



Innovate To Grow

**U.S. Soccer Innovate to Grow
Application Guide**

August 2026

U.S. Soccer Innovate to Grow Application Guide

Table of Contents

Innovate to Grow Portal	1
Portal	1
Previewing the Application	2
User Accounts & Organization Profiles	3
Creating Your User Account & Logging In	3
Creating Your Organization Profile (Option 1)	5
Creating Your Organization Profile Using Guidestar (Option 2)	6
Viewing & Editing Your Organization Profile	8
Logging in to Start Your Application as a Returning Applicant	9
Innovate to Grow Application	10
Beginning Your Application	10
Adding Collaborators	12
Completing Your Application	14
Returning to an Application In Progress	17
Reviewing Your Application	18
Submitting Your Application	19
Submitting Multiple Applications	21
What Happens Next?	22

Questions on the Innovate to Grow application process or
experiencing technical difficulties?
Contact us at ITGFund@ussoccer.org.

Innovate to Grow Portal

Portal

U.S. Soccer has a dedicated portal to facilitate the application, review, award, and reporting processes for Innovate to Grow. You can access the portal [here](#). Your landing page should look similar to the screenshot below.

(NOTE: Throughout this application guide, you will see “Test Mode Active” across the top of some of the images of the platform. Applicants will not see this header when using the portal.)

The screenshot shows the U.S. Soccer Innovate to Grow Portal. At the top, there is a header with the U.S. Soccer logo, the text "Innovate To Grow", and navigation links for "Opportunities" and "More". A "Log In" button is in the top right corner. Below the header, a blue banner indicates "Test Mode Active". The main content area has a breadcrumb trail "Applications / Innovate to Grow" and three tabs: "Program Info" (selected), "Eligibility Check", and "Intake Forms". The "Program Info" section features a green "Apply" button in the top right corner. The main text area contains a notice about the 2026-27 application cycle opening on Monday, August 10 and closing on Tuesday, September 8 at 5 PM ET. It also includes a "PROGRAM OVERVIEW" section with a bulleted list of eligibility requirements for U.S. Soccer Member Organizations. The list includes: All member dues through FY27 paid as of application close date; Player data submitted to the Soccer Data Platform (for organizations that register players); SafeSport incorporated into organization's personal conduct policies (to be submitted as part of application process); and Current ITG recipients must be up to date with reporting as of the July 31, 2026 reporting due date for reports on activities through June 2026 (must be received but can still be under review). Below the list, there is a paragraph about the Soccer Data Platform and a final paragraph stating that organizations not U.S. Soccer Member Organizations must partner with one of U.S. Soccer's 114 non-Professional League Member Organizations to submit applications on their behalf.

USA Innovate To Grow Opportunities More Log In

Test Mode Active

Applications / Innovate to Grow

Program Info Eligibility Check Intake Forms

Program Info Apply

THE APPLICATION FOR THE 2026-27 CYCLE WILL OPEN MONDAY, AUGUST 10 AND CLOSE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 5PM ET. LATE APPLICATIONS MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED BY U.S. SOCCER. IF YOU NEED TO EDIT AN APPLICATION AFTER YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED IT, PLEASE CONTACT ITGFUND@USSOCCER.ORG.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

All U.S. Soccer Member Organizations who are in good standing, except Professional Leagues, are eligible to apply for Innovate to Grow funding. Good standing is defined as:

- All member dues through FY27 paid as of application close date
- Player data submitted to the Soccer Data Platform (for organizations that register players)
- SafeSport incorporated into organization's personal conduct policies (to be submitted as part of application process)
- Current ITG recipients must be up to date with reporting as of the July 31, 2026 reporting due date for reports on activities through June 2026 (must be received but can still be under review)

The Soccer Data Platform, which has replaced the National Data Center, is live. U.S. Soccer is currently working with registration platform vendors on connectivity; no action is needed by Member Organizations at this time. However, successful applicants will be required to connect their data for their grant to be released. If the organization and / or its registration platform vendor are actively working with U.S. Soccer to reconnect player data but have not yet completed the process by the time the grant is awarded, this requirement will be considered satisfied.

If organizations who are not U.S. Soccer Member Organizations are interested in utilizing ITG funds, they must partner with one of U.S. Soccer's 114 non-Professional League Member Organizations who will submit on their behalf. The U.S. Soccer Member Organization will assume primary legal, fiscal, and compliance responsibilities for the grant. Any clubs or leagues affiliated with a U.S. Soccer Member Organization must submit applications with the approval and support of that Member Organization. Applications submitted without the Member Organization's agreement and support will not be considered.

Previewing the Application

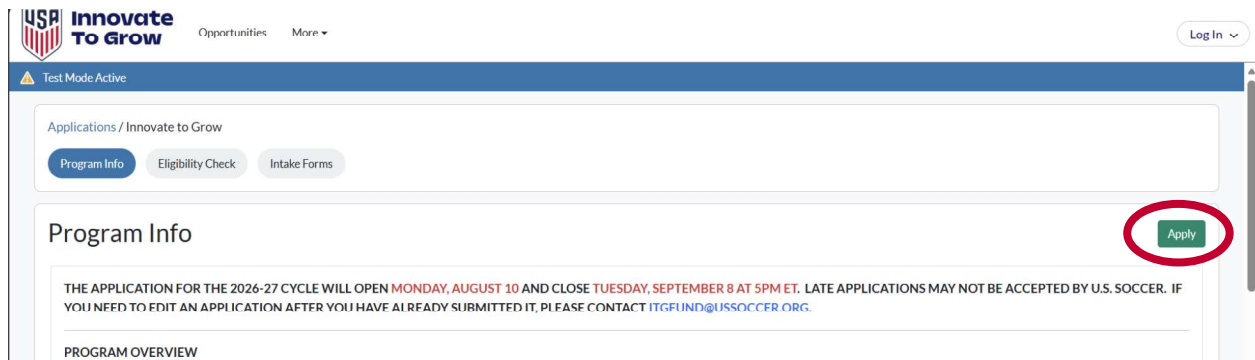
You can preview the application before logging in to the portal by selecting “**Intake Forms**” from the top bar. To view a specific section of the application, click the **View** button for that section. You can download a PDF of the application preview by clicking the down arrow next to “**Application**” followed by the **Download Preview** button. When previewing the application, please note that not all fields may be visible when you apply, as some will only show based on your responses to previous items.

