

Zoo Siab Txais Tos! 환영 ยินดี E Komo Mai
ต้อนรับ

欢迎 **Welcome!** स्वागत
ようこそ

ຍິນດີຕ້ອນຮັບ Chào mừng Maligayang pagdating



CAAL

Coalition of Asian
American Leaders





Agenda

1. Introduction
2. CAAL Ignite Goals & Grants
3. CAAL Ignite Timeline
4. Application
5. FAQ Overview
6. Website & Resources
7. Staff Support
8. Q&A



Goals and Grants

CAAL Ignite Goals

- Build a stronger sense of cultural identity through history and solidarity across racial and ethnic groups
- Promote socio-economic mobility with greater investments in Asian American leaders
- Increase influence and decision-making power over policies that affect Asian American communities
- Change the narrative to mitigate anti-Asian stereotypes and combat hate.

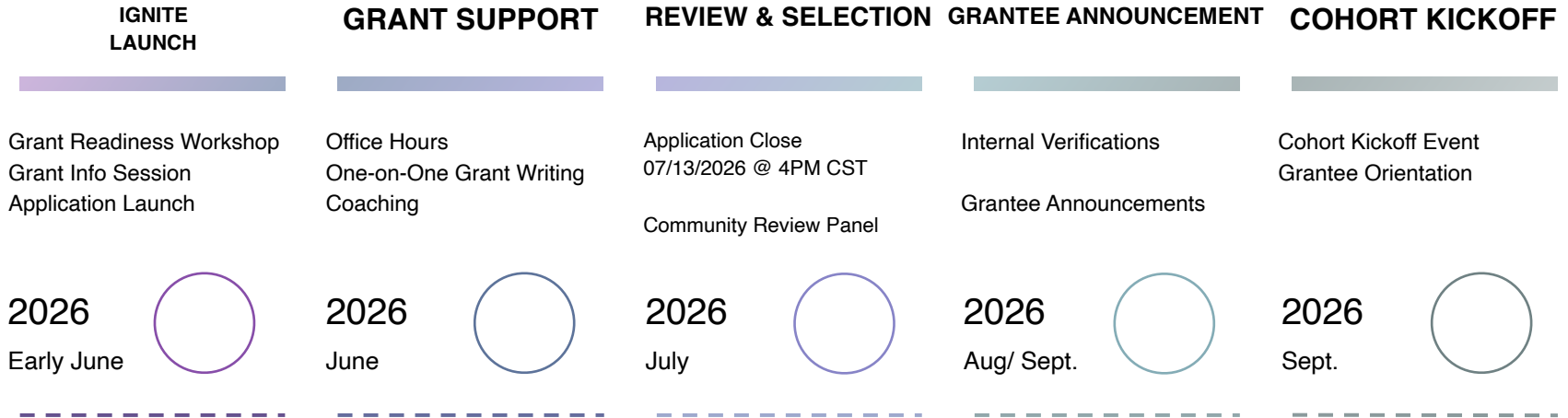
CAAL Ignite Grants

- **Emerging Entrepreneurs:** Up to \$5,000 to support the launch of new or early-stage business ventures.
- **Small Businesses:** Up to \$15,000 to grow or expand businesses that align with CAAL's community-driven priorities
- **Nonprofits:** Up to \$15,000 to strengthen capacity, sustain operations, or launch innovative programs



At-a-glance

Project Timeline



Grant Application

Fueling Creativity, Visibility & Prosperity

Eligibility Check

Are you eligible? Ensure your vision aligns with CAAL Ignite's goals.

Applicant Overview

Provide a short summary about your business, or nonprofit, and your connection to CAAL.

About Your Project

Be creative with your narrative—there's no right or wrong answer! Share with CAAL the impact you aspire to make in the Asian American community.

Goal Alignment

Tell us how your vision connects with CAAL Ignite's mission. Share the impact you hope to create and how this opportunity will help you grow your business, organization, or community initiative.

Attachments

Requirements vary by application—submit all requested documents.

