

Artificial Intelligence use

AI Use at The Heinz Endowments

The Heinz Endowments is committed to the responsible, human-centered use of artificial intelligence (“AI”). As AI becomes increasingly embedded in society and philanthropy, we believe its use must align with our mission, values, and long-standing commitment to equity, community well-being, and environmental stewardship.

This outline explains how we use AI and what our partners, grantees and the public can expect from us.

Our Commitment to Responsible, Human-Centered AI

We view AI as a tool that can enhance our internal productivity around administrative and repetitive tasks; however, we expect human review of all AI-assisted work.

We recognize AI’s environmental impacts and our responsibility to reduce harm. AI technologies can require significant energy and water resources, and while we cannot always determine the specific energy sources behind the tools we use, we try to minimize our footprint when possible.

We also recognize that AI’s influence extends beyond the environment. It has implications for workers, artists and creative communities, civic participation, and the regional economy. We are monitoring these cross-sector impacts across all of our strategic areas to understand how AI may shape the communities we serve.

How We Use AI

The Endowments may use AI in limited ways to support internal productivity and efficiency, such as transcription, summarization, communication, research support, and data organization. AI may help to augment the quality and rigor of our thinking and work products.

We do not use AI to make final decisions including those around grantmaking and candidate pool selection, or to automate relationship-based work. AI does not replace our critical thinking, and human oversight is required for all AI-supported content. Staff remain responsible for reviewing, validating, and ensuring accuracy.

Privacy, Data Protection & Transparency

We safeguard the privacy and confidentiality of all data entrusted to us.

- We do not input sensitive, confidential or grantee/vendor provided, non-public data into public AI tools.
- We evaluate AI vendors and tools for data security and privacy protections and provision AI tools for staff use that do not enable data-sharing or training.
- We clearly communicate when AI is a significant contributor in a final work product.

Equity, Bias Mitigation & Acceptable Use

AI systems can reflect or amplify bias. We work to prevent this by:

- Assessing tools for potential bias before adoption and ensuring diverse staff perspectives inform AI tool evaluation.
- Training staff to examine and address bias in AI outputs.
- Maintaining clear guidelines for acceptable and unacceptable use.
- Ensuring that human judgment and interaction drive all relationship-based and community-facing work.

Continuous Learning, Accountability & Compliance

AI is rapidly evolving, and so is our approach. We invest in staff learning, maintain internal feedback loops, and regularly review our policies and practices.

We will review these guidelines periodically and update them as needed to reflect new technologies, community expectations, and emerging best practices.

We also comply with all applicable laws and regulations governing AI. We welcome thoughtful feedback and lessons learned from our partners and community as we continue to refine our approach. Contact us at info@heinz.org.

Expectations of Our Partners & Grantees

We recognize that many partners and grantees use AI tools in their work.

To maintain trust, transparency, and alignment with our values, we ask that AI be used thoughtfully and with human oversight.

- **Disclosure of AI use:** Please let us know when materials submitted to the Endowments are primarily generated by AI. This includes grant applications, reports, and quotations for publication.
- **Human accountability:** When AI is used, organizations remain responsible for the accuracy, originality, and appropriateness of all submitted content.
- **Mutual trust:** Responsible AI use is a shared commitment. Just as we do not put sensitive, confidential, or grantee/vendor provided non-public data into non-private AI tools, we ask that our partners abide by the same principles with Endowments' data.
- **Responsible AI practices:** We encourage partners to develop their own AI policies and explore resources such as the [TAG & Project Evident framework](#) and [NTEN's AI for Nonprofits Resource Hub](#).

June 2026