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What are
SEEDS
Grants?

Small-scale (\$5,000 to \$10,000) **capacity building** grants.

Short-term investment: 6 to 12 months.
Could lead to long-term opportunity.

Innovative: Something new; not something what is already being done.

Partnership to initiate the Council's Five-Year Plan. **Technical assistance provided.**

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What is required for a SEEDS Grant?

- Must align with the DD Council's Five-Year State Plan.
- Must be (or have as a sponsor) a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
- Must have a 25% non-federal match. Can be in-kind.
- Must support the values of the DD ACT
 - Self-determination
 - Productivity
 - Independence
 - Community Inclusion



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Emphasis in Round 7

- **Addressing the Needs of Individuals with Complex Disabilities:** Projects that support customized employment, entrepreneurial opportunities, and/or ongoing skill developmental for individuals who have complex disabilities and/or high support needs.
- **Health and Wellness:** Primary prevention projects that support wellness and address the health disparities faced by people with developmental disabilities.
- **Outreach and Promotions of Alternatives to Guardianship:** Project that raise-awareness about supported decision making and other alternatives to guardianship through a targeted outreach campaign that includes transition-age students, family caregivers, special education staff, primary care practitioners, and disability support providers.

This is not an exclusive list!

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Appropriate Activities

- **Training.** Recipients of training can be people with disabilities, families, professionals or para-professionals, members of the public. You should be able to show the benefit of the training.
Costs: training, technology, space, materials.
- **Outreach and Public Information.** Increasing awareness about a service or practice that people did not know about before.
Costs: marketing consultant, market research, creation of materials
- **Strategic Planning.** Creating a plan to increase capacity or stabilize an organization.
Costs: Facilitator, consultant, meeting costs, information gathering.

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Appropriate Activities, cont.

- **Demonstration Project (pilot).** Show how a best or promising practice could work. MUST be able to show positive outcome. Should be able to show that the project is “scalable,” and could be replicated if there is interest and funding.

NOTE: Additional requirement is that the application include a letter of intent from an entity (state government agency, non-profit, etc.) indicating their interest in evaluating your project for expansion or implementation in other regions.

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Applying for SEEDS Grant

Narrative: Use form or address the same questions.

Budget: Basic project budget, showing match at 25% of the project total.

Transmittal letter

- Terms are accepted.
- Agency agrees to standard state grant agreement requirements (Attachments)
- Federal tax ID, DUNS number, and SAM's number.

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Scoring your SEEDS Proposal

Question	Points
Does the project result in greater capacity to serve Vermonters with I/DD?	20
Is the proposal innovative, new?	15
Does the proposal support a part of the Five-Year Plan?	10
Does it support a Round 7 priority?	10
Are people with I/DD or family members in a leadership role?	10
Does the organization or staff have the right skills and capacity to succeed?	15
Will the project result in a product or measurable outcome?	10
Is the budget reasonable?	<u>10</u>
	100

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Your
questions

