

# 2022 Mandiant Academy Quarterly Grant Program Request for Applications

Mandiant recognizes the value nonprofits provide in closing the cyber security skills gap by providing education opportunities to their members. To assist with their efforts, Mandiant has created a grant program to award up to 960 hours of free on-demand intelligence training to a selected nonprofit organization each quarter. These organizations may allow their members to receive the free training courses, to increase their skills in cyber security intelligence as they embark on their cyber security career and to gain skills they can apply in their current roles.

The grant window is open and Mandiant plans to award the first grant for this program in June 2022.

The on-demand intelligence training will allow nonprofit members to understand cyber intelligence fundamentals and deep dive into how to turn intelligence into action. It empowers them to build their skills and understanding of how to use intelligence across various job roles and skill levels.

To apply for the grant, please submit the following information to: [grants@mandiant.com](mailto:grants@mandiant.com) with the subject line [Relevant Quarter Application is being submitted] Mandiant Academy Grant Application.

## Required Application Components

1. A one-page letter that includes:
  - a. Organization history
  - b. Overview of organization membership base
  - c. Role of cybersecurity in organization's mission
  - d. Relevant cybersecurity initiatives within the organization
  - e. Benefit of grant to organization membership
  - f. Names and contact information of key personnel
2. Copy of IRS Form 990 or 501c3 Letter
  - a. Organizations founded in the two years prior to the date of their grant application are permitted to submit forms for only the current fiscal year, otherwise organizations should submit forms from the current and previous fiscal years
3. If applicable: Copy of State Annual Corporate Filings and Proof of "Good Standing" in state registered.
  - a. Organizations founded less than one year prior to the date of their grant application are exempt from submitting proof of "Good Standing"

Please see below for additional requirements and restrictions.

1. Overview
  - a. **Title:** Mandiant Academy Quarterly Grant Program
  - b. **Executive Summary**
    - i. *Purpose.* This Request for Applications (RFA) solicits applications to offer training to nonprofit organizations to support Mandiant's mission to increase accessibility and support in the cybersecurity landscape.
    - ii. *Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards.* Up to 960 hours (valued at \$30,000 dollars) of Mandiant On-demand Intelligence training per calendar quarter have been pledged to fund applications received in response to this FOA.

- iii. *Eligible Organizations.* U.S. based nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status.
- iv. *Number of Applications.* Applicants may submit one application each quarter. Applicants awarded a grant may not submit applications in subsequent quarters until four quarters have elapsed from the calendar quarter in which they received a grant.
  - Applications will remain valid for four calendar quarters from the date of submission. Applicants not awarded a grant in the quarter they submit their application may still be considered for grants in the next three quarters.

## 2. Training Award Information

**Access to Training.** Mandiant will provide grant awardees access to on-demand intelligence training with a combined monetary value of up to \$30,000. Awardees will be granted access to the training for a period of one year from the date training keys are provided. Mandiant plans to award the first grant in June 2022. Awardees will be responsible for distributing the training keys to their members at their discretion. Mandiant reserves the right to refuse attendance to any individual for any reason.

## 3. Eligibility Information

a. **Eligible Organizations.** Organizations that meet the following criteria are permitted to apply:

- i. U.S. membership-based nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status (Not including Higher Education Institutions)

Only one application per organization may be submitted each quarter. Umbrella organizations or entities with multiple chapters, branches, or subsidiaries may only submit one application per quarter on behalf of the entire organization/entity. Individual branches of an organization may not submit separate applications.

- ii. Applicants that have not received a grant within the past four calendar quarters
- iii. *Additional Eligibility Criteria.*
  - Cybersecurity Initiatives. Due to the nature of this grant, applicants should highlight the role of cybersecurity in their organization's mission and/or cybersecurity initiatives within their organizations.

## 4. Application and Submission Information

a. **List of Required Application Components**

- i. Copy of IRS Form 990 or 501c3 Letter
  - Organizations founded in the two years prior to the date of their grant application are permitted to submit forms for only the current fiscal year, otherwise organizations should submit forms from the current and previous fiscal years.
- ii. If applicable: Copy of State Annual Corporate Filings and Proof of "Good Standing" in state registered.
  - Organizations founded in the year prior to the date of their grant application are exempt from submitting proof of "Good Standing".