The screenshot displays the USA Soccer Innovate to Grow application portal. At the top, the USA Soccer logo and "Innovate To Grow" text are visible, along with "Opportunities" and "More" links. A "Log In" button is in the top right corner. A blue banner indicates "Test Mode Active". Below this, a navigation bar shows "Applications / Innovate to Grow" with three tabs: "Program Info", "Eligibility Check", and "Intake Forms". The "Intake Forms" tab is selected and circled in red. A blue banner below the tabs states: "You are currently previewing the application. [Apply Now](#)". The main content area is titled "Application" with a dropdown arrow, circled in red. Below the title, it says "APPLICATIONS ARE PREVIEWED HERE. If you have submitted it, please click the Download Preview button." A "Download Preview" button with a download icon is visible. To the right, a green "Apply" button is present. Below this, a paragraph states: "By submitting an application, you agree to allow U.S. Soccer to disclose information about your program publicly if awarded a grant, not to include detailed financial information or any information identified as proprietary. You also agree to make program resources available via the Soccer Forward Resource Hub." At the bottom, there are two sections: "Program Information" and "Executive Summary", each with a "View" button.

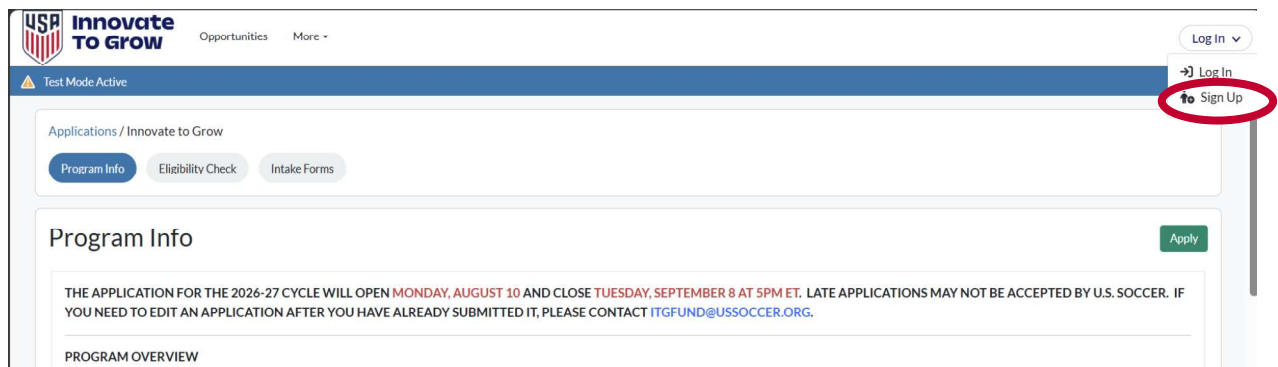
User Accounts & Organization Profiles

Creating Your User Account & Logging In

The first time that you visit the portal, you will be required to create a log in. You can do so either by clicking the green **Apply** button at the top right of page...



... or by clicking the down arrow next to “Log In” and selecting “Sign Up.”



To create your account, make sure you are on the **“I’m a new user”** tab and enter your information before clicking the **Create Account** button at the bottom.

The screenshot shows the 'Create an account for U.S. Soccer' form. At the top, there are two tabs: 'I'm a new user' (selected) and 'I already have an account'. Below the tabs is the title 'Create an account for U.S. Soccer'. The first option is 'Signup with Google'. Below this is an 'OR' separator. The form fields include: 'First name' (Test), 'Last name' (User), 'Email' (test@test.com), 'Phone' (3128675309), 'Password' (masked with dots), and 'Confirm' (masked with dots). Below the password fields is a note: 'Use 6 or more characters, including at least one upper case character and one lower case character and one digit.' At the bottom is a 'Create Account' button. Below the button is a link: 'You agree to the software's [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).'

If your email address is connected to a Google account, if desired, you can click **“Signup with Google”** at the top of the account creation box instead of entering your information and follow the steps to connect your Innovate to Grow portal account to your Google account.

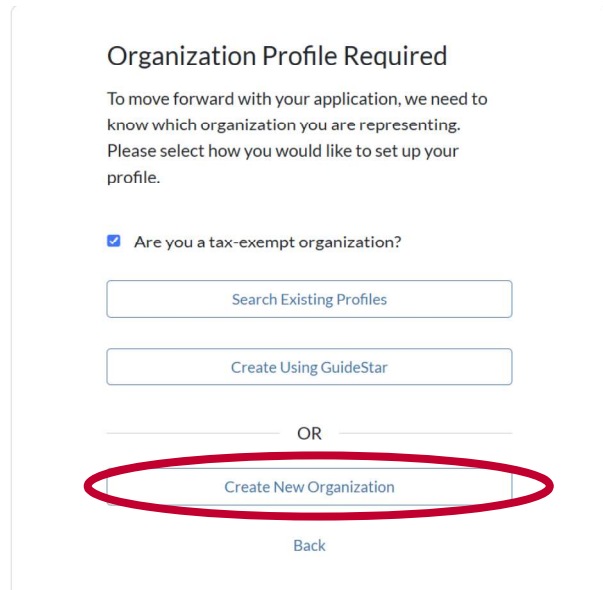
Your account must be verified before you will be logged in to the portal. You will receive an email from U.S. Soccer with a six-digit code. Enter this code on the verification screen to complete your account setup. Email accounts must be verified within 10 minutes of receipt of the verification email. This will only be required the first time that you log in.

If you are a returning user, you can log in on the **“I already have an account”** tab.

The screenshot shows the 'Log in to U.S. Soccer' form. At the top, there are two tabs: 'I'm a new user' and 'I already have an account' (selected). Below the tabs is the title 'Log in to U.S. Soccer'. The first option is 'Login with Google'. Below this is an 'OR' separator. The form field is 'Email or phone' (test@test.com) with a password icon. Below the field is a 'Next' button. Below the button is a link: 'You agree to the software's [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).'

Creating Your Organization Profile (Option 1)

The first time that your organization accesses the portal, you will need to create the organization profile. To begin, click **Create New Organization** at the bottom of the screen.



Organization Profile Required

To move forward with your application, we need to know which organization you are representing. Please select how you would like to set up your profile.

☒ Are you a tax-exempt organization?

Search Existing Profiles

Create Using GuideStar

OR

Create New Organization

Back

To create your profile, you will enter the following information:

- Organization Legal Name
- Organization Type – 501(c)3, 501(c)4, or Other (if Other, you will be required to specify)
- Organization EIN (if you are 501(c)3 or 501(c)4, optional)
- Organization Mailing Address (street address, city, state, ZIP)
- Primary Contact – this should be the individual who is the primary contact for the organization (but may not necessarily be the primary contact for the application; you will have the opportunity to indicate the primary application contact as part of the application)
- Organization Signatory – this should be the individual at the organization who is the primary signatory authority

Once you have completed the required fields, click **“Create Organization”** to save your profile.

Creating Your Organization Profile Using GuideStar (Option 2)

If your organization has an up to date [GuideStar](#) profile, you can also use that information to start your Organization Profile. To do so, enter either or your organization name or EIN to search for your organization and click the **Search** button.

