

# CATA LYST™ 2024

ctia wireless foundation™



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

**Funding Wireless Innovation**  
**to Enhance American Communities**



## Apply for **Funding**

CTIA Wireless Foundation is seeking **ambitious early-stage social entrepreneurs** who have developed mobile-first solutions to enhance our lives and address challenges in American communities.

Wireless networks are a platform for innovation, supporting emerging technologies that are transforming our society. Mobile-first solutions powered by 5G and leading edge wireless offer a significant opportunity to make meaningful advances and tap into a powerful infrastructure for social good.

Up to six applicants will receive **unrestricted grant support**, with a first-place award of \$100,000, as well as non-financial benefits.

### PRIZES

1st Place **\$100,000**

2nd Place **\$50,000**

3rd Place **\$25,000**

**3 Honorable Mentions** will receive **\$10,000** each.

Prizes are unrestricted grant support for your wireless innovation that enhances people's lives and addresses challenges in American communities.

## What else do Catalyst **Awardees Receive?**

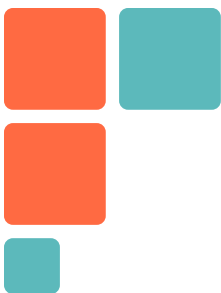
### TOP THREE WINNERS:

- A professionally produced 2-minute video profiling your social enterprise. We believe visual storytelling has the power to capture attention and advance your mobile-first solution.
- Opportunities to participate in speaking engagements and share your work with audiences that include wireless industry leaders, elected officials, and policymakers.

### WINNERS AND HONORABLE MENTIONS:

- An organizational profile posted on CTIA Wireless Foundation's website.
- Features in CTIA Member communications, including newsletters and social media channels, as well as through CTIA Wireless Foundation channels.
- Financial support to participate in Catalyst in-person events.
- Pitch coaching with a communications expert.





- Networking with CTIA Wireless Foundation board members.
- An invitation to join the Catalyst alumni network.

CTIA Wireless Foundation requires that Catalyst Winners and Honorable Mentions attend in-person events, and that Catalyst Winners participate in video production and submit brief interim and final grant reports.

### Who Should **Apply** to Catalyst?

- Social entrepreneurs using wireless technology to solve a pressing issue in American communities. The applicant's solution must be mobile-first.
- We have a preference for mobile-first solutions that are powered by 5G and leading edge wireless technology.
- Social enterprises in early-stage development; solution is beyond ideation stage and has a proof of concept.
- Founders who have lived experience with the issue their mobile-first solution addresses.
- Innovators who are addressing some of our country's biggest challenges that often impact marginalized populations the most.
- Entities that have the potential and infrastructure in place to make a real impact.
- Applicants who demonstrate a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in their business practices.
- Applicants who have experience working through business incubators, accelerators, or mentorship programs.
- We strongly encourage applications from organizations whose leadership is comprised of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color), women, and/or veterans.

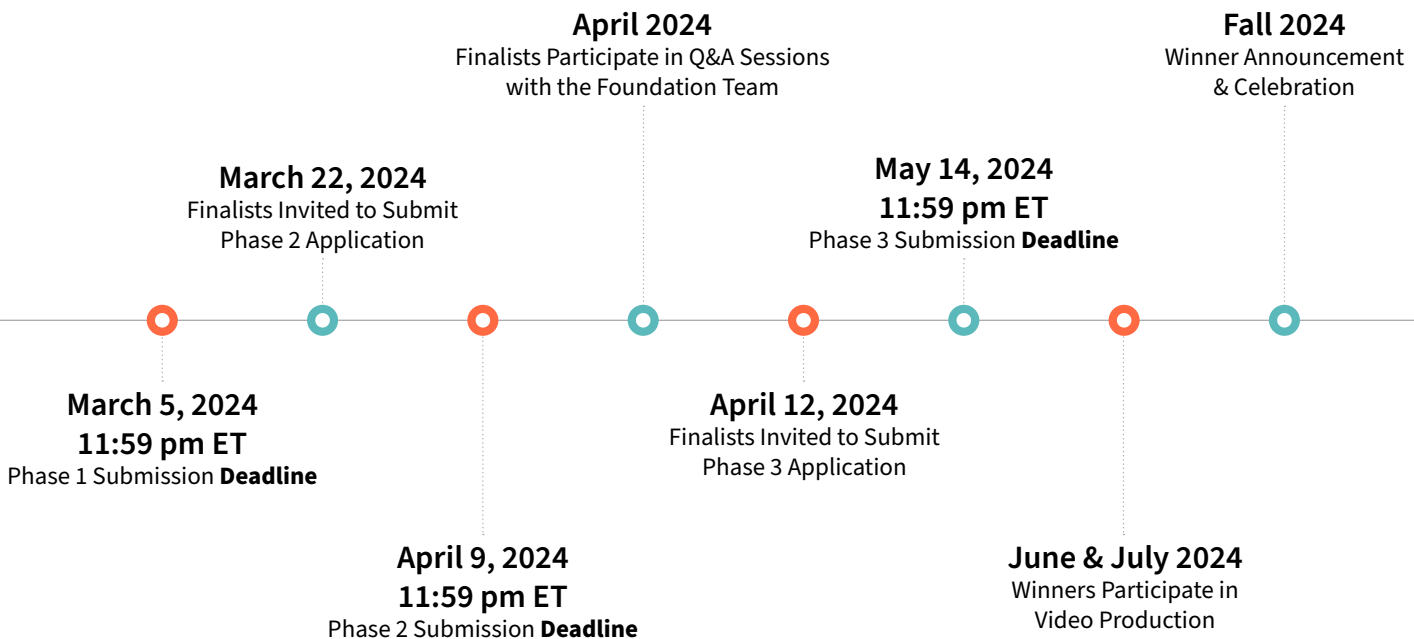
Wireless networks – and the innovations enabled by wireless connectivity — create significant opportunities to make meaningful advances and solve pressing issues.

