



## Assisted Living Competitive Grant Process

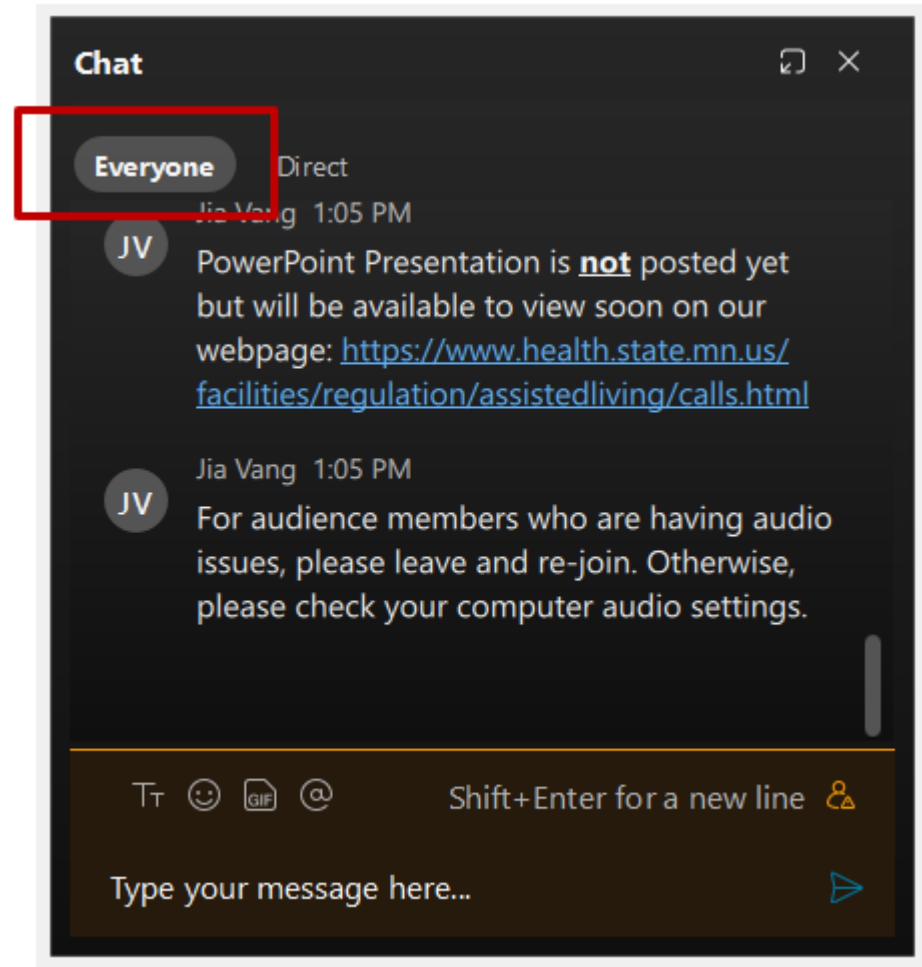
Daphne Ponds | Executive Regional Manager, State

# Webex Participants

**Participants are muted.**

**To ask a question**, click on the chat bubble to open the chat, select “Everyone”, and ask a question or provide a comment. Messages sent privately may not be addressed due to logistics.

We will answer as many questions as we can at the end of our time today.



# Webex Purpose

Today's Webex will provide preliminary information about a new competitive grant program administered by MDH and will help potential applicants begin thinking about grant ideas.

Further information on the application process and implementation timeline will be shared in the coming weeks.



- Assisted Living Competitive Grant Program Purpose & Funding
- Applicant Eligibility Requirements
- Proposed Grant Program Timeline (1st Round)
- Eligible Uses for Grant Funds
- Grant Application
- Tips for Success





## Grant Program Purpose & Funding

# Grant Program Purpose

- In 2025, the Minnesota Legislature directed that the remaining balance of a special revenue account containing assisted living licensing correction order fine revenues be appropriated to the Commissioner of Health (MDH). These funds are to be used to establish a competitive grant program under Minnesota Statutes, section 144G.31.
- The purpose is to establish an on-going grant program to support special projects or initiatives that improve quality of care and resident outcomes in licensed assisted living facilities. Funded projects or initiatives must advance quality, safety, and positive outcomes for assisted living residents.