Find Your Organization

To continue, please locate your organization. You can search by legal name or any recognized organization identifier.

☐ Search by Organization Name

☒ Search by Organization EIN

13-5591991

Search

OR

Create New Organization

Back

To access the GuideStar profile, find the correct entry from the search results and click the **View** button for that entry.

USA Innovate To Grow

Opportunities Applications Your Awards More

Rahwa Hassen

Top 1 results for

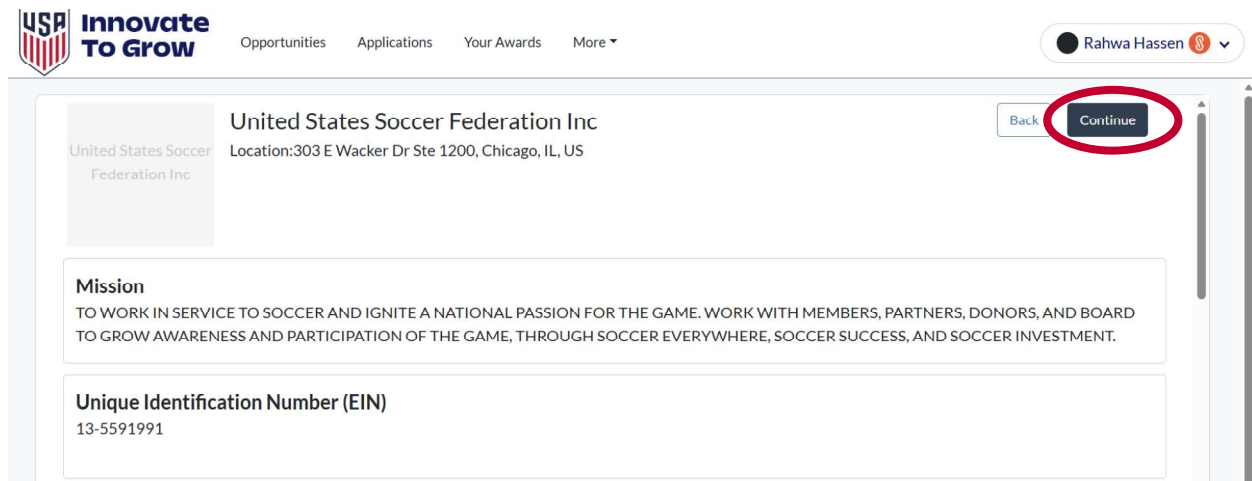
United States Soccer Federation Inc

TO WORK IN SERVICE TO SOCCER AND IGNITE A NATIONAL PASSION FOR THE GAME. WORK WITH MEMBERS, PARTNERS, DONORS, AND BOARD TO GROW AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION OF THE GAME, THROUGH SOCCER EVERYWHERE, SOCCER SUCCESS, AND SOCCER INVESTMENT.

EIN:13-5591991
Location:Chicago, IL, US
As On:7/17/2026, 2:47 PM

View

Click the dark blue **Continue** button on the following page to transfer the applicable GuideStar profile items over to your Organization Profile.

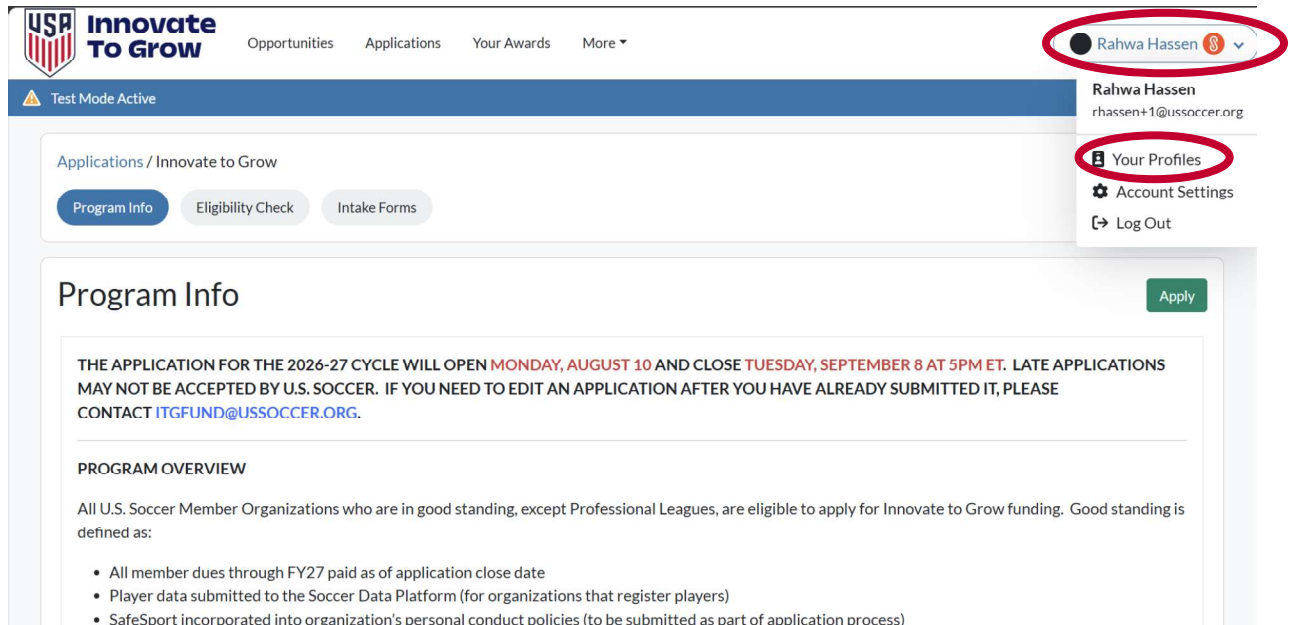


The screenshot shows the 'USA Innovate To Grow' application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the USA logo, the text 'Innovate To Grow', and links for 'Opportunities', 'Applications', 'Your Awards', and 'More'. On the right side of the navigation bar, there is a user profile for 'Rahwa Hassen' with a dropdown arrow. The main content area displays the organization's name, 'United States Soccer Federation Inc', and its location, '303 E Wacker Dr Ste 1200, Chicago, IL, US'. Below this, there is a 'Mission' section with the text: 'TO WORK IN SERVICE TO SOCCER AND IGNITE A NATIONAL PASSION FOR THE GAME. WORK WITH MEMBERS, PARTNERS, DONORS, AND BOARD TO GROW AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION OF THE GAME, THROUGH SOCCER EVERYWHERE, SOCCER SUCCESS, AND SOCCER INVESTMENT.' and a 'Unique Identification Number (EIN)' section with the value '13-5591991'. In the top right corner of the main content area, there are two buttons: 'Back' and 'Continue'. The 'Continue' button is dark blue and is circled in red, indicating it is the button to click.

