



Creating impact for citizens through effective grant management

Maximize funding. Manage programs. Transform processes.

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More money, more possibilities

For grantors, grantees and citizens, having more access to government grants can be a wish come true, opening the possibilities for a greater impact on humanity. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), or Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), signed into law in 2021, [authorizes \\$1.2 trillion](#) for transportation and infrastructure grants with \$550 billion of that figure going toward “new” investments and programs.

Now funding is great news, but the grant process can be cumbersome – so cumbersome that the better option seems to be to leave the money on the table and walk away. For example, \$3.75 billion in [Pell Grants went unspent](#) by U.S. citizens in 2021. Undisbursed money creates problems for grantmakers, which creates problems for citizens in the form of incomplete projects and increased scarcity of already strained resources.

Even relatively small programs can involve tracking many applications, reviewers, requirements and payments. Further, once the grants become available, finding the relevant grant opportunities can be difficult. Grantmakers spend much of their time sorting through a barrage of opportunities and working with grantees to focus funding on areas of high impact, among other activities.

Why would citizens, university students among them, abandon their grant award cart before checking out? There are multiple reasons that can all be abated with effective grant management software. **Not all solutions are created equal, though.**

So, how are you currently managing your grant making programs?



Do you find it difficult to track so many applications, requirements, and payments?



Does your current approach waste time and contribute to other internal inefficiencies?



Could you benefit from a grant making solution that helps save time, improves processes, and transforms the way you do business?

Human impact accelerated by digital

Providing support for the seemingly impossible is the grantmakers' goal. Doing it accurately and efficiently all while ensuring compliance is the dream. This happens most effectively when they can perform common to complex administrative tasks repeatedly and at high volume through the entire grant lifecycle, particularly the post-award performance and measurement phase.

Unspent funds are just one consequence of a grant making program that is ready for a transformation. An inability to gain performance reporting insights, wasted time on manual processes, decreased productivity, workplace inefficiencies and lack of credibility with funders are all areas of improvement that can be

solved through specialized grant management software. This is just the set of management phase that comes once the grantmaker has identified the funding opportunity. The grant lifecycle also includes the finding and getting grants phases that add complexities.

A streamlined, digital solution offers grantmakers the opportunity to accelerate the awarding and subsequent tracking of grant funds that makes a greater impact for citizens.

A solution that takes the advantages of automation and returns optimized processes has far-reaching benefits. These include:



Create more positive relationships

Demonstrate better grant management operations to develop more credibility with funders.



Gain new insights

Take advantage of enhanced reporting to deliver better results-based outcomes.



Optimize funds

Gain the tools needed to demonstrate compliance with grant requirements and improve control over grant management processes.



Maximize use of resources

Automate past manual processes to save time, increase productivity, and align employees with key goals and objectives.



Achieve your mission

Deliver more meaningful results and improve your ability to contribute to your cause and achieve your mission.

Introducing Avanade's **Grant Making Solution**

Avanade – a joint venture between Accenture and Microsoft – delivers deep business, technical and advisory capability to help harness the power of people and technology. Avanade's Grant Making Solution is the effective grant management software designed to suit the needs of transformation-ready organizations. It provides a comprehensive, simple and effective end-to-end solution to create, store, link and track application and award status through the lifecycle of a grant.