# Grant Program Projects or Initiatives

The MN Legislature references Minn. Stat. 144A.4799, Subd. 3(c) for what types of special projects or initiatives may fulfill the grant program purpose.

- Training programs for licensees and their employees.
- Develop and implement information technology and data projects.
- Improve communications strategies to licensees and the public.
- Recruit and retain direct care staff.
- Recommend education related to the care of vulnerable adult.
- Benefits residents, families, and the public in other ways.

# Grant Funding

- As of January 1, 2026, the balance in the special revenue account must be appropriated for grants within two years, provided there are enough grant requests totaling the sum in the account.
- After the first two years, money in the special revenue account must be appropriated annually.
- As of January 1, 2026, the special revenue account for assisted living grant awards is \$3.6 million dollars.
- Up to 10% of the \$3.6 million may be utilized by MDH to administer the grant program. MDH expenses will be dependent on the number of applications MDH staff must review, process, and monitor disbursements.





2026 AL Competitive Grant Timeline

# AL Competitive Grant 2026 *Proposed* Timeline

2026 Date	Task	Responsible Party
January 15	Informational Webinar	MDH
January 16 - March 2	Locate/Apply for SWIFT #   Gather product/service quotes	Applicant
March 2	Grant application submission opens	MDH
March 2 - May 29	Grant applications submitted	Applicant
March 2 - May 29	Application pre-screening begins	MDH
May 29	Grant application submission closes	MDH
June 1 - August 31	Grant applications reviewed and awardees selected	MDH
By September 30	Grants awarded to selected grantees	MDH

*Dates subject to change.*



## Applicant Eligibility Requirements

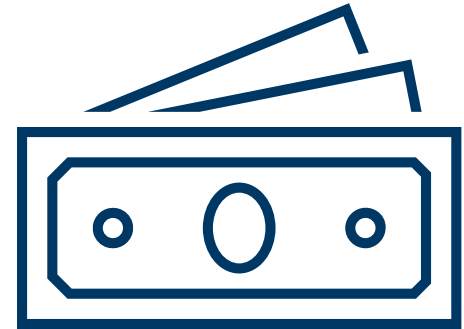


# Eligible Applicants

- Licensed Assisted Living Facilities or Assisted Living Facilities with Dementia Care under [Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144G](#).
  - *Provisional licensees are **not** eligible. Once a facility completes and passes their initial survey and are issued their full license, they are welcome to apply.*
- Organizations or entities with demonstrated experience or knowledge in assisted living operations, compliance, resident needs, or best practices.

# Minimum Eligible Dollar Amount

- The *minimum* amount of a grant award is \$10,000 per statute.
- There is no cap on a grant award in statute, however, MDH will review the totality of the dollar amount of the total received grant applications to award grants in a fair and equitable way to as many eligible grantees as possible.





# Eligible Reimbursements

To align with Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) contractual requirements:

- Grant funds may only be used for projects or initiatives that begin after the grant is awarded.
- Retroactive funding is not allowed; projects or initiatives that are already completed or currently in progress are not eligible for reimbursement.
- Only MDH approved expenses incurred after the fully executed grant date may be charged to the grant.