Where you can find the Application:

Website: <https://caalmn.org/caal-ignite/>

Grant Application: <https://caal.grantplatform.com/>

Log in | Register

Log in or register

Email

Continue

Share



Coalition of Asian American Leaders

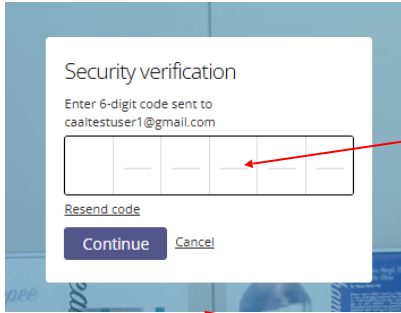
Our Story

The Coalition of Asian American Leaders (CAAL) emerged out of the will of Minnesota's Asian community in 2013 when a small group of leaders came together to share their aspirations for an organization that would bring leaders from across sectors, generations, and ethnicities together. In 2014, over 300 Asian Minnesotan leaders would come together, hosting multiple conversations using an asset-based approach and human-centered design processes to determine a course of action.

Leaders from across the state collectively affirmed their experiences of exclusion and invisibility and had a desire to demonstrate more impactful leadership to make Minnesota work better for all. They created CAAL to be a network that equips and uplifts leaders, develops and takes action on their ideas, and build across communities towards equity, justice, and prosperity.

CAAL Ignite 2026

Login | Register



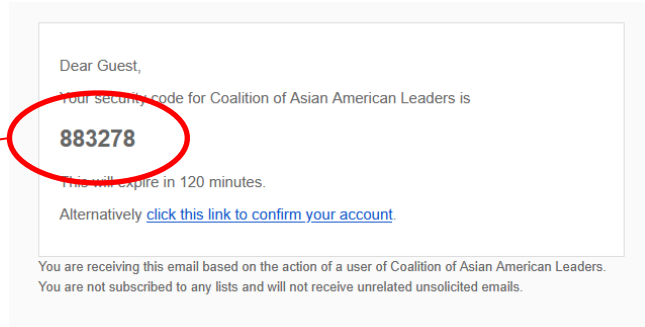
Security verification

Enter 6-digit code sent to caaltestuser1@gmail.com

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[Resend code](#)

[Continue](#) [Cancel](#)



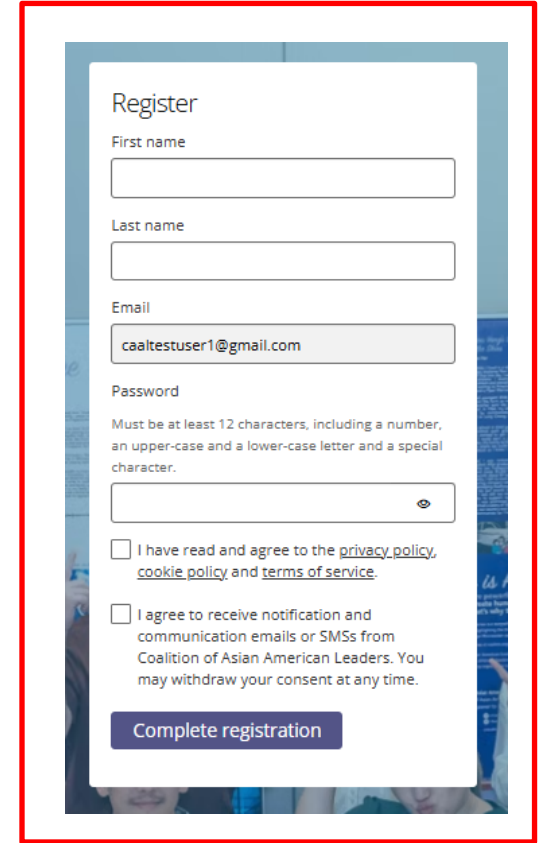
Dear Guest,

Your security code for Coalition of Asian American Leaders is **883278**

This will expire in 120 minutes.

Alternatively [click this link to confirm your account](#)

You are receiving this email based on the action of a user of Coalition of Asian American Leaders. You are not subscribed to any lists and will not receive unrelated unsolicited emails.



Register

First name

Last name

Email

Password

Must be at least 12 characters, including a number, an upper-case and a lower-case letter and a special character.

I have read and agree to the [privacy policy](#), [cookie policy](#) and [terms of service](#).

I agree to receive notification and communication emails or SMSs from Coalition of Asian American Leaders. You may withdraw your consent at any time.

[Complete registration](#)

Select Application

Create an account or login to your previous account.

Choose the application you are applying for.

- Small Business
- Emerging Entrepreneur
- Non-Profit

Coalition of Asian American Leaders [Apply](#)

[About](#)

[Applications](#)

Ignite

Small Business Application 2026 [Start application](#)

Emerging Entrepreneur 2026 [Start application](#)


Nonprofit 2026 [Start application](#)

My applications


Hello, CaalTestUser CaalTestUser!

You have no applications yet. What are you waiting for?