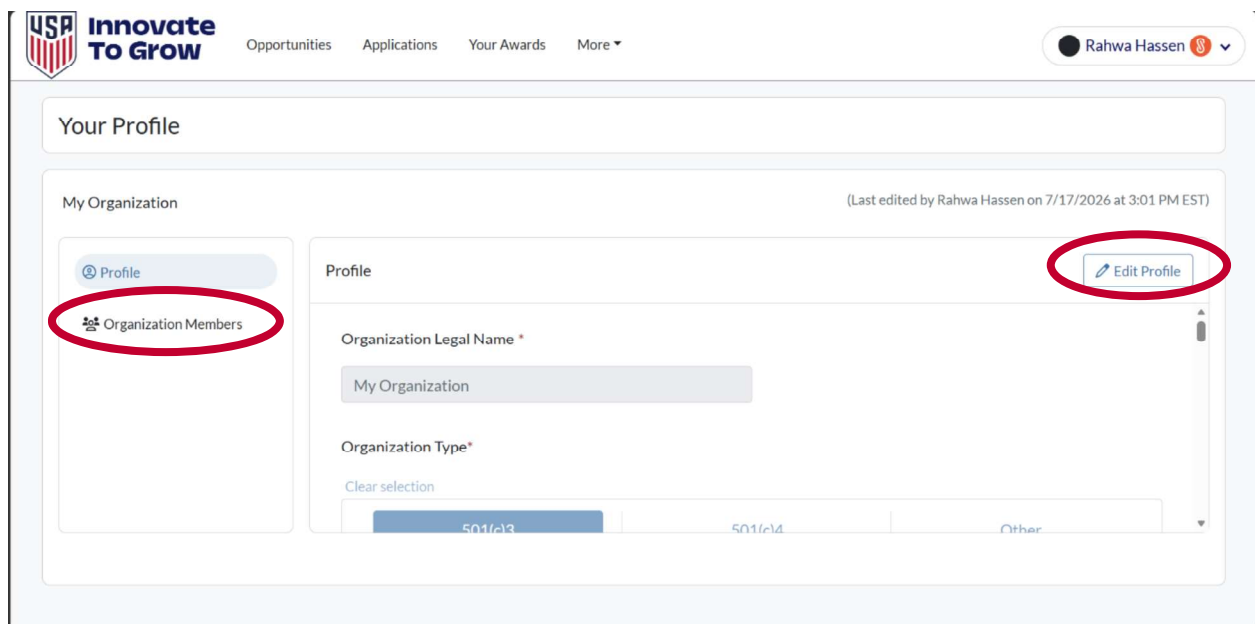
Complete any remaining required Organization Profile fields that were not completed with GuideStar information and click “**Create Organization**” to save your profile.

Viewing & Editing Your Organization Profile

You can view your Organization Profile at any time by clicking your profile name in the top right corner then selecting **“Your Profiles”** from the drop-down menu.

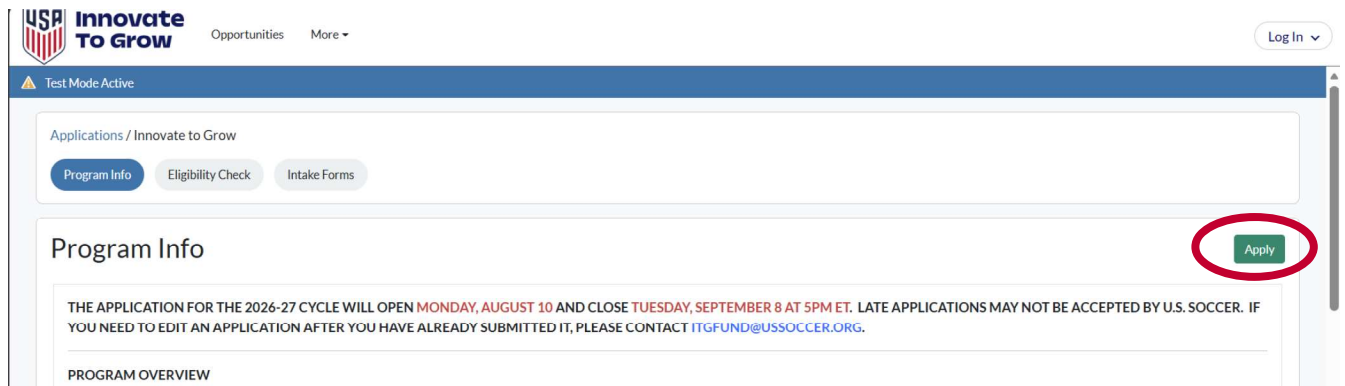


If you need to edit your profile, click [Edit Profile](#). You may also add additional members of your organization here. To do so, click on **“Organization Members”** in the left side bar. Enter each member’s information in the fields provided, then click the **“Invite”** button. Each invited member will receive an email invitation and must accept it to join the organization. Please note that adding organization members is different from adding collaborators, which allows members of your team to work on the proposal (see “Adding Collaborators” section below).



Logging in to Start Your Application as a Returning Applicant

Click **Apply**...



... and log in using the “I already have an account” tab.

A login form titled 'Log in to U.S. Soccer'. It has two tabs: 'I'm a new user' and 'I already have an account'. Below the tabs is a 'Login with Google' button. An 'OR' separator is followed by an 'Email or phone' input field containing 'test@test.com' and a password field with a lock icon. A 'Next' button is below the input fields. At the bottom, it says 'You agree to the software's Terms of Service and Privacy Policy.' with links to the respective documents.

After logging in, you will be taken to the screen below where you can select your Organization Profile.