# SWIFT Supplier ID Required

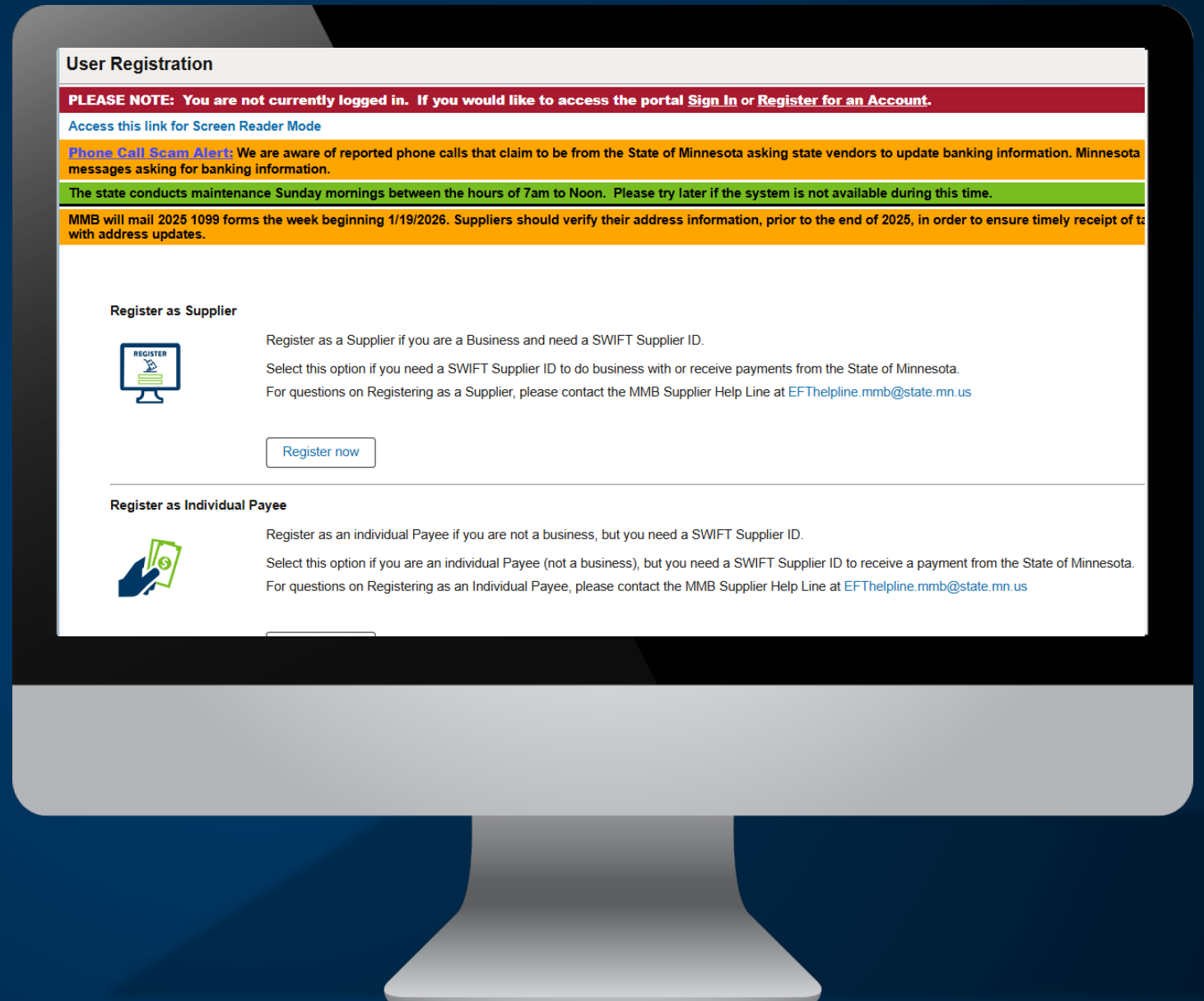
**Applicants who do not have a valid supplier/vendor ID will not move past the initial review of the application and will not be under consideration for this grant award until a valid supplier/vendor ID is created by MMB.**

Applicants will need to enter this number when they fill out the Assisted Living Competitive Grant Application.

It takes a few days to process the request and receive the vendor ID. MDH encourages applicants to register in advance so that you have it available when the application form opens on March 2, 2026.

# SWIFT: How to Register

To register for a vendor ID, visit the [Minnesota Management and Budget \(MMB\) Supplier/Vendor Portal](#); instructions for registering can be found in the [SWIFT Quick Reference Guide: Register as a Supplier \(PDF\)](#).



# Eligibility - Key Takeaways

Eligible applicants must:

- ✓ Be a ***fully licensed*** ALF or ALFDC or an organization or entity with knowledge/experience with assisted living operations, compliance, resident needs, or best practices.
- ✓ Request at least \$10,000 or more.
- ✓ Grants may only be awarded for future expenses.
- ✓ Must have a SWIFT Supplier ID to process the application and grant award.



