H&R Block launches third annual 'Fund Her Future' grant with a new program offering year-round support for women-owned small businesses

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Nearly 60 percent of past applicants said they needed support with a critical business task, such as tax prep, bookkeeping, compliance, payroll, or incorporation

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 01, 2026 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- H&R Block (NYSE: HRB), a global leader in tax preparation, today announced applications are open for its third annual Fund Her Future grant program, marking its most ambitious commitment yet to the long-term financial success of women-owned small businesses. New for 2026, every applicant will receive year-long, community-focused programming based on needs unveiled in last year's survey. In addition, four applicants will receive $45,000 in funding, plus a full year of small business services, including tax preparation, bookkeeping, payroll, and a business structure analysis.

"As a trusted partner to millions of small business owners, we recognize that overcoming business challenges requires more than simply access to capital," said John Towle, director of global retail operations at H&R Block. "For entrepreneurs, the difference between thriving and surviving often lies in building a strong foundation for growth, which can include business guidance from our experts and other mentors."

Year-round support where they need it most

Data from past applicant surveys uncovered that nearly one-third of small business owners identified the need for a mentor, and nearly 60 percent said critical business tasks like tax prep, bookkeeping, compliance, payroll, or incorporation are areas they need the most support.

Heather Jiang, a prior grant recipient, founded her company, Allégorie, to turn food waste into stylish, functional accessories. With H&R Block's expertise, she was able to focus on growing her small business, including hiring new employees, expanding her product line, and improving her marketing strategy.

"H&R Block helped free up my time. I've expanded the team and launched a new collection to reach more customers. My accountant streamlined my books and gave me peace of mind. I feel relieved knowing my business is in good hands."

How to apply

Applications for the 2026 Fund Her Future grant program are now open. To apply, applicants must be at least 18 years old and an owner of a U.S.-based business. For more information about H&R Block and its year-round services for small businesses, visit hrblock.com.

About H&R Block

H&R Block, Inc. (NYSE: HRB) provides help and inspires confidence in its clients and communities everywhere through global tax preparation services, financial products, and small business solutions. Named CNET's Best Overall online tax service for 2026, the company blends digital innovation with human expertise and care as it helps people get the best outcome at tax time and also be better with money using its mobile banking app, Spruce. Through Block Advisors and Wave, the company helps small-business owners thrive with year-round bookkeeping, payroll, advisory, and payment processing solutions. For more information, visit H&R Block News.

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