

# The grant writing recipe

– from *Grantseeker*, February 26, 2020. Imagine Canada  
(for fundraisers, but tips apply to faculty grant applications.)

Writing the perfect grant application is every fundraiser's dream. While it's not an exact science, there are a few tactics that are guaranteed to make your grant application shine

## Grant applications 101

### From former grant writer, Alex Pryse

#### **Tip 1: Don't be afraid to communicate with funders**

Funders, contrary to popular belief, want to hear from you. Frame the conversation around understanding their goals. This will help save everyone time by confirming your eligibility, funder interest, etc.

#### **Tip 2: Customize your grant applications**

Mass mailing of cookie-cutter proposals is a sure way to guarantee a refusal. To customize your grant application be sure to read application instructions very carefully because each funder will have different requirements and guidelines.

### From the Catherine Donnelly Foundation

**Tip 1: Do not assume.** Always contact the funder with any questions or concerns prior to submitting the application. We always love to hear from grantees about the project you are working on. We are here to help and give advice.

**Tip 2: Avoid jargon** in your project description – write for an audience that is not an expert in your field of work.

### Follow these links for more tips:

[Three ways to supercharge your grant proposal](#) by [AFP Toronto](#)

[Six tips for writing a solid grant budget proposal](#) by [Devon Hurvid](#)

[Winning grants funding checklist](#)

[A Foundation Insider's Eight Tips to Help You Win Your Next Grant \(GuideStar Blog\)](#) by [Martin Teitel](#)