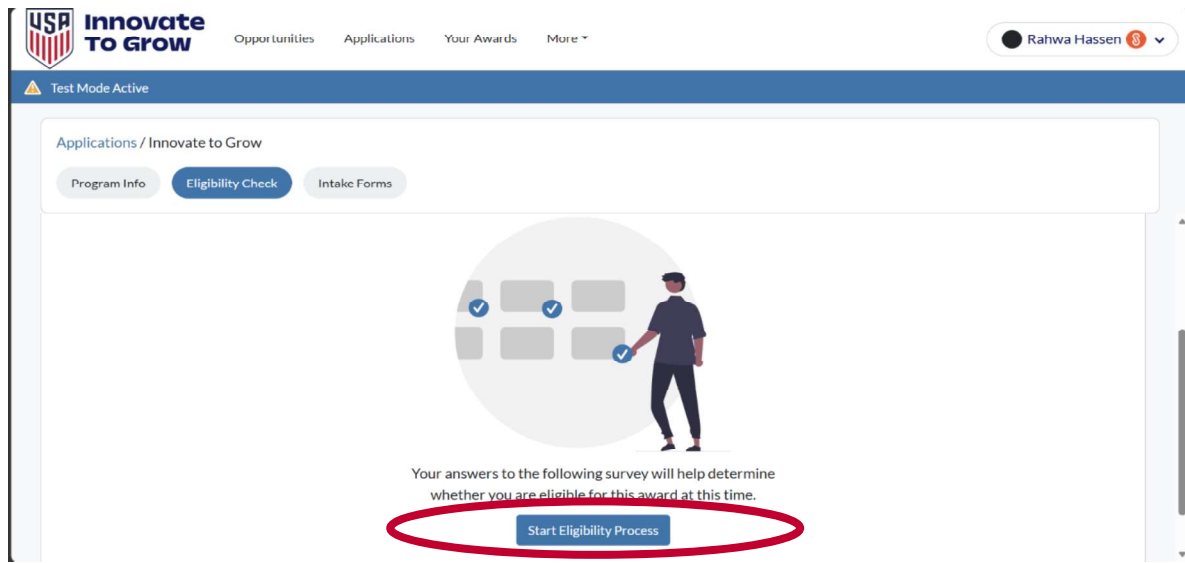
A screenshot of the 'Choose Your Organization' screen. The header shows the USA logo, 'Innovate To Grow', and navigation links for 'Opportunities', 'Applications', 'Your Awards', and 'More'. A user profile 'Rahwa Hassen' is in the top right. The main content area says 'You are starting a new application for Innovate to Grow'. Below this is a 'Choose Your Organization' section with a text input field containing 'My Organization' and a right arrow. An 'OR' separator is followed by a checkbox labeled 'Are you a tax-exempt organization?' which is checked. Below the checkbox is a 'Create Using GuideStar' button.

On the next screen, you will be able to review and edit your Organization Profile. After doing so, click **Save Profile & Continue** to move on to the Eligibility Check screen.

Innovate to Grow Application

Beginning Your Application

After you create or review / update your Organization Profile, you will be taken to the Eligibility Check screen. Click "**Start Eligibility Process**" to begin the check.



Applicants to Innovate to Grow must be a non-Professional League [U.S. Soccer Member Organization](#), or affiliated or partnered with one. In this Eligibility Check, you will indicate which organization you represent, are affiliated with, or are partnering with for the proposed program. **If organizations that are not U.S. Soccer Member Organizations but are affiliated with or partnering with one to apply, it is highly recommended that the U.S. Soccer Member Organization is a lead applicant and submits on their behalf.** After making your selection from the drop-down menu, click **Check Eligibility** to proceed.

A screenshot of the 'Eligibility' form within the 'Innovate to Grow' application. The top navigation bar is identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area shows the 'Eligibility Check' tab as active. Below the tabs, the heading 'Eligibility' is displayed. The form contains the text: 'I am a representative of, affiliated with, or partnering with the following U.S. Soccer Member Organization:'. Below this, a note states: 'If connected to more than one Member Organization for your proposed program, choose one.' There is a link for 'Clear selection'. A dropdown menu is shown with 'Georgia State Soccer Association' selected. At the bottom of the form, a blue button labeled 'Check Eligibility' is visible.

Upon passing the eligibility check, on the following screen, click **Start Applying** to be taken to the application. To begin a section, click the **Start** button for that section. Sections do not need to be completed in order, but you may miss required fields that are contingent on responses in earlier sections. (You will be alerted to any sections that have missing items.)

The screenshot shows the 'Applications / Innovate to Grow' page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'USA Innovate To Grow' logo and links for 'Opportunities', 'Applications', 'Your Awards', and 'More'. A user profile for 'Rahwa Hassen' is visible in the top right. Below the navigation bar, a blue banner indicates 'Test Mode Active'. The main content area has a breadcrumb 'Applications / Innovate to Grow' and three tabs: 'Program Info', 'Eligibility Check', and 'Intake Forms'. The 'Intake Forms' tab is active. Below the tabs, there's a section titled 'Application' with a dropdown arrow and a red warning icon. A message states: 'Please complete all required fields before submitting.' A green 'Submit' button is to the right. Below this, a notice says: 'APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 5PM ET. Late applications may not be accepted by U.S. Soccer. If you need to edit an application after you have submitted it, please contact ITGFund@ussoccer.org and indicate which item(s) you need to edit.' A paragraph of terms and conditions follows. At the bottom, there are three sections: 'Program Information', 'Executive Summary', and 'Background Information', each with a blue 'Start' button.

Adding Collaborators

If you would like to invite others from your organization or partner organizations to contribute to the proposal, you can add them as a collaborator by clicking the down arrow next to "Application" then clicking **"Manage Collaborators."**

The screenshot shows the USA Innovate To Grow application interface. The top navigation bar includes the USA Innovate To Grow logo, links for Opportunities, Applications, Your Awards, and More, and a user profile for Rahwa Hassen. The main content area is titled 'Applications / Innovate to Grow' and features buttons for Program Info, Eligibility Check, and Intake Forms. A dropdown menu is open next to the 'Application' status, showing options: Review, Download Application, and Manage Collaborators (which is circled in red). Below the dropdown, there are sections for Program Information, Executive Summary, and Background Information, each with an Edit or Start button. A 'Submit' button is also visible in the top right corner of the application area.

To add the individual, fill in their first name, last name, email, and specify their role (Lead Applicant or Collaborator) before clicking the **Send Invitation** button. Invited individuals will receive an invitation to collaborate via email.

The screenshot shows the 'Invite Collaborators' modal form. The form has a title bar with a close button. It contains a table with four columns: First Name, Last Name, Email Address, and Role & Permissions. Each column has a corresponding input field. Below the input fields is a '+ Add Collaborator' button. At the bottom right of the modal are 'Cancel' and 'Send Invitation' buttons.

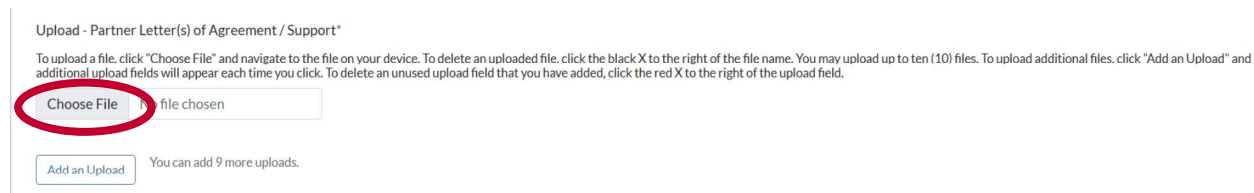
First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Role & Permissions
First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Select...

Please note that only Lead Applicants will be able to submit the application when all required information has been completed. Collaborators can view and edit the application but not submit. An organization can designate more than one individual as a Lead Applicant.