Application Sections


Eligibility Check 

Applicant Overview 

Business Overview 

Goal Alignment 

About Your Project 

Attachments 



[CAAL Ignite Open](#) 

Thank you for your interest in the CAAL Ignite Grant Fund.

If you need accessibility support to complete your application, please contact Chonburi Lee at chonburi@caalmn.org.

Eligibility Check

- Application Name
- Review & Acknowledge Eligibility

Thank you for your interest in the CAAL Ignite Grant Fund.

If you need accessibility support to complete your application, please contact us at [support@caal.org](#).

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on their alignment with CAAL Ignite's:

- **Cultural Identity:** Does the proposed work promote a deeper understanding of Asian American experiences?
- **Socio-Economic Mobility:** Does the initiative create opportunities for economic advancement?
- **Policy Influence:** Does the project amplify Asian American voices in policy-making?
- **Narrative Change:** Does the work challenge harmful stereotypes, promote positive representation, and foster community pride?

A strong application will demonstrate its potential to create meaningful and lasting impact.

🔒 Season

Active season (CAAL 2026)

Applicant

Chonburi Lee

Category

Small Business Grant

Small Business Application

 [Download blank application PDF for reference](#)



Acknowledgment of Eligibility

By checking this box, I confirm that this application is for the **Small Business Grant** category, and my business meets all the following eligibility criteria:

1. I am of **Asian** descent and identify as part of the Asian American community.
2. Ownership: The business is **majority-owned (51% or more) by a Minnesota resident**.
3. Location: The business operates within the state of **Minnesota**.
4. Registration: The business has been registered with the Minnesota Secretary of State as of **December 31, 2025**.
5. Revenue: The business generates less than **\$500,000** in gross annual revenue from sales to the public.
6. Financial Documentation: The business can provide tax documentation for the past **two years**.

Applicant Overview

- Provide Primary Contact Info
- Demographic Details
- Connection to CAAL
- How did you hear about Ignite?

The screenshot displays a web application interface for an applicant overview. At the top, there is a navigation bar with six tabs: 'Eligibility Check', 'Applicant Overview' (which is the active tab), 'Business Overview', 'Goal Alignment', 'About Your Project', and 'Attachments'. Below the navigation bar, there is a small blue icon resembling a house. The main content area consists of seven vertically stacked form fields, each with a label and a text input box:

- Primary Contact First Name**: A text input field with a cursor at the beginning.
- Primary Contact Middle Name (optional)**: A text input field.
- Primary Contact Last Name**: A text input field.
- Primary Contact Email Address**: A text input field.
- Primary Contact Phone Number**: A text input field with a dropdown menu showing a flag icon and '+1'.
- Primary Contact Home Address**: A text input field.

Eligibility Check

Applicant Overview

Business Overview

Goal Alignment

About Your Project

Attachments



Business Name

Business Phone Number

Business Email Address

Business Mailing Address

City

State

Business or Non-Profit Overview

- Provide Business or Non-Profit information
- Business Background

Goal Alignment

CAAL Ignite Goals

- Building a stronger sense of cultural identity through history and solidarity across racial and ethnic groups
- Promoting socio-economic mobility with greater investments in Asian American communities
- Increasing influence and decision-making power over policies that affect Asian American communities
- Changing the narrative to mitigate anti-Asian stereotypes and combat hate

Eligibility Check Applicant Overview Business Overview **Goal Alignment** About Your Project Attachments

2

Project Snapshot – Tell us about your project and what you aim to accomplish, including the main activities involved. 0 / 250 words

I

Which CAAL Ignite goal does your project best support? (Select one)

- Building a stronger sense of cultural identity through history and solidarity across racial and ethnic groups.
- Promoting socio-economic mobility with greater investments in Asian American leaders.
- Increasing influence and decision-making power over policies that affect Asian American communities.
- Changing the narrative to mitigate anti-Asian stereotypes and combat hate.

Goal: Building a Stronger Sense of Cultural Identity
Focus Area: Choose the focus area below that is most relevant to your project. (Select One)

- Audience & Cultural Representation – Increasing participation from diverse communities and including Asian American history, heritage, and lived experiences in events, exhibits, or products.
- Language Access – Providing materials in relevant Asian languages and English.
- Collaboration & Partnerships – Working with non-Asian American organizations or businesses, including co-hosted programs that highlight shared histories or bridge cultures.
- Cultural Education & Knowledge – Offering educational programs, resources, or intergenerational learning that teach and preserve Asian American traditions.
- Community Belonging & Legacy – Engaging people in cultural activities that build pride, encourage storytelling, and support long-term preservation.
- Creative Expression & Innovation – Creating new artistic work or platforms that uplift emerging creators and blend traditional and contemporary cultural forms.

