



Project
Catalyst

Launch Guide

Fund15

15

Fund15 Launch Guide

Welcome to Project Catalyst.

This guide will walk you through everything you need to know about Fund15 and how to take part. To begin, let's cover the fundamentals:

What is Project Catalyst?

Introducing Project Catalyst, Cardano's innovation engine and one of the world's largest decentralized innovation grants funds. Project Catalyst propels collaborative innovation to new heights and fuels Cardano ecosystem expansion by connecting people with groundbreaking ideas to funding, collaborating with and voted for by the Cardano community, and spearheaded by public treasuries.

Why collaborate to innovate?

Across fourteen funding rounds, the Catalyst team and the Cardano community have focused their efforts on building distributed decision-making systems that enable individuals to have a meaningful voice in shaping innovation. You might be asking yourself, "why invest so much effort? What benefits does this bring to all of us?"

- **Distributed research and development:** By putting voting power in the hands of the Catalyst community, the creation, improvement, and implementation of ideas can happen more efficiently than traditional incubation methods.
- **Decentralized team building:** Great teams make innovation thrive! Many of our most impactful projects have started with individuals collaborating. By providing a platform for like-minded innovators to connect and create together, Catalyst is an environment where groundbreaking opportunities can experiment, demonstrate, and flourish.
- **Group refinement and execution:** When the community gets involved and offers valuable feedback, we notice a huge boost in the quality of proposals and projects. Collective accountability and constructive criticism from our diverse contributors helps fine-tune and enhance the projects Catalyst supports.

So, why do we do it? The answer is simple: by working together, we're building a more inclusive, efficient, and innovative future for all. Your voice matters, and we're here to help you make it heard.



How does Project Catalyst work?

Innovation: Proposals are submitted under one of the fund categories, beginning with brainstorming and evolving through community feedback into fully developed proposals.

Governance: Participants register to vote on the proposals they wish to see funded. A tally occurs once the voting period ends before verifiable results are shared.

Execution: Funded projects receive grants to reach each milestone. Project teams provide updates when each milestone is hit while the community verifies evidence of milestone achievements to ensure everything goes to plan.

How can I participate?

- **Proposing:** Propose new ideas for a shot at being selected for funding.
- **Reviewing:** Provide opinions and help guide voters through submitted proposals.
- **Voting:** Decide on the future of Web3 ecosystem innovation.
- **Onboarding & Tracking:** The community helps the selected projects through the onboarding process and review of milestone-based deliverables.

Introducing Fund15

Fund15 will offer a total funding pool for proposers and ecosystem roles in amount of A\$20,000,000 and 250,000 USDM to boost the Cardano ecosystem.

Fund15 will introduce a new Category called Midnight: Compact DApps. Midnight Compact DApps is a strategic fund dedicated to building use cases and utility that will empower the future of privacy-enabled applications. This initiative leverages Catalyst's robust infrastructure and the wisdom of the Cardano community to help select the most promising projects that demonstrate the power of programmable privacy.



In Fund15, all proposers will need to complete a self-assessment checklist to ensure compliance with key category requirements. This will be strictly enforced during moderation to ensure highest quality entries.



Fund15 will introduce a new Category called Midnight: Compact DApps. This strategic fund from Midnight Foundation is dedicated to building use cases and utility that will empower the future of privacy-enabled applications.



There's a maximum submission limit of two proposals per participant. The lead proposer and all named team members must also be in full compliance with commitments for any previously funded Catalyst projects. Learn more about it [here](#).



Proposals must include verifiable references (e.g. up to date LinkedIn profiles, project portfolios, public repositories, corporate bios) for all team members that demonstrate their experience, qualifications, and suitability for the project.



Proposals must be submitted via [Catalyst App](#) by completing the proposal Submission Form and demonstrating the proposed idea's impact, feasibility, and value for money.



For full rundown of the guidelines, please refer to additional resources listed on docs.projectcatalyst.io knowledge base.



Fund15 Categories

In Fund15, applicants can submit their proposals under one of four categories, Cardano Partners, Cardano Concepts, Cardano Open and Midnight.

Cardano Partners

Tier-1 Enterprise Integrations

From A250,000 to A750,000

A10,000,000 Budget

Designed to forge strategic alliances, this specialized funding category will connect the Cardano ecosystem with the world's leading organizations. It will specifically support ambitious proposals that implement and pilot Cardano-based solutions to solve real-world challenges for industry giants.

To fund high-impact R&D pilots and integrations led by or in collaboration with globally recognized Tier-1 enterprises, driving mainstream Cardano adoption and creating significant co-marketing opportunities.

Cardano Use Cases

Prototype & Launch

From A15,000 to A200,000

A6,000,000 Budget

This category is dedicated to funding the technical creators who build the Cardano ecosystem. We're looking for entrepreneurial teams and engineers, experienced blockchain developers both - native o

To provide entrepreneurial individuals and teams with the resources to build and launch novel prototypes that have already undergone foundational research and design, accelerating the delivery of new on-chain utility for Cardano.