- iii. A one-page letter that includes:
  - 1. Organization history
  - 2. Overview of organization membership base including membership size and level of member engagement
  - 3. Role of cybersecurity in organization's mission
  - 4. Relevant cybersecurity initiatives within the organization
  - 5. Diversity and belonging initiatives
  - 6. Benefit of grant to organization membership
  - 7. Names and contact information of key personnel

b. **Grant Restrictions**

- i. *Training Use.* Use of training is limited to individuals who are registered members of the organization. Applicants awarded grants will be required to submit a list of membership receiving trainings prior to receiving keys to access training. All training will be subject to the terms found at [www.mandiant.com/company/legal](http://www.mandiant.com/company/legal). The reproduction or dissemination of any content from any of the Mandiant training is strictly prohibited except as provided for as part of the grant program. Keys to access training must be distributed within 90 days from the date they are received by the organization. The keys to access training are active for one year from the date of the award.
- ii. *Grant Updates.* Applicants awarded grants must provide update reports to Mandiant after 6 and 12 months from the date training keys are provided. These update reports should include the following:
  - 1. Percentage of membership who have activated and used their keys for training.
  - 2. Impact Statements. Minimum of two at the six-month mark, minimum of five at the twelve-month mark. Impact statements may not be reused from previous update reports. Impact statements are testimonies from individuals within the organization about their personal experiences with the training and the benefits they have received from being a member of an organization awarded a grant.
  - 3. Updated Membership Roster list of grantees.
    - Access keys will be terminated for members on the original roster whose names are not included on the updated roster.
  - 4. Proof of continued 'good standing' in accordance with state annual corporate filings.
- iii. *Compliance.* Failure to comply with any of the Grant Restrictions may prohibit an organization from receiving additional grants in the future.

5. Application Review Information

a. **Criteria**

- i. The criteria described below will be considered in the review process.
  - 1. Organization's cybersecurity initiatives;
  - 2. Potential impact as demonstrated by organization's membership size and level and quality of member engagement;
  - 3. Organization's demonstrated ability and commitment to the Organization's objectives;
  - 4. Organization's diversity, inclusion, and belonging (DIB) initiatives;

**b. Review and Selection Process**

- i. Applications will initially be reviewed by the Mandiant Gives Back Team as they are submitted. Applicants will be assessed on the criteria mentioned above and assigned a score. The ten highest scoring applicants will proceed in the selection process and will be notified by the Mandiant Gives Back Team. If fewer than ten applications are on file, the top half highest scoring applicants will proceed in the selection process.
- ii. Applications in the second round of the selection process will be reviewed by a team of ERG representatives. The second round of review will be conducted as a blind review, identifiable information regarding organizations shall be removed to help ensure unbiased consideration and selection. The top four applicants will proceed in the selection process and be notified by the Mandiant Gives Back Team. If fewer than four applications are reviewed in the second round, all applicants will proceed in the selection process.
- iii. Upon notification of selection as a finalist, applicants will have the opportunity to submit a presentation to the Mandiant Gives Team for review. While the submission of a presentation deck is not required, it is highly encouraged. The Team will review all application materials and select a grant awardee for the quarter.
- iv. Mandiant reserves the right in its sole discretion to determine which applications satisfy the aforementioned criteria.
- v. All decisions made by the Mandiant Give Back Team and/or the ERG representatives during the Review and Selection Process are final.

**c. Application Timeline**

	<b>Q1 Grant</b>	<b>Q2 Grant</b>	<b>Q3 Grant</b>	<b>Q4 Grant</b>
Entry Period Begins	Early January	Early April	Early July	Early October
Entry Period Ends	End of January	End of April	End of July	End of October
First Round Review Complete	Early February	Early May	Early August	Early November
Second Round Review Complete	Mid-February	Mid-May	Mid-August	Mid-November
Third Round Review Complete & Awardee Selected	Early March	Early June	Early September	Early December

**6. Award Administration Information**

**a. Award Notices**

- i. Grant awardees will be notified via email and phone (as provided by the applicant during the application process) by the Mandiant Gives Back Team shortly after selection.

**b. Grant Update Reports**

- i. Grant update reports should be shared via email by their stated deadlines.

**c. Use of Grantee name in Media**

- i. The grantee organization agrees to let Mandiant reference their organization in press releases and social media, including the following:

7. Use of the organization’s name and logo on Mandiant’s website and in other promotional materials related to the Mandiant Gives Back program and Mandiant Academy training (collectively, “Promotional Materials”);
8. Use of one or more quotes by participants in Promotional Materials;
9. Use of any content included in Impact Statements in Promotional Materials.
  - a. **Discontinuation**
    - i. Mandiant reserves the right to discontinue this grant program, or change the type or value of award, at any time and for any reason, although any such changes will not affect awards already granted. Once awarded, training keys provided as part of the awarded grant may be used until their one-year expiration, even if Mandiant has discontinued the grant program prior to the one-year expiration date.
10. **Contacts**
  - a. Mandiant Gives Back Email – grants@mandiant.com

### Revocation of Grant Awards

1. A grant award may be revoked in whole or in part for reasons including, but not limited to, the following:
  - a. Failure to follow the terms of the grant application, grant restrictions, or grant use;
  - b. Failure to follow grant update requirements; or
  - c. Failure to utilize the training for the target population as described in the grant application.
2. The revocation of a grant award is within the sole discretion of the Mandiant Gives Back Team

[See additional rules here](#)