Eligible Uses for Grant Funds



# Allowable Uses of Grant Funds

Based on statutory purpose of the competitive grant program to advance quality, safety, and resident outcomes in assisted living and 144G regulatory requirements, the applicants will select one of six categories on the grant application that best fits their project or initiative:

- ☐ Capital Investments
- ☐ Staff, Resident, and Family Education and Training
- ☐ Compensation (e.g., for temporary staffing needs or consultation needs)
- ☐ Quality Initiatives
- ☐ Information Technology, Data, and Communications
- ☐ New and Replacement Equipment

# Supporting Documentation for Use of Grant Funds

At the time of application, the grant applicant should provide:

- Any supporting documentation that best describes the project or initiative.
- A description of expenses anticipated to be reimbursed that adds up to the total requested dollar amount.
- At least one quote from any business or consultant with whom the applicant may seek third-party assistance for the project or initiative that supports the grant dollar amount requested; at least two quotes preferred for future capital investment projects.

# Project/Initiative Timeline

The project or initiative should be fully implemented and/or completed no later than 12 months from the date the grant is awarded.



# Capital Investments

Grantees will be reimbursed for capital investment projects initiated on a date after the grant is fully executed.

Eligible projects must sustain operations and maintain compliance with statutory or code requirements, including but not limited to:

- Installation or upgrades of **sprinkler systems** (initial, partial, or full system improvements).
- **Architectural Life Safety Code plan** drafting or consulting to assist with compliance.
- **Kitchen upgrades** to meet Minnesota Food Code requirements.
- **Replacement or modernization** of aging mechanical, electrical, or plumbing system.
- **Replacement or modernization** of the building or property, such as sidewalk repair, door replacements, elevator installation/repair, or similar.

# Staff, Resident, and Family Education and Training

Grantees will be reimbursed for systemic education and/or training initiatives for staff, residents, and/or families of assisted living residents initiated after the grant is fully executed.

Projects must aim to improve and enhance quality care and/or provide technical assistance to improve compliance with statutory requirements and/or clinical care standards. Examples include, but not limited to:

- Comprehensive **training programs** on resident care practices, safety, infection control, and compliance.
- **Family education** sessions focused on understanding care standards and resident rights.
- Development of **training materials or curriculum** to support ongoing staff competency.



# Compensation

Grantees will be reimbursed for compensation projects or initiatives initiated after the grant is fully executed.

Grantees will be reimbursed for limited employee or contract compensation expenses necessary to sustain operations or improve compliance with statutory and clinical care standards.

Eligible expenses include, but not limited to:

- **Consultants** engaged to provide technical assistance, mock surveys, or compliance support.
- **Temporary staffing** support to maintain or improve resident care and regulatory compliance during critical periods.

# Quality Initiatives

Grantees will be reimbursed for quality improvement projects or initiatives initiated after the grant is fully executed.

These projects should focus on improving resident outcomes, enhancing quality care, and supporting compliance with statutory and clinical care standards. Examples include, but not limited to:

- Development of **quality management programs** and performance metrics.
- Implementation of **resident satisfaction or outcomes tracking systems**.
- Initiatives that address **identified trends or deficiencies** in care or operations.

# Information Technology, Data, and Communications

Grantees will be reimbursed for information technology, data, and communication projects initiated after the grant is fully executed.

These initiatives should support improved data management, compliance tracking, or resident care outcomes. Examples include, but not limited to:

- **Electronics** to aid staff with resident cares staff and for resident use, such as laptops, cell phones, or Wi-Fi assistive technologies.
- **Hardware, software, or systems** designed to improve regulatory compliance, data analysis, or quality management.
- **Development of communication tools or platforms** to enhance engagement with residents, families, and staff.

# New and Replacement Equipment

Grantees will be reimbursed for the purchase of new or replacement supplies, services, and/or equipment acquired after the grant is fully executed.