Cardano Open

Ecosystem

From A15,000 to A60,000

A2,500,000 Budget

Cardano Open: Ecosystem category will fund non-technical initiatives that drive grassroots ecosystem growth, education, research and community engagement to broaden Cardano's reach.

This category focuses on building the creative capacity of our passionate global community.

Fund15 Categories

The Midnight Compact DApps strategic fund is here to accelerate the creation of real-world use cases and utility that will define the future of privacy-enabled applications.

This initiative is a powerful collaboration, leveraging Project Catalyst's robust infrastructure and the collective wisdom of the Cardano community to identify and champion the most promising projects. Together, we'll demonstrate the true power of programmable privacy.

This category is seeking reference DApps, and funding will be sponsored by the Midnight Foundation.

Midnight

Compact DApps

\$USDM 250,000 Budget

From \$USDM 2,500 to \$USDM 10,000

The Midnight Foundation is looking to sponsor high-impact, open-source projects that directly demonstrate high-value use cases for privacy-preserving applications, laying the critical groundwork of basic UI design and prototyping. The goal is to accelerate developer adoption of Midnight by supporting the creation of essential open-source reference DApps.

Areas of Interest

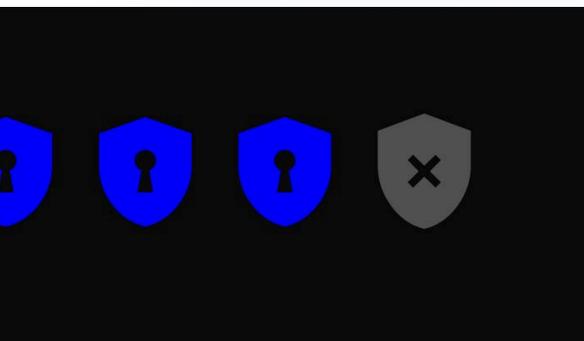
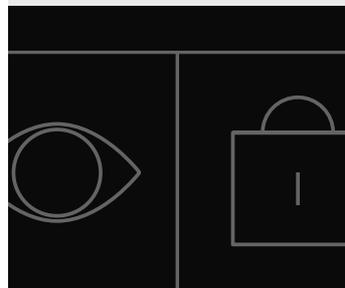
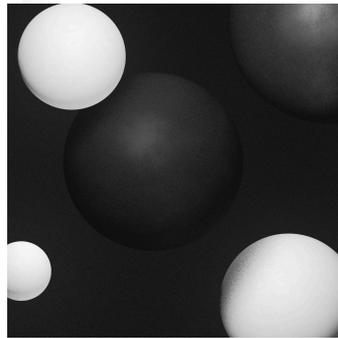
Governance: Build civic platforms that ensure fairness, auditability, and participant protection.

AI: Enable privacy-first AI systems where data is used responsibly and with user consent.

Health: Create patient-owned data systems, research networks, and telehealth tools powered by privacy-preserving infrastructure.

Finance: Develop compliant financial products—such as private credit markets, DeFi rails, or digital banking—using Midnight's programmable privacy.

Innovative & Novel Concepts: Propose a creative concept that leverages Midnight's privacy features in any other industries or real-world use cases.



Catalyst Horizons Insights

Built something with Catalyst? Now you're on the map!

Scan the QR and take a trip around the Catalyst global innovation network in our new interactive world map.

Or dive deeply into 4 years of funds data in the Catalyst Horizons 2025 report at projectcatalyst.io/horizons2025

₳285,207,096.33
Allocated

₳215,385,765.68
Distributed

3,258,515
Total votes cast

11,233
Proposals voted on

2,222 funded projects
Voted and approved

88%
Project completion rate

~1:5
Ratio of proposals
to funded projects

114
Countries have benefitted
from Catalyst resources

600
Active projects

1,413
Completed projects



Explore Catalyst Worldwide
View our global project map
projectcatalyst.io/global-map



How to get involved

There are several ways to engage with Project Catalyst, and we encourage as many ADA holders as possible to take part. To join the Catalyst community, simply create an account on the [Catalyst App](#).

Once you become a part of the Catalyst community, you can participate in discussions, share opinions, and cast your vote.

Key Dates

The most up to date timeline can be found on our [official documentation portal here](#).

Where to find Project Catalyst?

To submit a Proposal:
app.projectcatalyst.io

For all things Catalyst:
projectcatalyst.io

For Announcements only:
t.me/cardanocatalyst

Please subscribe to the Catalyst mailing list:
bit.ly/ProjCatNews

Follow us on twitter:
[@Catalyst_onX](https://twitter.com/Catalyst_onX)

Connect with us on LinkedIn:
[catalystvoting](https://www.linkedin.com/company/catalystvoting)

Join one of the world's largest decentralized innovation funds
and become a part of the Project Catalyst Community.

