



CHEFA

Connecticut Health & Educational
Facilities Authority

FY 2026 CHEFA Enterprise Capital Grant Program

Request for Letters of Interest

RFP for LOI Release Date: **September 26, 2024**

LOI Submission Due: **December 19, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.**

Notification to Apply for Selected Applicants: **January 23, 2025**

Application Overview Virtual Meeting – **February 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.**

Application Due Date: **March 27, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.**

Announcement of Finalists: **By May 30, 2025**

Announcement of Awards: **By July 31, 2025**

Payment of Grants: **By August 29, 2025**

Grant Period: Date that Financial Assistance Agreement is Fully
Executed through **July 30, 2028**

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INTRODUCTION

The Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority (“CHEFA”) provides access to tax-exempt financing and other financial assistance to educational institutions, healthcare providers, childcare providers and other eligible not-for-profit entities.

CHEFA established the Enterprise Capital Grant Program to bolster the capabilities and impact of nonprofit organizations in Connecticut by providing competitive grants that support strategic initiatives and strengthen balance sheets. Funding for this program is derived from CHEFA’s own resources and does not include any State funding.

CHEFA is inviting Letters of Interest for its FY 2026 Enterprise Capital Grant Program which supports innovative investments which may fund the launch, stabilization or scaling of an organization and its vision and mission. CHEFA will consider Letters of Interest which fund investments such as:

- Capacity Building and Investment to Enhance Organizational Efficiency
- Program Expansion to Increase Reach and Impact
- Innovative or Pilot Projects
- Initiatives that Promote Sustainability

Organizations are expected to have recently completed, or have plans in the near future to complete, a strategic plan which will support their grant request. Funding will be unrestricted, with the purpose of providing flexible capital to empower organizations to better address societal challenges and achieve their missions more effectively.

From organizations whose mission statement AND the investment are related to any of the following focus areas, as determined by CHEFA in its sole discretion:

- **Child Care**
- **Cultural Institutions**
- **Education**
- **Healthcare**
- **Human Services Providers**
- **Long-Term Care/Senior Living Facilities**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. CHEFA reserves the right to reject Applications that are incomplete or incorrect.
2. CHEFA does not award grants for Basic Human Needs (i.e. food/pantries/soup kitchens; housing/shelter; etc.) and religiously sectarian services
3. Any organization that is awarded a grant from CHEFA cannot discriminate or prevent participation in a program or activity on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability.
4. Letters of Interest and Applications must be submitted by the deadline date and time or will be considered ineligible. For this reason, we strongly suggest early submission.
5. If you have any questions, please email Dan Kurowski, Assistant Director at dkurowski@chefa.com.

AWARDS

- Grant requests must range from **\$100,000 up to a maximum of \$500,000**.
- For investments in activities, initiatives, and programs effective during, the time period of the date the Financial Assistance Agreement is fully executed through July 30, 2028.
- The CHEFA Board of Directors reserves the right to award an amount other than that requested by the applicant.
- Grant awards are subject to funding availability.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Grants will be awarded based on criteria that may include, but are not limited to:

- Target population impact
- Likelihood of success
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Financial and Managerial Strength
- Strength or viability of Strategic Plan

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant organizations must have current IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt designation.
- Funding is restricted to INVESTMENTS AND ACTIVITIES within Connecticut.

