

INNOVATE ALABAMA

Network



ABOUT

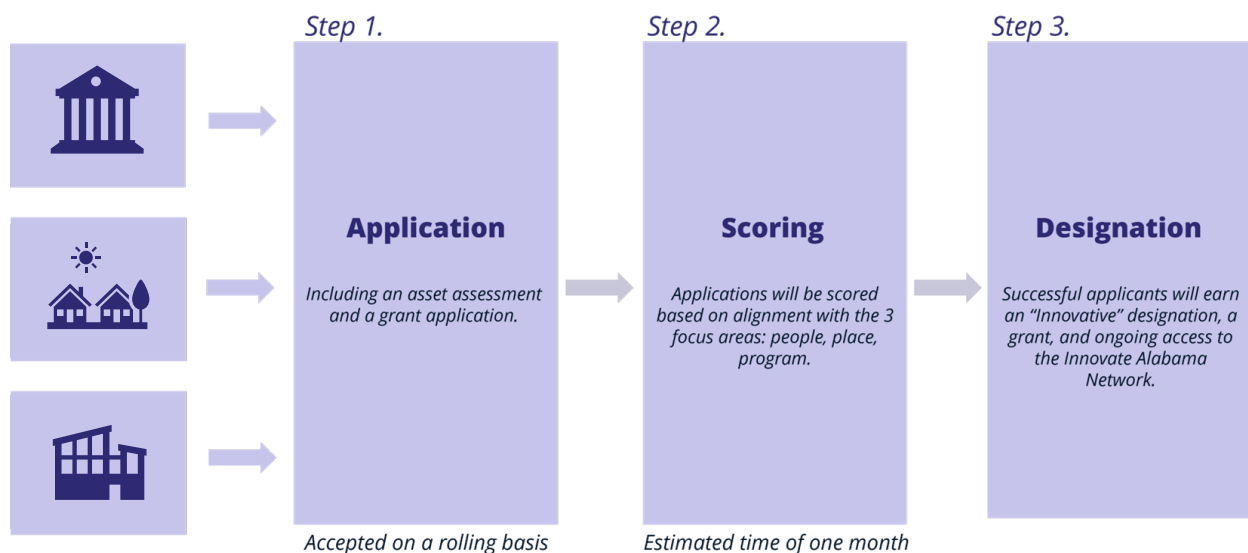
The Innovate Alabama Network serves as a comprehensive resource that connects communities, nonprofits and higher education institutions across the state who are fostering innovation in their own backyard. Through this designation program, Innovate Alabama is recognizing those who are shaping the state's entrepreneurial ecosystem, investing in these organizations to drive innovation-related activities and encouraging collaboration and growth amongst the network's members.

The program aims to catalyze innovation throughout Alabama by:

- Increasing innovation-related activities in local communities.
- Creating a broader network of innovation-related programming and assets in urban and rural areas.
- Providing access to innovation-related seed funding for localities and communities.
- Recognizing and supporting the diversity of innovation ecosystem partners throughout the state.
- Encouraging partnerships and coordination among partners, particularly to bolster future efforts.

Each designation requires two applications:

- An initial designation application, where successful applicants can earn the respective designation for which they are applying.
- A grant application, where successfully designated applicants can earn grant funding to complete innovation-related projects in their communities.



Innovate Alabama will accept applications beginning on July 10, 2023. Please email your completed application and any program questions to partners@innovatealabama.org. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until funding for the program is no longer available. Accepted applicants can expect funds to be granted in mid-August.



INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY DESIGNATION

The Innovative Community Designation is designed to recognize and award municipalities, counties and Native American tribes in Alabama for their commitment to support innovation and knowledge-based economic activity.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a:

- Municipality in Alabama;
- County in Alabama; or
- Federally recognized Native American tribe in Alabama.



INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITY DESIGNATION

The Innovative University Designation is designed to recognize and award academic institutions for their commitment to supporting innovation and knowledge-based economic activity.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a public or private university or college, accredited by any of the following institutions:

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
- National Accrediting Commission of Career Arts and Sciences (NACCAS)
- Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
- Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE)
- Council on Occupational Education (COE)
- Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC)
- Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)
- Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC)
- American Osteopathic Association (AOA)



INNOVATIVE ENTITY DESIGNATION

The Innovative Entity Designation is designed to recognize and award non-profit entities for their commitment to supporting innovation and knowledge-based economic activity.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a nonprofit validly existing and registered to do business in Alabama, with a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service evidencing its 501(c)(3) status; institutions of higher education are not eligible applicants to this Innovative Entity Designation program.

If you have questions about the Innovate Alabama Network, please email partners@innovatealabama.org.