Eligible expenses include, but not limited to:

- **Medical equipment** supporting resident health and safety.
- **Life safety equipment**, such as alarms or emergency response systems.
- **Infection control equipment**, including disinfection systems and protective devices.
- Furniture and appliances, such as tables/chairs, lounge furniture, kitchen prep equipment/counters, refrigeration, dishwasher, stove, serving carts, lounge piano/TV, etc.



Grant Application



# Assisted Living Competitive Grant Program Webpage

Assisted Living Competitive  
Grant Program  
([https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/assisted\\_living/alcompgrant.html](https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/assisted_living/alcompgrant.html))

The screenshot displays the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) website. At the top left is the MDH logo. To its right is a search bar with the placeholder text "I am looking for...". Below the logo is a navigation menu icon and the word "MENU". A breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Health Care Facilities, Providers and In... > Facility Certification, Regulation and Li... The main content area is titled "Assisted Living Competitive Grant Program". Below the title is a paragraph: "The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is pleased to announce the upcoming launch of the Assisted Living Competitive Grant Program, established under new legislation effective Jan. 1, 2026. (See [Minnesota Statutes, section 144G.31](#)). This program supports projects and initiatives that improve resident quality of care and outcomes in assisted living settings licensed under [Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144G](#), or organizations with experience in assisted living operations, compliance, resident needs, or best practices." Below this is a section titled "Program Information" with a link "Expand All". There are two expandable sections: "Program Purpose" and "Eligible Applicants". On the left side of the page, there is a sidebar titled "ASSISTED LIVING LICENSURE" containing links: "Assisted Living Licensure Home", "Advisory Council", "Application Materials", "Forms and Self-Audit Tools", "Info for Consumers, Families, and Caregivers", "Laws and Statutes", "License Relocation", "License Renewal", "Related Agencies, Boards, & Associations", "Resources and FAQs", "Teleconference Calls", and "Contact Us". Below this is a section titled "RELATED SITES" with links: "Health Care Provider Evaluation and Investigation Results", "Engineering Services for Assisted Living Facilities", and "Health Care Facilities, Providers and Insurance".

**ASSISTED LIVING LICENSURE**

- [Assisted Living Licensure Home](#)
- [Advisory Council](#)
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## Assisted Living Competitive Grant Program

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### Program Information

[Expand All](#)

Program Purpose ▼

Eligible Applicants ▼

# Grant Application Details

MDH has a projected date to open the form to receive applications of March 2, 2026.

The AL Competitive Grant application will be a web-based form. The application link will be emailed out to licensees and stakeholders on current email distribution lists and posted on the our MDH webpage.

If you do not receive a link to the application, you can get the link by:

- Emailing [assistedlivinggrant.mdh@state.mn.us](mailto:assistedlivinggrant.mdh@state.mn.us) on or after March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Visiting our webpage: [Assisted Living Competitive Grant Program \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/assistedliving/alcompgrant.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/assistedliving/alcompgrant.html)

# MDH Application Screening

- ✓ Does the applicant have a valid Swift ID?
- ✓ If a licensee, does the applicant have a valid ALF/ALFDC license?
- ✓ Is the requested dollar amount, \$10,000 or more?
- ✓ Are all required application fields complete?

# Necessary Application Information

- ✓ Legal Name of Organization, Business Address, City, State, Zip Code
- ✓ Email Address and Phone Number
- ✓ Federal Tax ID (FEIN)
- ✓ 10-digit Swift Supplier ID, 3-digit SWIFT Location Code & Address
- ✓ Grant Fund Amount Requested
- ✓ Grant Fund Category
- ✓ Brief Summary of Proposed Project of Initiative

# Necessary Application Documents

- ✓ Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form (see AL Competitive Grant Program website)
- ✓ Due Diligence Review Form (see AL Competitive Grant Program website)
- ✓ Supporting Documentation Describing Project Plan
- ✓ Quotes to Support Dollar Amount Requested

*Name your documents so MDH can easily identify what the document is and the associated applicant. See examples in **Tips for Success** section.*