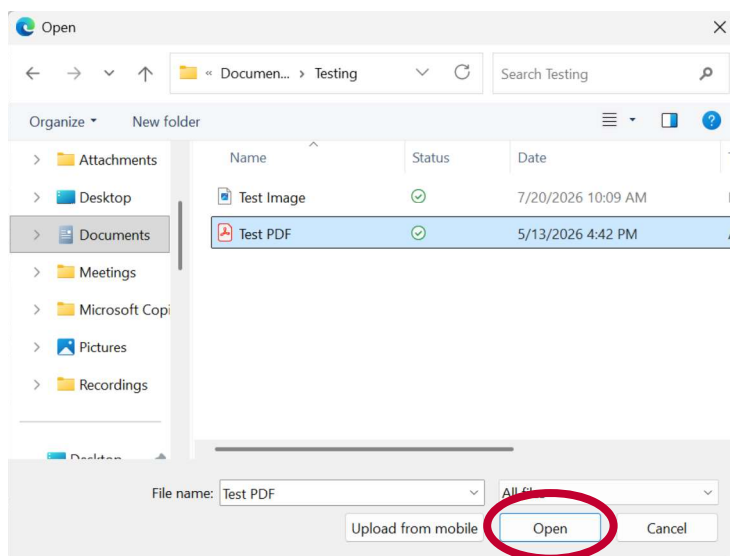
Completing Your Application

All required fields are marked with a red asterisk (*). The portal contains some guidance on what information should be entered / included in uploaded documents as well as some basic instructions for navigating the portal. For more comprehensive information on application contents, please see Appendix A of the [2026 Program Overview document](#).

For all fields that require document uploads, click the appropriate **Choose File** button...

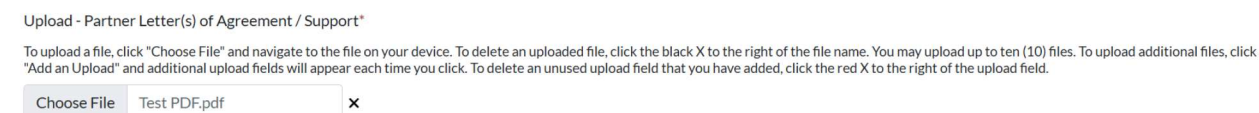


... and navigate to the document you wish to upload before clicking **Open**. **Your file navigation window may look different depending on whether you are using a PC or Mac.**



There are no file type or size limits for uploads; however, Word and PDF documents are best for the review process. Where specified by **"Add an Upload"** throughout the application, you may upload more than one file.

A successful upload will appear as follows:



After your progress has been saved, your file upload will look like this:

Upload - Partner Letter(s) of Agreement / Support*

To upload a file, click "Choose File" and navigate to the file on your device. To delete an uploaded file, click the black X to the right of the file name. You may upload up to ten (10) files. To upload additional files, click "Add an Upload" and additional upload fields will appear each time you click. To delete an unused upload field that you have added, click the red X to the right of the upload field.

FilenameTest PDF.pdf x 

If you need to replace the file you have uploaded, click the black X next to the file name. Then click **Choose File** to upload the new file.

Upload - Partner Letter(s) of Agreement / Support*

To upload a file, click "Choose File" and navigate to the file on your device. To delete an uploaded file, click the black X to the right of the file name. You may upload up to ten (10) files. To upload additional files, click "Add an Upload" and additional upload fields will appear each time you click. To delete an unused upload field that you have added, click the red X to the right of the upload field.

FilenameTest PDF.pdf  

Upload - Partner Letter(s) of Agreement / Support*

To upload a file, click "Choose File" and navigate to the file on your device. To delete an uploaded file, click the black X to the right of the file name. You may upload up to ten (10) files. To upload additional files, click "Add an Upload" and additional upload fields will appear each time you click. To delete an unused upload field that you have added, click the red X to the right of the upload field.

Choose File No file chosen

This field is required.

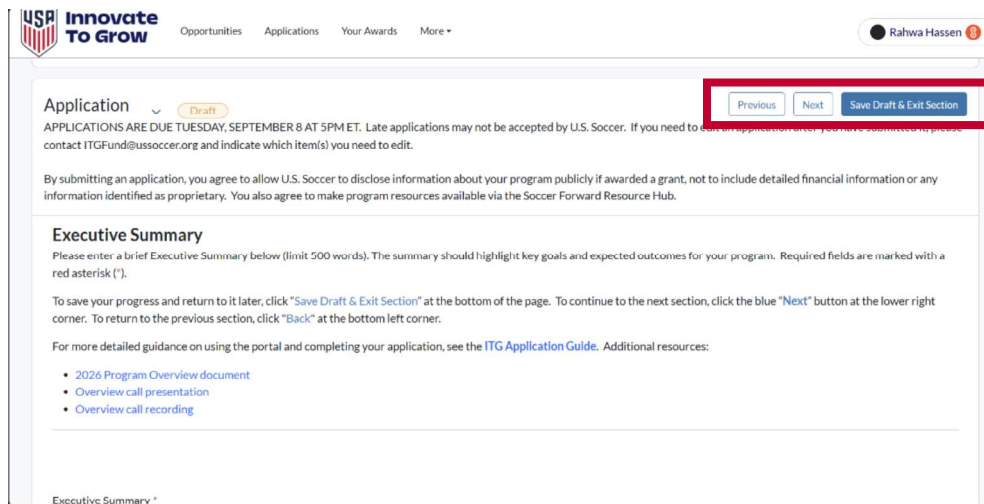
To download a document that you have uploaded, click the blue **download icon** button to the right of the document (this button will only be visible after you have saved your progress).

Upload - Partner Letter(s) of Agreement / Support*

To upload a file, click "Choose File" and navigate to the file on your device. To delete an uploaded file, click the black X to the right of the file name. You may upload up to ten (10) files. To upload additional files, click "Add an Upload" and additional upload fields will appear each time you click. To delete an unused upload field that you have added, click the red X to the right of the upload field.

FilenameTest PDF.pdf x 

In each section, to move on to the next section of the application, click the **Next** button located at the top right of the section. To return to the previous section, click the **Previous** button. Clicking **Next** or **Previous** will automatically save your progress. If you would like to save your work and return to it later, or jump to a different section of the application, click **"Save Draft & Exit Section"**. (Please note that the first section of the application will not have a Previous button and the last section will not have a Next button.)



The screenshot shows the 'USA Innovate To Grow' application portal. The user is logged in as 'Rahwa Hassen'. The 'Application' section is in 'Draft' status. The 'Executive Summary' section is active, with a text area for the summary. The 'Previous', 'Next', and 'Save Draft & Exit Section' buttons are highlighted in a red box at the top right of the section.

After you have started your application and saved your progress, any sections that are missing required information will state **"Please complete all required fields before submitting"** both at the top of the screen and next to each applicable section.