### Who is **Eligible** to Apply to Catalyst?

- Applicants must be registered and operate in the United States and/or the United States Territories.
- Applicants must assume one of the following legal statuses:
  - Nonprofit organization;
  - For-profit organization with a demonstrated commitment to social good; or,
  - B-Corporation.

- Applicants must complete and submit the application form by the submission deadlines. The Foundation will not consider late or incomplete submissions.
- Applicants cannot be past or current CTIA members at any point in the application and awards process.
- Applicants cannot be past Catalyst Winners. Past Catalyst Honorable Mention recipients may apply.
- Individuals are not eligible to apply.

## Catalyst 2024 Timeline



## What Does the Submissions Process Look Like?

### DEADLINE

All interested organizations that meet the Catalyst eligibility requirements must complete the Phase 1 application via the [Catalyst Portal](#) no later than **March 5, 2024 at 11:59pm ET**.

### The Phase 1 application will include:

- A succinct description of the solution and how wireless technology is advancing it.
- The founder's story/the inspiration for creating the solution.
- Populations and geographic locations the organization serves.
- A profile of the organization's leadership, participation in any accelerator programs and any honors the organization has received.

CTIA Wireless Foundation will invite selected applicants, the Finalists, to proceed to Phase 2 by March 22, 2024.





### **The Phase 2 application will include:**

- A 30-90-second video pitch.

Finalists will participate in a question-and-answer session with the Foundation Team in mid to late April. This virtual meeting is an opportunity for the Foundation to learn more about your work and for you to ask questions. Finalists may revise their video pitches after the Q&A session with the Foundation Team to submit by the Phase 3 deadline.

Phase 2 applications must be submitted via the [Catalyst Portal](#) no later than **April 9, 2024 at 11:59pm ET.**

CTIA Wireless Foundation will invite Finalists to proceed to Phase 3 by April 12, 2024.

### **The Phase 3 application will include:**

- The organization's strategic goals and vision.
- Current and potential impact of the solution.
- A detailed description of populations served and issues the organization is addressing for them.
- The innovative nature and distinct value of the solution as compared to other solutions available.
- The effect a Catalyst award will have on the organization.
- Top-level financial information.
- A revised 30-90-second video pitch.

Phase 3 applications must be submitted via the [Catalyst Portal](#) no later than **May 14, 2024 at 11:59pm ET.**

All Finalists who submit a complete Phase 3 application by the deadline will receive a minimum of a \$10K unrestricted grant from the Foundation.

## **Interested in Learning More?**

### **WEBINAR**

For those interested in learning more about Catalyst, there will be two 45-minute webinars to provide an overview of Catalyst and to answer applicant questions on the following dates and times:

**Tuesday, January 30 from 12:00PM - 12:45PM ET**

**Thursday, February 22 from 3:00PM - 3:45PM ET**

### **ONLINE RESOURCES**

Visit our [website](#) for more information on Catalyst, our FAQs and to meet the [Catalyst Alumni](#).



## Legal Disclaimer

CTIA Wireless Foundation (“Foundation”) has the right to accept or reject any or all applications received as a result of this Call for Submissions. Foundation reserves the right to disqualify an application if it learns of circumstances that conflict, in fact, or in spirit, with Foundation’s goals or values. Foundation further reserves the right to award fewer grants if it determines, in its sole discretion, that an insufficient number of applications align with the overall purpose and goals of the Catalyst program. Foundation will not pay or reimburse any costs incurred by any individual and/or entity that participates in this Call for Submissions. Foundation does not endorse any Applicant (defined below) or application.

The entity submitting this application through its authorized representative (“Applicant”) grants Foundation, its affiliates, licensees, successors, and assigns (collectively, “Licensed Parties”) a perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free, sublicensable right and license to publish, reproduce, distribute, copy, modify, print, display, transmit, create derivative works from and/or otherwise use its name, likeness, image, voice, and/or appearance (and those of its authorized representatives and agents) as such may be embodied in any pictures, photos, video recordings, audiotapes, and digital images (collectively, “Licensed Items”), whether created by Foundation, provided to Foundation by Applicant, or developed with grant funds. The foregoing license includes the right for Foundation to announce grant recipients by any means it deems necessary. Foundation will not disclose any of Applicant’s nonpublic confidential, financial, or organizational staffing information, but otherwise will not be required to treat any application as confidential.

Applicant warrants that it has all the requisite rights and permissions to grant Foundation rights in the Licensed Items and that the Licensed Items are not copyright protected or otherwise subject to third party proprietary rights. Applicant agrees that Foundation may use the Licensed Items for any non-commercial purpose consistent with the Catalyst program. Such uses include social media posts, videos, press releases, interviews, illustrations, bulletins, exhibitions, publications, and all other uses in any medium now known or later developed. Applicant acknowledges that no individual or entity will receive any compensation for Foundation’s use of the Licensed Items, and Applicant hereby releases the Licensed Parties from all claims, losses or liabilities which arise out of or are connected with the use of the Licensed Items. Applicant will indemnify, defend and hold the Licensed Parties harmless from any and all loss, liability cost and expense arising from its application or Foundation’s use of the Licensed Items. Successful Applicants will be required to execute Foundation’s grant recipient agreement, setting forth additional terms and conditions, prior to receiving any grant funds.

**By submitting this Call for Submissions, Applicant agrees to be bound by all the terms contained in this Legal Disclaimer and affirms that it is at least 18 years of age.**

This Legal Disclaimer will be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia.



[www.wirelessfoundation.org/catalyst](http://www.wirelessfoundation.org/catalyst)