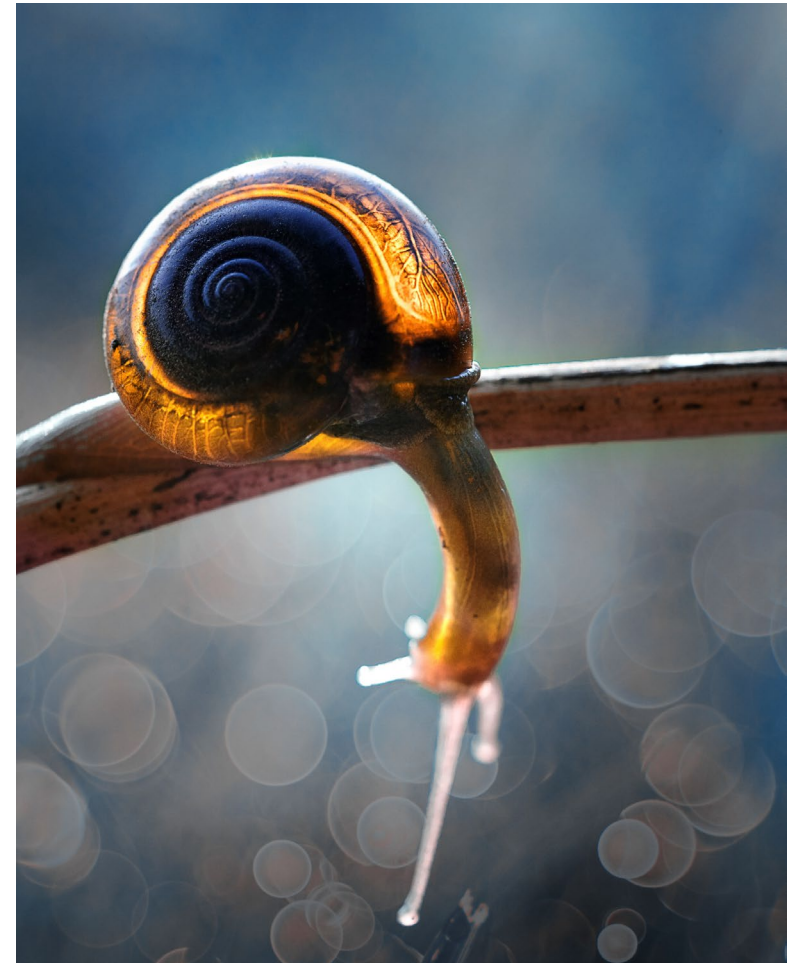
## Who should be completing the application?

Application submission requires that the person submitting the form is indicating they are **the current owner, or an authorized agent** of the facility, organization, or entity identified in the application.



