

Official Rules for Fund Her Future

The H&R Block Business Grant for Women

1. **Eligibility:** This Contest is governed by these Official Rules for Fund Her Future (“Official Rules”) and the applicable Participation Agreement. This Contest is sponsored by HRB Tax Group, Inc. (“HRB”) and is open only to small businesses in the United States that meet the following criteria: (a) the majority of the business must be owned by individuals who are or identify as women; (b) the business must have plans to continue operating for at least one year following any grant award; and (c) the business must not be (i) a multi-level marketing business, (ii) a franchise, (iii) owned by an individual who is or was within the past year employed by HRB or its affiliates, (iv) owned by a franchisee of HRB or its affiliates, or (v) owned by an individual who is or was within the past year employed by a franchisee of HRB or its affiliates.
2. **How to Participate:** Visit the Fund Her Future Grant website at www.BlockAdvisors.com/FundHerFutureGrant and follow instructions to complete an online Submission by 11:59 pm CT on May 26, 2024. Only online Submissions made through the Fund Her Future Grant website will be accepted. The person who completes the Submission must be an owner of the small business and at least 18 years old. There is a limit of one Submission per business. By participating you: (a) indicate your agreement to these Official Rules and HRB’s decisions regarding the Contest, which are final and binding; and (b) agree that HRB may send commercial messages using the contact information provided on the submission form.
3. **Use of Your Information:** By participating in the Contest and completing an online Submission you agree to allow HRB and its affiliates, agents, contractors, and service providers to contact you via email, phone calls, or text messages regarding your participation in the Contest using automated telephone dialing systems or prerecorded messages, and via email regarding product and service offers. You also agree to HRB’s use of your information to develop marketing materials or informational articles. You may opt out by contacting us at 1-800-HRBLOCK.
4. **Selection Process:**
 - a. **Selection of Finalists:** A panel of judges selected by HRB will evaluate all eligible Submissions and select up to 20 Finalists based on the Judging Criteria set forth in Section 5. HRB will attempt to notify the Finalists via email or telephone, using the contact information provided on the Submission form, in June 2024.
 - b. **Interviews:** Shortly after the selection process, Finalists will be required to participate in a virtual video Interview with the judges. The judges will select five Potential Winners: one potential First Prize winner and four potential Honorable Mention winners based on the Judging Criteria set forth below. HRB will attempt to notify the Potential Winners via email or telephone, using the contact information provided on the Submission form, by June 30, 2024.

5. **Judging Criteria:** The judges will evaluate Submissions based on the following Judging Criteria:
 - a. The size of each business, with preference given to businesses with no more than 20 employees.
 - b. The annual gross revenue of each business, with preference given to businesses with an annual revenue between \$10,000-\$500,000;
 - c. How well each business articulated the plan for how the business would use the grant to grow their business in their submission.
 - d. How well each business articulated its plan to grow in the next year, including, for example, through the hiring of employees, expansion of services, addition of service locations, or international expansion.
 - e. How well the business aligns with one of HRB's strategic priorities.
 - f. How well the business promotes inclusivity and can demonstrate community impact.
 - g. The quality and presentation of the business during Interviews.
6. **Potential Winner Requirements:** Potential Winners will be required to sign and return a Participation Agreement in which the business agrees, among other things to (a) comply with all the obligations set forth in Section 8 and (b) not endorse any competitor of HRB for 12 months. HRB reserves the right to disqualify any potential winner who does not return a signed Participation Agreement within three (3) calendar days of being notified by HRB that they have been selected as a Potential Winner. In addition, HRB reserves the right to conduct a background check on the Potential Winner and to disqualify the Potential Winner if HRB (in its sole discretion) determines that, based on the results of the background check, the potential winner will not be a suitable representative for the HRB brand. If a business is disqualified, HRB may select an alternate Potential Winner in its place according to the Judging Criteria.
7. **Rights to Submissions and Interviews:** By participating in the Contest, you grant HRB, its agents, licensees, and assigns a world-wide, royalty free, irrevocable, perpetual, sub-licensable (non-exclusive) right and permission to reproduce, encode, store, copy, transmit, publish, post, broadcast, display, publicly perform, adapt, modify, create derivative works of, exhibit, and otherwise use your Submission and any Interview as-is or as-edited (with or without using your name) in any media throughout the world for any purpose, without limitation, and without additional review, compensation, or approval from you.
8. **Winner Benefits and Obligations:**
 - a. The First Prize winner will receive a \$50,000 Grant. Each of the four Honorable Mention winners will receive a \$12,500 Grant. The first 50% of each Grant will be awarded on or around July 1, 2024, and the second 50% of each Grant will be awarded on or around