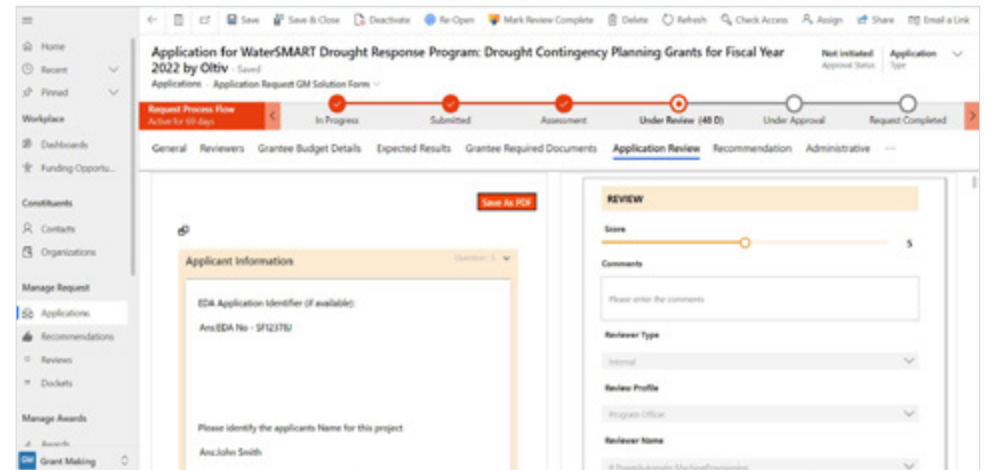
Introducing Avanade's Grant Making Solution (continued)

It delivers affordable and impactful technology for all grant making organizations, enabling digital transformation, which allows them to streamline their work and enable remote working and collaboration. It also better serves their citizens, grantees, funders and partners. It saves time, makes processes more effective, supports new ways of working, and increases transparency.

A public services-focused application built on the Microsoft Dynamics platform, Avanade's Grant Making Solution enables the connection of program delivery, funding, grant management and results measurement, which will allow organizations to, with continual use, increase the human impact of their work. When building this solution, we emphasized the user experience and ease of use.

Key differentiators include:

Simplified Application Review Interface



Facilitate the due diligence / compliance process

By providing the ability to check applicants against any of your compliance-related lists. Currently OFAC (Office of Foreign Assets Control) check and Candid's Charity check have been implemented, but the solution is configurable allowing for calls to other APIs.



A simplified application review interface

With request responses on the left panel and the reviewer scoring and comments on the right panel. This can even be embedded in Microsoft Teams so internal reviewers don't need to log into the CRM. There is also an external reviewer portal option, if needed.



Reduced implementation time and costs

Since the solution uses the Microsoft Common Data Model, enabling interoperability with other products and platforms.



Optimized workflow for meaningful results

There has been a growing emphasis on measuring grant outcomes to quantify impact and to evaluate those outcomes to empower meaningful program insights. To that effect, the solution enables grantmakers to identify standard outcomes that can be integrated into applications and progress reports.

Simplifying grant making for the public sector

Specialized grant management software acts like a Swiss Army knife with all the necessary tools in one place. These tools empower strong relationship management functionality to complement grant-tracking abilities, allowing the grantor to track and cultivate relationships with potential grantees and funders before the application process is started, simplifying management of grant making programs.



Let's follow a typical journey where a grant is created by **Paul** and then applied for by **Samantha**:



Paul creates a new grant opportunity and defines the application template, the grant requirements template and the grantee budget template. He can use the grant application and report designers to provide flexibility for multiple sections, templating, word counts, help text guidance and question branching. When complete, this is published to the grantee portal.

Samantha signs into the portal where she can track application status and due dates for grant requirements and search for new grant opportunities. The clean interface immediately shows her messages regarding the grantee organization's awards, requests or grant opportunities, allowing for two-way communication with the grantor. It will show any existing awarded grants, as well as requirements, requests and calendars for deadlines and key stages. She can keep both her and her organization's details up to date via her profile and also track scheduled payments. Samantha chooses the grant opportunities tab to apply for a grant. She follows Paul's application template criteria from general information and budget details to expected results and attachments before submitting her application.

Paul sees Samantha's application on his dashboard. As a program officer, Paul can use the application request portfolio management, which has workflows configurable by program. Upon opening the application, he follows the guidance text for each aspect within the request process flow. He moves the application to the under-review stage where reviewers can use a simplified application review interface and review a scoring. Next, final approvals are aggregated and recorded at the docket level. The request is then automatically converted to an award, and Samantha is notified.





Given the close integration between Dynamics and Microsoft Office, grantmakers can use Word and Teams to create and manage further meetings, letters, dockets and agreements for multiple stakeholders. **Paul** can use the payment and requirement schedulers to optimize the grant administration process:



The payments scheduler



Allows Paul to set up the number and frequency of the grant payments along with a start date. He can select single or multiple contributing delivery frameworks, decide which budgets to allocate disbursements from, and the system automatically generates the payments, ensuring they don't exceed available funds.