The screenshot shows the 'Application' page for 'USA Soccer Innovate To Grow'. The user is logged in as 'Rahwa Hassen'. The application status is 'Draft'. A red box highlights the message 'Please complete all required fields before submitting.' at the top of the form. Below this, a list of sections is shown, each with an 'Edit' button and a red box indicating missing required information:

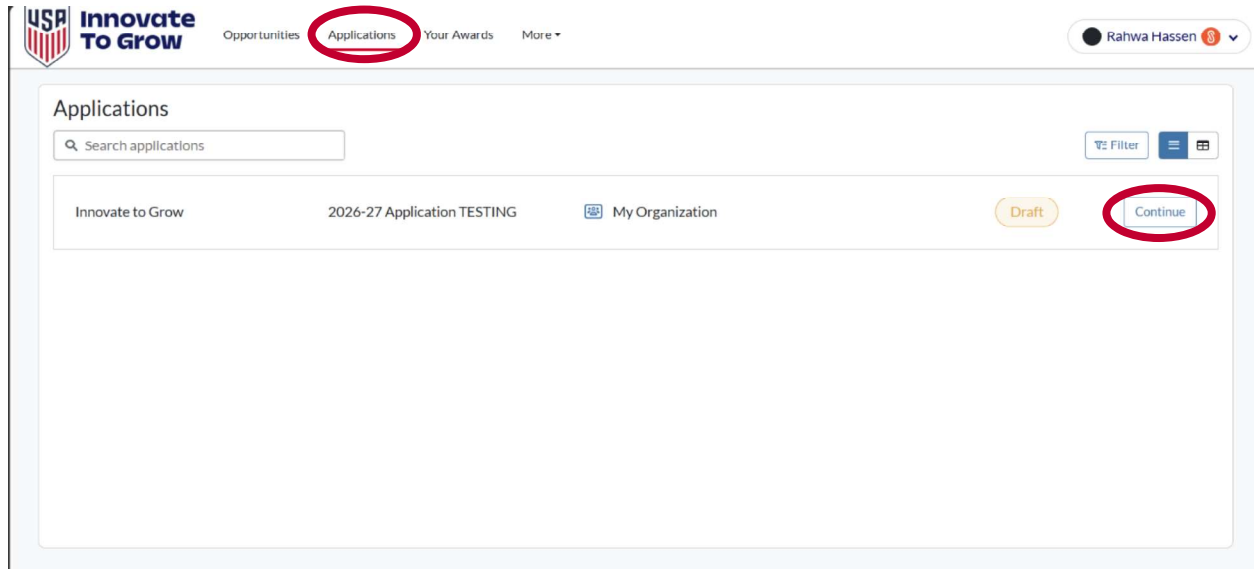
- Program Information (Edit)
- Executive Summary (Edit)
- Background Information (Please complete all required fields before submitting. Start)
- Program Description / Execution Plan (Please complete all required fields before submitting. Edit)
- Program Information on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (Please complete all required fields before submitting. Start)
- Technical Plan (Please complete all required fields before submitting. Start)

To make changes to a section you have already started or completed, click the **Edit** button for that section.

This screenshot shows the same application form, but with a red box highlighting the 'Edit' button for the 'Program Description / Execution Plan' section. The 'Background Information' section also has a red box around its 'Start' button. The 'Program Information' and 'Executive Summary' sections have 'Edit' buttons highlighted with red boxes. The 'Technical Plan' section has a 'Start' button highlighted with a red box. The 'Program Information on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging' section has a 'Start' button highlighted with a red box.

Returning to an Application in Progress

If you have saved your work and come back later to finish your application, after logging back in, select **“Applications”** from the Main Menu bar located at the top of the screen. Your draft application, as well as any previous ITG applications, will appear in this section. Select **Continue** to return to your application in progress.



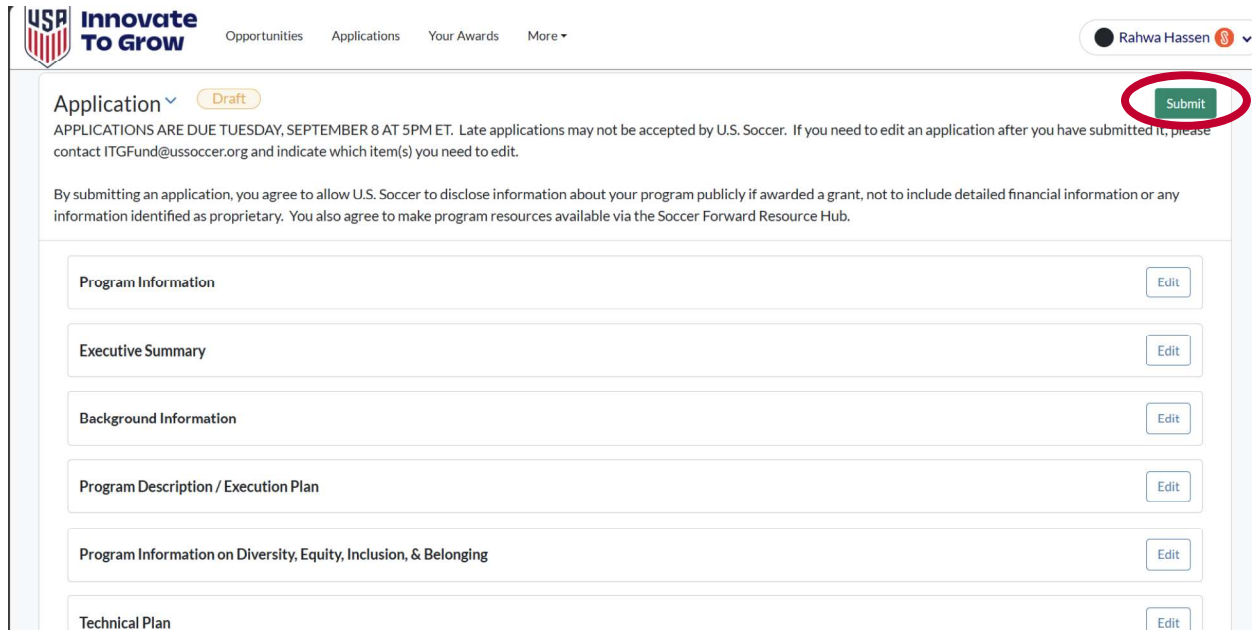
Reviewing Your Application

After completing all sections, review your responses by clicking the down arrow next to "Application" then selecting **"Review"**.