# Don't Rush!

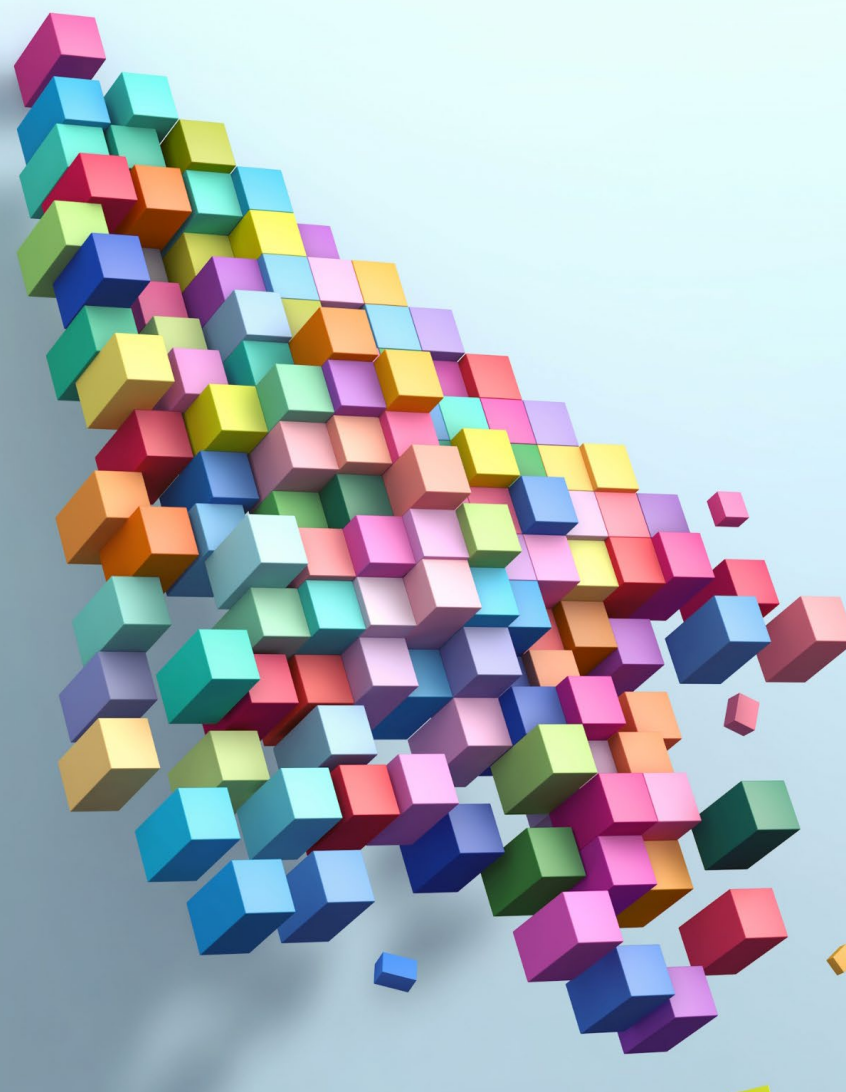
- Grant Awards are NOT first come, first served.
- Please take your time, make sure you have everything you need and that your information is correct.



# MDH Application Criteria

After initial pre-screening of applications, MDH will review the applications and supporting documentation. Some criteria for consideration will be:

- ✓ Does the project/initiative support the purpose of the competitive grant?
- ✓ Is there sufficient descriptive information for MDH to determine how the grant funds will be utilized?
- ✓ Do the submitted expense quotes align with the request award amount?
- ✓ Are all required documents (conflict of interest, due diligence forms, etc.) complete?



Tips for Success

# What You Can Do Now To Prepare

- Get a Swift ID and/or make sure your current SWIFT ID works.
- Research your project idea and obtain quotes for your project.
- Contact Person for Project (see slide).
- Request Amount
- Name your documents so we know what the document is, and what licensee, organization, or entity we know exactly who they belong to (see slides).



# Contact Person

Provide the Legal Name and Contact Information of the individual MDH can contact regarding questions about your request.

- Name
- Position/Title
- Phone Number
- Email Address



# Document Naming - Facility Examples

## Supporting Documentation:

- HFID\_Facility Name\_Quote1
  - Example: 12345\_XYZ Assisted Living\_Quote1
  - Example: 12345\_XYZ Assisted Living\_Quote2
  - Example: 12345\_XYZ Assisted Living\_Floor Plans1

## Conflict of Interest:

- HFID\_Facility Name\_Conflict of Interest
  - Example: 12345\_XYZ Assisted Living\_Conflict of Interest

# Document Naming- Organization Examples

## Supporting Documentation:

- Organization Name\_Quote1
  - Example: ABC Care of MN\_Quote1
  - Example: ABC Care of MN \_Quote2

## Conflict of Interest:

- Organization Name\_Conflict of Interest
  - ABC Care of MN \_Conflict of Interest

## Email Questions Here

Questions specific to the  
Assisted Living Competitive Grant  
Process

[assistedlivinggrant.mdh@state.mn.us](mailto:assistedlivinggrant.mdh@state.mn.us)

## Future Educational Sessions

Late February (Date TBD):

- Grant application logistics

Late March (Date TBD):

- Q&A session

Late Summer/Early Fall 2026:

- Grant award monitoring and expense verification



Questions?



# Thank You!

**Daphne Ponds**

[assistedlivinggrant.mdh@state.mn.us](mailto:assistedlivinggrant.mdh@state.mn.us)