About Your Project

Eligibility Check Applicant Overview Business Overview Goal Alignment **About Your Project** Attachments

Grant Amount Request from CAAL Ignite

Small Businesses can request up to \$15,000

\$

How do you plan to use the grant funds? Please provide a brief budget outline that includes the major expenses associated with your proposal. Be sure to list each expense category along with the estimated dollar amount. 0 / 500 words

Total dollar amount should equal the amount requested.

Project Timeline (September 2026 – May 2027):

Please provide a timeline of your project, including key activities and their expected timeframes. This should outline major phases or milestones to help reviewers understand the overall flow and progress of your project.

All projects must take place between **September 2026 and May 2027**. Please align your timeline accordingly. 0 / 500 words

All project activities **must** be completed by May 2027.

- Grant Request
- Grant usage
- Project Timeline
- Individual Skills
- Business strengths
- Quantitative Measure
- Qualitative Measure





Mission: CTYL Coffee and Beans creates welcoming spaces where coffee, culture, and community come together. Through thoughtfully crafted beverages and shared experiences, the café celebrates Asian American heritage, connection, and belonging.

Products: Offers specialty coffee, teas, pastries, and café beverages inspired by Asian flavors and traditions, including drinks featuring matcha, ube, pandan, black sesame, and Vietnamese coffee influences.

Cultural Storytelling: Every beverage and menu item reflects stories, traditions, and flavors rooted in Asian American experiences, creating opportunities for customers to engage with culture through food and conversation.

Community Connection: Based in Maplewood, MN — a city with a growing and diverse Asian American population — CTYL Coffee and Beans serves as a welcoming community gathering space that strengthens cultural identity while engaging people from all backgrounds.

Events & Outreach: Participates in local community events such as Maplewood's summer celebrations, markets, and cultural festivals while offering free samples, cultural drink tastings, and community-centered experiences that encourage cross-cultural understanding.

Impact: Coffee brings people together, sparks dialogue, and creates meaningful connections across communities. CTYL Coffee and Beans uses hospitality and shared experiences to foster belonging, visibility, and cultural appreciation.

Collaboration: Works closely with the City of Maplewood, local artists, small businesses, and community partners to uplift Asian American culture and create inclusive public community spaces.

Core Values: Hospitality is rooted in representation, storytelling, solidarity, and building pride, belonging, and connection within the community.



Building a Stronger Sense of Cultural Identity

Audience & Cultural Representation – Participation by diverse communities and inclusion of Asian American history, heritage, or lived experiences in events, exhibits, or products.

CTYL Coffee and Beans is a community-centered coffee shop dedicated to celebrating Asian American heritage through coffee, conversation, and cultural connection. Our café offers specialty beverages and menu items inspired by Asian flavors and traditions, including drinks featuring matcha, ube, pandan, black sesame, and Vietnamese coffee influences. Each beverage is thoughtfully crafted to reflect stories, traditions, and lived experiences that are deeply connected to Asian American culture. More than just serving coffee, CTYL Coffee and Beans creates opportunities for people to experience culture in accessible and meaningful ways.

Based in Maplewood, Minnesota—where nearly 22% of the population is Asian American—CTYL Coffee and Beans reflects and celebrates the diversity of the community we serve. Our café intentionally incorporates Asian American heritage into our menu, atmosphere, and community engagement efforts while welcoming people from all backgrounds. By sharing culturally inspired beverages and creating spaces for dialogue and connection, we help strengthen cultural identity and foster greater cross-cultural understanding.

As part of our commitment to community building, CTYL Coffee and Beans participates in local events such as Maplewood’s summer celebrations, markets, and cultural gatherings. During these events, we provide free beverage samples and cultural coffee experiences to introduce residents to Asian flavors, traditions, and stories. Coffee naturally brings people together, creating opportunities for conversations that build relationships and understanding across communities. Through partnerships with the City of Maplewood, local artists, and community organizations, we help ensure that Asian American history, heritage, and lived experiences are visible and celebrated in public spaces.

At CTYL Coffee and Beans, hospitality is about more than serving drinks—it is about representation, storytelling, and creating spaces where people feel welcomed and connected. Through every beverage we serve and every community event we participate in, we help build pride, belonging, and stronger community connections across Maplewood and beyond.