- For Applicant organizations which have outstanding CHEFA bond issues, they must be substantially in compliance with all the bond documentation for the most recent audited fiscal year and are current in any payment due to the CHEFA, Trustee, or bondholder to be deemed eligible to participate. CHEFA may make exceptions to the foregoing and reserves the right to determine eligibility in its sole discretion.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- The award of any funding is subject to the discretion of the CHEFA Board of Directors.
- Only one application will be accepted from any organization.
- For a period of five years, the capital purchases obtained with CHEFA grant funds may not be transferred, sold, or disposed of without CHEFA consent, and must remain in Connecticut.
- Applicants must fully disclose all pending mergers and acquisitions, state or federal investigations, litigation and executive management changes to the CHEFA during the LOI process, application process, and grant period.
- Reports will be required of each grantee, the form and substance to be fully described upon award notification.
- CHEFA reserves the right to withhold funds or require repayment of funds if it is determined that the investment is not meeting the goals, objectives, and timetable stated in the application, or that information provided in the application was false or misleading.
- Grantees will be required to enter into and abide by the terms of a Financial Assistance Agreement.
- The grantee must acknowledge CHEFA funding support in all press releases, media interviews, and reports on the funded project/program.
- Demonstrate, with the inclusion of CHEFA funding, the organization's ability to undertake the investment within the specified timeframe.
- State of Connecticut Nondiscrimination Requirements: Connecticut General Statutes Sections 4a-60 and 4a-60a require (i) any entity or individual entering into a contract with the state or certain political subdivisions of the state, including quasi-public agencies, to comply with the provisions of these statutes and (ii) the inclusion of the provisions set forth in Connecticut General Statutes Sections 4a-60a(a)(1)-(4), 4a-60(c)(1), 4a-60(a)(1)-(5), and 4a-60a(b)(1) in any such contract. The Financial Assistance Agreement that must be executed in connection with a Grant award will include the provisions required by the above referenced statutes.
- SEEC Notice: The Financial Assistance Agreement for a Grant award of \$50,000 or more, that must be entered into upon the award of a grant,

constitutes a “State contract” as defined in Connecticut General Statutes Section 9-612(f)(1)(C). The authorized signatory to the Application must expressly acknowledge receipt and review of the State Elections Enforcement Commission’s “Notice to Executive Branch State Contractors and Prospective State Contractors of Campaign Contribution and Solicitation Limitations” and must agree to inform the applicant’s principals of the contents of the notice. Such notice is available at:

<https://seec.ct.gov/Portal/data/forms/ContrForms/SEECStateContractorNotice.pdf>

- Campaign Contribution Certification: Connecticut General Statutes Section 9-612(f)(2)(F) requires a principal of a state contractor or prospective state contractor to make the disclosures and certifications set forth on the Campaign Contribution Certification form available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/OPM/Fin-General/OPM-Form1-CampaignContributionCertification-8-18-Final.pdf>. Each applicant submitting a Letter of Interest must complete and submit the Campaign Contribution Certification form with their Letter of Interest.

Proposal Schedule

- Request for Letters of Interest Issued – September 26, 2024
- Letters of Interest will be accepted until 4:00 PM on December 19, 2024
- Any questions related to the Request for Letters of Interest will be accepted until 5:00 PM on November 14, 2024
- CHEFA will post an FAQ summary on November 1, 2024, and will supplement the FAQ on November 19, 2024 with additional responses to all questions submitted by potential applicants.
- Submitted Letters of Interest will be reviewed by CHEFA’s Management and Staff and by January 31, 2025, selected organizations will be invited to submit full applications.
- An Application Overview Virtual Meeting for selected organizations will be held on February 4, 2025 at 1:00 PM.
- Full applications from selected organizations will be accepted until 4:00 PM on March 27, 2025
- Full applications will be reviewed by CHEFA’s Management and Staff and recommendations will be presented to CHEFA’s Board of Directors for selection of Finalists no later than May 30, 2025
- Site visits and Management Presentations will be scheduled with Finalists and CHEFA’s Board of Directors no later than June 30, 2025
- CHEFA’s Board of Directors will make awards no later than July 31, 2025

HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTEREST

Access to the Letter of Interest form is now available at:
<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=CHEFA>

- CHEFA utilizes the online Foundant Technologies Grant Management System. For optimal utilization please update your browser to the most recent version or utilize Google Chrome or Firefox.
- Auto-generated updates regarding your letter of interest and application will come from The Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority's Grant Management System with the email of administrator@grantinterface.com. Please allow this email in your "Safe Sender" addresses. However, do not reply to administrator@grantinterface.com. Any correspondence or questions must be directed to philanthropy@chefa.com.
- Please do not email, personally deliver, fax or mail your Letter of Interest; it must be completed online. Hard copies of the letter of interest and application will not be accepted.
- Materials submitted to CHEFA are subject to public disclosure under the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, unless an exception applies, and should not include information prohibited by HIPAA or in violation of other applicable laws or regulations.
- The Staff and Board of Directors reserve the right to request additional information as may be required during the grant program LOI/application and review process. The CHEFA reserves its sole right to modify these guidelines and the program at any time.