September 30, 2024, provided that each winner complies with all its obligations in the Official Rules and Participation Agreement.

- b. Each winner will also receive access to:
 - i. Tax Year 2023 or Tax Year 2024 Entity and 1040 Federal and State [Tax Return Preparation](#),
 - ii. [Block Advisors Full-Service Bookkeeping](#) for one year from the date of the first 50% grant award,
 - iii. [Block Advisors Payroll Plus](#) for one year from the date of the first 50% grant award,
 - iv. [Block Advisors Business Formation](#), and
 - v. [Block Advisors Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting](#).

Each winner will be required to use the aforementioned tax preparation, bookkeeping and payroll services, and the aforementioned Business Formation and Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting services where needed, and all services must be complete within one year from the date of the first 50% grant award. Additional terms and conditions will apply as set forth in the Participation Agreement and various services agreements.

- c. Each winner will be required to provide at least quarterly updates until June 30, 2025, as requested by HRB, on its use of the Grant and how it has benefited the business. In addition, each winner will be required to participate in photoshoots and recorded interviews to document their progress.
 - d. Each winner will be required to participate in a grant award presentation in their local area, at a date, time and location determined by HRB.
 - e. Any details not specified above will be determined by HRB, in its sole discretion. None of the benefits specified above may be transferred. HRB reserves the right to substitute a benefit with another benefit of equal or greater value if the benefit is not available for any reason, as determined by HRB, in its sole discretion. The winner will be responsible for paying taxes and any other costs not listed above.
9. **General Conditions:** In the event that the operation, security, or administration of the Contest is impaired in any way, HRB may, in its sole discretion: (a) extend the deadlines provided above; (b) suspend the Contest to address the impairment and then resume the Contest; or (c) award the prizes according to the procedures set forth above from among the eligible entries received up to the time of the impairment. HRB reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify and seek damages from any individual or business who tampers with the operation of the Contest, violates

these Official Rules or Participation Agreement, or acts in a manner that may cause harm to HRB's reputation or brand. HRB's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. Proof of sending any communication to HRB by mail shall not be deemed proof of receipt of that communication by HRB. The Contest is subject to federal, state, and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited.

10. **Release and Limitations of Liability:** By entering, you agree to release and hold harmless HRB, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and each of their respective officers, directors, employees, and agents (the "**Released Parties**") from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the Contest or use of any prize, including, but not limited to: (a) unauthorized human intervention in the Contest; (b) technical errors related that may impede participation; (c) any claim or allegation that your Submission infringes any copyright, trademark, or any other intellectual property right; (d) lost, late, misdirected, or undeliverable mail; (e) errors in the administration of the Contest or the processing of Submissions; or (f) injury or damage to persons or property. You further agree that in any cause of action, in no event shall the Released Parties be liable for attorney's fees. You waive the right to claim any damages whatsoever, including, but not limited to, punitive, consequential, direct, or indirect damages.
11. **Disputes:** Except where prohibited, you agree that any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of, or connected with, the Contest or any prize shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively by a federal or state court located in Jackson County, Missouri. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation, and enforceability of these Official Rules, your rights and obligations, or HRB's rights and obligations in connection with the Contest, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of Missouri, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules (whether of Missouri or any other jurisdiction), which would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than Missouri.
12. **Winner Information:** Winners will be publicly announced in July 2024.
13. **Sponsor:** The Contest is sponsored by HRB Tax Group, Inc., One H&R Block Way, Kansas City, Missouri 64105.