The screenshot displays the 'U.S. Soccer Innovate To Grow' application portal. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Opportunities', 'Applications', 'Your Awards', and 'More'. A user profile for 'Rahwa Hassen' is visible in the top right. The main content area is titled 'Applications / Innovate to Grow' and features tabs for 'Program Info', 'Eligibility Check', and 'Intake Forms'. The 'Application' section is highlighted, showing a 'Draft' status and a 'Submit' button. A dropdown menu is open next to the 'Application' header, with the 'Review' option circled in red. Other options in the menu include 'Download Application' and 'Manage Collaborators'. Below the dropdown, a list of application sections is shown, each with an 'Edit' button: 'Program Information', 'Executive Summary', 'Background Information', 'Program Description / Execution Plan', and 'Program Information on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging'.

Submitting Your Application

When you are ready to submit your application, click the green **Submit** button at the top right of the application landing page. Please remember that only Lead Applicants may submit an application. Collaborators will not have a Submit button.



USAF Innovate To Grow

Opportunities Applications Your Awards More ▾

Rahwa Hassen 8 ▾

Application ▾ Draft

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 AT 5PM ET. Late applications may not be accepted by U.S. Soccer. If you need to edit an application after you have submitted it, please contact ITGFund@ussoccer.org and indicate which item(s) you need to edit.

By submitting an application, you agree to allow U.S. Soccer to disclose information about your program publicly if awarded a grant, not to include detailed financial information or any information identified as proprietary. You also agree to make program resources available via the Soccer Forward Resource Hub.

Program Information Edit

Executive Summary Edit

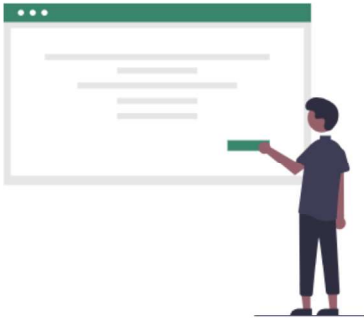
Background Information Edit

Program Description / Execution Plan Edit

Program Information on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging Edit

Technical Plan Edit

A pop-up window will appear asking you to confirm that you wish to submit your application. To submit, click **Submit** at the bottom right of the pop-up window. After submitting, all individuals connected to the application, including Collaborators, will receive a confirmation of the submission via email.

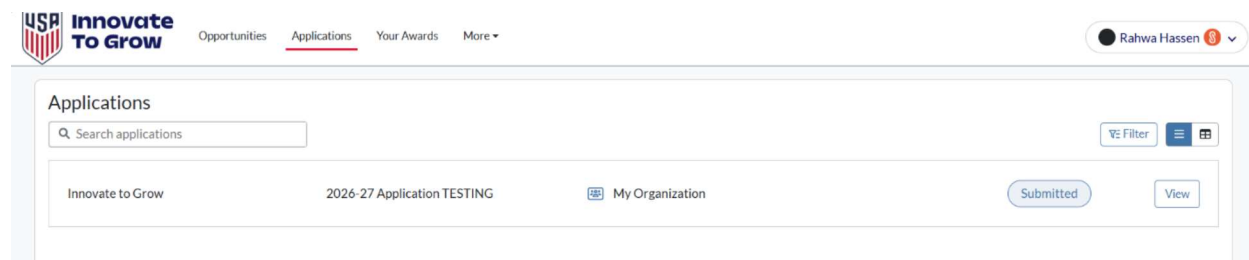


Submit Application?

Once submitted, your form will be read-only.

Keep Working Submit

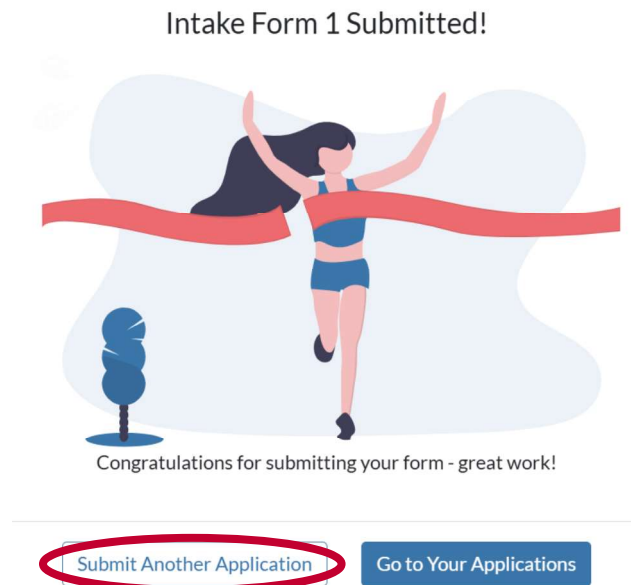
Under “**Applications**” on the Main Menu, you will also see a **Submitted** status for your application.



After the application is submitted, you will no longer be able to edit it. If you need to make edits to a submitted application prior to the submission deadline, please contact ITGFund@ussoccer.org. Applications that are submitted late may not be accepted by U.S. Soccer.

Submitting Multiple Applications

Unlike previous cycles where it was required to create multiple Organization profiles to submit more than one application, applicants may now submit multiple applications under a single organization profile. After submitting your first application, you will receive a confirmation similar to the screenshot below. To begin another application, click [Submit Another Application](#).



If you have questions about submitting multiple applications or any part of the application submission process, please contact ITGFund@ussoccer.org. You may also check out additional applicant resources such as FAQs, video tutorials, and more [here](#).

We wish you a productive and successful application writing process.

What Happens Next?

First, your application will undergo the following checks / reviews:

1. Completeness
2. Organization compliance with member dues, player data, and ITG reporting good standing requirements (for current awardees)
3. Review of personal conduct policies submitted for compliance with SafeSport requirements
4. Alignment with U.S. Soccer standards and guidelines for player development, coaching and referee education, and participant safety, as applicable

Applicants will have the opportunity to submit supplemental information if requested from U.S. Soccer or respond to questions regarding their application throughout the review process as needed.

After the initial rounds of review above, applications submitted will be scored by a review committee using the rubric found in Appendix B of the [2026 Program Overview document](#).

Scoring results will be reviewed with the Technical Development Committee of the U.S. Soccer Board of Directors before making final funding recommendations to the full Board of Directors at their November quarterly meeting. Results will be communicated to applicants following the Board's approval of funding recommendations.

NOTE ON GOOD STANDING REQUIREMENTS

As outlined in the Program Overview document, the Soccer Data Platform, which has replaced the National Data Center, is live. U.S. Soccer is currently working with registration platform vendors on connectivity; no action is needed by Member Organizations at this time. However, successful applicants will be required to connect their data for their grant to be released. If the organization and / or its registration platform vendor are actively working with U.S. Soccer to reconnect player data but have not yet completed the process by the time the grant is awarded, this requirement will be considered satisfied.



**Innovate
To Grow**

U.S. Soccer Innovate to Grow Application Guide

August 2026

Questions on the Innovate to Grow application process?
Contact us at ITGFund@ussoccer.org.