Attachments



Business Record Details | [Print](#) | [Order Certificate](#) | [File Amendment / Renewal](#) | [Order Copies](#) | [Back to Search Results](#)

Minnesota Business Name
Coalition of Asian-American Leaders

Business Type Nonprofit Corporation (Domestic)	MN Statute 317A
File Number 859962200030	Home Jurisdiction Minnesota
Filing Date 12/28/2015	Status Active / In Good Standing
Renewal Due Date 12/31/2026	Registered Office Address 941 Lafond Ave Ste. 205 Saint Paul, MN 55104-5510 USA
Registered Agent(s) Bo Thao-Urabe	President Thao-Mee Xiong 941 LAFOND AVE STE 205 SAINT PAUL, MN 55104-2110 USA

Filing History | **Renewal History**

Select the item(s) you would like to order: [Order Selected Copies](#)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Filing Date	Filing	Effective Date
<input type="checkbox"/>	12/28/2015	Original Filing - Nonprofit Corporation (Domestic) (Business Name: Coalition of Asian-American Leaders)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2/22/2017	Involuntary Dissolution - Nonprofit Corporation (Domestic)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	4/28/2017	Annual Reinstatement - Nonprofit Corporation (Domestic)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2/5/2019	Registered Office - Nonprofit Corporation (Domestic)	

Eligibility Check | Applicant Overview | Business Overview | Goal Alignment | About Your Project | **Attachments**

MN State Identification | Driver License

Drag your file here
or
[Select file](#)

MN Secretary of State Business Registration

Drag your file here
or
[Select file](#)

Federal Income Tax Filing (2025)

Drag your file here
or
[Select file](#)

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Please consid

Attachments Emerging Entrepreneur Application

<https://caalmn.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/CAAL-Ignite-Business-Template.pdf>

- [Download Business Plan Template](#)
- Fill out form
- Save form
- Upload into Application

Business Plan



Drag and drop is disabled

or

Select file

Applicants are required to submit a business plan. **Only business plans completed using the CAAL-provided template will be accepted.** You can download the template using the following link: <https://caalmn.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/CAAL-Ignite-Business-Template.pdf>. Please ensure your submission follows the template format exactly, as plans submitted in any other format will not be considered.





FAQ

What are the commitments of a CAAL Ignite grantee?

All CAAL Ignite grantees are required to:

Attend four in-person sessions: the program kickoff, two workshops, and the end-of-program celebration. (*Tentative Dates*)

- September 2026: Kickoff
- January 2027: Workshop #1
- March 2027: Workshop #2
- May 2027: CAAL Ignite Celebration
- Engage in networking events:
 - Attend at least one social or business networking event per quarter
- Fulfill reporting and check-in requirements:
 - Submit an interim and final report
 - Participate in quarterly check-ins with the grant manager

Can I submit more than one application?

Each organization may submit only **one application** and may apply in only **one category**.

Exception: A nonprofit serving as a fiscal sponsor may submit more than one application. In this case, the nonprofit may apply both for itself as the fiscal sponsor and for the organization it is sponsoring.

Can I apply if I've received other grants?

Yes, you can receive grants from two sources for the same project if the funds are applied to different expenses. "Double dipping," which is not allowed, refers to using the same budget line items for multiple grants. Each grant must be used for specific, separate expenses directly related to the project.

What happens if I miss the application deadline?

Applications **will not** be accepted after the submission deadline of July 13, 2026 at 4:00 PM CST.

Can I modify my application after submission?

Yes, modifications to your application are allowed until the application deadline on July 13, 2026, at 4:00 PM.



Website & Resources

- CAAL
 - <https://caalmn.org/caal-ignite/>
- Data points:
 - <https://www.mncompass.org/> (MN Compass)
 - <https://data.census.gov/profile/Minnesota?g=040XX00US27> (US Census)
 - <https://mn.gov/admin/demography/data-by-place/> (MN State Demographic Center)
 - <https://metro council.org/Data-and-Maps.aspx> (Metropolitan Council)
- Others:
 - Propel Nonprofits <https://propelnonprofits.org/>
 - Minnesota Council of Nonprofits <https://minnesotanonprofits.org/>

Questions & Answers





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www.caalmn.org

Meng Moua
CAAL Ignite/Data Manager
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meng@caalmn.org
www.caalmn.org

CAAL Ignite Office Hours
June 8, 2026 – July 13, 2026
Tuesday 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Thursday 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM



CAAL
Coalition of Asian
American Leaders

CAAL Ignite Evaluation



Thank You For Attending!
Ua Tsaug!