and success and include a resume and business plan.

**3. Eileen Fisher Women-Owned Business Grant Program**

* **What it is:** Small business grants for women-owned businesses making positive social and environmental impact.
* **How to apply:** Complete the application online.
* **Potential benefits:** A maximum of $10,000 per recipient for 10 women-owned businesses each year.

**4. Amber Grant**

* **What it is:** A small business grant for women business owners created in honor of a young woman who died before she could fulfill her entrepreneurial dreams.
* **How to apply:** Tell your story, and pay a $15 application fee.
* **Potential benefits:** The program awards one $2,000 grant to a woman business owner each month. One winner will also be awarded an additional $25,000 at the end of the year.

**5. IdeaCafe Grant**

* **What it is:** Small business grant available for anyone who owns their own business or plans to start one.
* **How to apply:** Just fill out the free application.
* **Potential benefits:** $1,000 grant for small business owners.

**6. #GIRLBOSS Foundation Grant**

* + **What it is:** A biannual grant for female entrepreneurs working in creative industries.
  + **How to apply:** Fill out the application [here](https://www.girlboss.com/foundation/apply/) and include an example of your work.
  + **Potential benefits:** A $15,000 grant and online exposure via Girlboss’ site.

**7. Cartier Women’s Initiative Award**

* **What it is:** A grant awarded to 18 female entrepreneurs around the globe each year.
* **How to apply:** Follow the application instructions [here](https://www.cartierwomensinitiative.com/application-selection-process).
* **Potential benefits:** All 18 finalists will receive either a first prize of $100,000 and one-on-one mentoring or a second prize of $30,000 in prize money.

**8. GrantsforWomen.org**

* **What it is:** Database of opportunities for women across industries.
* **How to apply:** Use the database to identify relevant opportunities and follow their application instructions.
* **Potential benefits:** Benefits vary with each opportunity.

**9. FedEx Small Business Grant**

* **What it is:** Business grants for small businesses.
* **How to apply:** Follow the application rules [here](https://smallbusinessgrant.fedex.com/#/rules).
* **Potential benefits:** Ten winners will receive grants for their businesses and free FedEx printing and business services.

**10. The Halstead Grant**

* **What it is:** Small business grant for women entrepreneurs in the jewelry industry.
* **How to apply:** Submit a portfolio and answer a series of questions outlining a business plan.
* **Potential benefits:** A cash grant of $7,500 plus $1,000 toward Halstead jewelry supplies.

**11. Open Meadows Foundation**

* **What it is:** An organization that provides grants toward women-backed projects that promote gender, racial, and economic justice.
* **How to apply:** Follow the instructions found [here](https://sites.google.com/site/openmeadowsfoundation/).
* **Potential benefits:** The organization provides $2,000 to eligible projects that have limited access to financial resources.

The grants we’ve mentioned above are open to businesses nationwide, but there might also be state and local options. For example, [Zions Bank offers six $3,000 grants](https://www.zionsbank.com/community/community-magazine/2017/march/SmartWomen/) each year to Idaho and Utah-based women-owned businesses that empower women or benefit underserved populations.

When starting or expanding your business, make an appointment with your local [Small Business Development Center](https://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance/sbdc) (SBDC) or [SCORE office](http://www.score.org/). These organizations are plugged into the local financing community and will be able to guide you if there are any small business grants for women in your area from local corporations, philanthropic, or economic development organizations.

You might also want to look into [SBA loans](https://www.fundera.com/business-loans/sba-loans), which are affordable business loans for small business owners.