

Build and Save Matched Savings Initiative

Frequently Asked Questions



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Section I: Eligibility & Application

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible applicants must be credit unions that are members of Inclusiv and are federally or state-chartered institutions located in continental the United States, Alaska, or Hawaii.

Can a consultant apply on behalf of a credit union?

No. Applications must be submitted by the credit union itself.

We are not currently a credit union but are planning to establish one. Are we eligible?

No. Only existing; operational credit unions are eligible to apply.

Our credit union does not currently have paid staff or the operational capacity to manage a matched savings program. Should we apply?

We do not recommend applying at this time if your institution does not have the capacity to design, implement, and administer a matched savings program within the 12-month grant period.

If you are interested in building financial readiness, we encourage you to sign up for updates from the [Financial Empowerment Learning Center](#) to learn about training and technical assistance opportunities.

If we cannot apply this year, will there be another opportunity?

There is no confirmed future funding cycle at this time. We encourage interested credit unions to monitor Inclusiv's website and subscribe to updates for information about future opportunities.



Is there a specific target population this initiative is intended to serve?

For this initiative, we are most interested in how your credit union understands and identifies members who face barriers to building financial capability, and how that understanding shapes the products and services you aim to deliver.

Your proposal should clearly demonstrate how the matched savings opportunity is designed to expand access to asset-building for populations in your community, who may otherwise be excluded.

Section II: Program Operations & Implementation

What type of savings vehicle may be used?

There are no specific restrictions on the savings vehicle, provided that match funds are fully disbursed within the 12-month grant period, and the structure aligns with the approved proposal.

For example, prior grantees have used a traditional savings account that is matched and later rolled into a term certificate. Credit Unions are encouraged to design a structure that aligns with member needs and institutional capacity.

What are the reporting requirements?

Grantees must submit both 6-Month Impact and final reports.

6-Month Impact Report (Data and Narrative):

- Program Details; incl. but not limited to, Participant Eligibility Criteria, Match Rate, Match Timeframe, Post-Match Requirements
- Financial Education Class AND/OR Financial Coaching Session Requirements
- Number of Savers
- Number of Savers by Zip Code
- Participant Savings Goals (Purpose)
- Total Participant Contributions
- Match Money Allocated/Disbursed
- Impact

Final Report (12 Months, Data and Narrative):

- Number of Savers
- Number of Savers by Zip Code
- Total Participant Contributions
- Match Money Allocated/Disbursed
- Impact





What happens if we receive a grant but cannot distribute all match funds within 12 months?

All match funds are expected to be disbursed within the 12-month grant term.

If all funds are not disbursed within that timeframe, grantees will meet with the Inclusiv team to review progress and determine appropriate next steps regarding any remaining funds.

Can you connect us directly with current or past Build and Save grantees?

Due to high demand, Inclusiv is not facilitating direct introductions between applicants and current cohort members at this time.

For questions about matched savings program models or implementation considerations, please contact:

finempowerment@inclusiv.org

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Savings is more than a financial transaction; it builds resilience, creates opportunity, and strengthens communities. Together, through credit unions, we can expand access to asset-building pathways and advance financial independence nationwide.