The requirement scheduler



Allows Paul to use templates or set up the numbers of progress reports and final reports or site visits required. The system auto-generates all the requirements for both the narrative and financial aspects, including scope and due dates; and these can be linked to payments and reminders for everyone involved. Samantha can see these requirements on her portal where she can fill in and submit the information, reports, goals and actual results for both the narrative and financial reports.



The dashboards



Allow an overview on the various aspects of the grant from requests, application stages and reviews to requirements, delivery and disbursements.

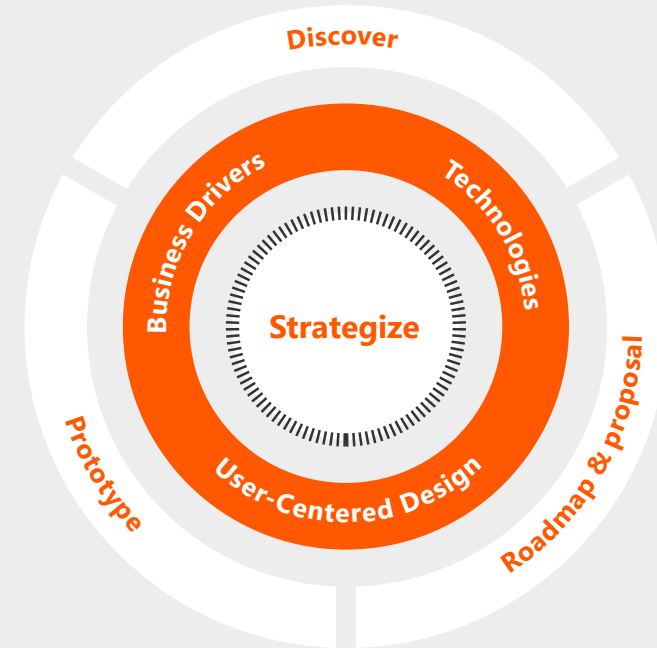
Connect with **Avanade**

Avanade's Grant Making Solution is intended to empower the human impact of grant making through digital. Avanade is a global, Microsoft-focused systems integrator. Formed in 2000 as a joint venture between Accenture and Microsoft, we bring skills, expertise and access to IP from both our parents. We have more Microsoft experts, certifications and partner awards than any other company, most recently winning 2022 Microsoft Partner of the Year, among others.

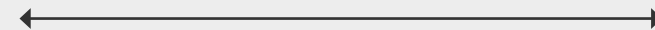
Avanade is a trusted partner to organizations looking to deploy grant making solutions. Our approach is to work side by side with clients as part of our Grant Management program, building a strategic relationship as a long-term partner.

Our objective is to enable your people through digital transformation, delivering on your goal to create lasting prosperity in the lives of your citizens. We achieve this through a unique industry-led solution to grant management that is functionally rich and built by years of grant making experience. It provides close integration with the entire Microsoft suite, including Office, SharePoint, Teams and Power BI. This highly modular solution can be introduced piece by piece and customized to suit organizational needs.

Envisioning



**Define the vision and requirements,
achieve consensus with key stakeholders**



Let's connect with your team for a complimentary envisioning workshop and proof of concept to discuss how **Avanade's Grant Making Solution** can help you take advantage of an influx of funding opportunities.

Please get in touch.

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About Avanade

Avanade is the leading provider of innovative digital, cloud and advisory services, industry solutions and design-led experiences across the Microsoft ecosystem. Every day, our 56,000 professionals in 26 countries make a genuine human impact for our clients, their employees and their customers. With the most Microsoft certifications (60,000+) and 18 (out of 18) Gold-level Microsoft competencies, we are uniquely positioned to help businesses grow and solve their toughest challenges. As a responsible business, we are building a sustainable world and helping young people from under represented communities fulfill their potential. Avanade was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation. Learn more at www.avanade.com.

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