

PoolTool Sustaining — Final Close-Out Report

Project Catalyst · Fund 13 · Cardano Open: Developers

Project ID: #1300159

Applicant: Mike Fullman (Individual)

Report Date: February 4, 2026

1. Project Overview

Project title: PoolTool Sustaining

Fund & challenge: Fund 13 — Cardano Open: Developers

Problem addressed: Keeping PoolTool operational for a full year after the completion of the prior Fund 10 open-source and sustain proposal.

Original objectives / success criteria:

- Maintain and support the PoolTool platform for 12 months.
 - Keep PoolTool operational (demonstrated via uptime monitoring).
 - Keep the platform fully open source (repositories publicly available).
 - Deliver four quarterly milestones; the final milestone (Months 10–12) includes this close-out report.
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2. What Was Delivered

Milestone 1 — Months 1, 2, 3 (Apr 2025) — **Completed**

- PoolTool operational as demonstrated by the uptime monitor.
- PoolTool remains open source (repositories available as specified in the proposal).

Milestone 2 — Months 4, 5, 6 (Jul 2025) — **Completed**

- PoolTool operational (uptime monitor).
- PoolTool open source (repositories).

Milestone 3 — Months 7, 8, 9 (Oct 2025) — **Completed**

- PoolTool operational (uptime monitor).
- PoolTool open source (repositories).

Milestone 4 — Months 10, 11, 12 (Nov 2025 delivery) — **Completed**

- PoolTool operational (uptime monitor).
- PoolTool open source (repositories).
- **Close-out report** (this document).

Summary: All four milestones have been completed as proposed. No scope changes; deliverables match the original milestone descriptions.

3. Evidence & Verification

What to verify	Link	What the reviewer will see
Uptime / operational status	PoolTool Uptime Monitor	Live status of PoolTool services; confirms platform has been kept operational.
Open source code	PoolTool GitHub	Organization and repositories; confirms platform is open source as stated.
Proposal & fund context	PoolTool Sustaining — Fund 13	Original proposal, milestones, and project description.
Milestone tracking	Milestone Module — Project 1300159	Milestone status and reporting for this project.

What to look for: At the uptime link, confirm that PoolTool services show operational status over the funded period. At GitHub, confirm that the PoolTool-io organization and key repositories are public and maintained.

4. Budget & Funds Usage

Total funds requested: 60,000 ADA (12 months × 5,000 ADA/month)

Funds received to date: 45,000 ADA (Milestones 1–3), equivalent to **\$35,399** at time of receipt.

Funds pending upon final milestone acceptance: 15,000 ADA (Milestone 4), approximately **\$5,000** at current prices.

High-level spending (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025):

Category	Amount (USD)	Notes
Infrastructure / servers / storage	\$14,883.44	Hard costs: \$684.16 + \$1,083.02 + \$13,116.26 (servers, live data, Firestore, 300+ pools submitting every block).
Labor / maintenance	Remainder of received funds	Development, node upgrades, platform maintenance, and support over the 12 months.

Confirmation: Funds have been used as proposed—to cover server and infrastructure costs and the labor required to keep PoolTool operational and open source. The project operated at break-even at best; Catalyst funding was essential to sustain the platform.

5. Impact & Outcomes

Who benefited:

- **Pool operators** — Continued access to PoolTool for block submission, analysis, and archiving (300+ pools).
- **Delegators** — Reliable, straightforward rewards and performance information.
- **Ecosystem** — Other platforms that use PoolTool's measured performance metrics for pool management and tooling.

Measurable / observable impact:

- PoolTool remained operational for the full 12 months.
- Platform stayed open source under Mozilla Public License 2.0.
- No ads; free access for the community.
- Continued use of PoolTool's live stake ledger state parser and related backend technology.

Alignment with Cardano values: Open source, no lock-in, community-focused infrastructure, and sustained support for a long-standing ecosystem tool (since ITN).

6. Challenges & Learnings

- **Cost structure:** Live infrastructure (e.g. Firestore) and the volume of block submissions from 300+ pools make monthly run costs significant; this was reflected in the proposal and confirmed in practice.
- **Node compatibility:** Keeping the stack aligned with the latest Cardano node releases required ongoing maintenance; this is expected for live chain-facing infrastructure.
- **Funding vs. cost:** At received funding and current cost levels, the project broke even at best, underscoring that Catalyst support was necessary to keep PoolTool running for the year.

What we'd do differently: Running PoolTool is expensive. Going forward we will focus on cost reductions, which may mean narrowing the feature set. The Cardano ecosystem already has many explorers; we aim to offer a focused subset of features that fill real gaps rather than use Catalyst funding to sustain a service that duplicates what others already provide.

7. Future Plans

- **Continuation:** Intent is to keep PoolTool operational albeit with some feature reductions; sustainability will depend on future funding (e.g. Catalyst or other) and/or community support.
- **Maintenance:** Ongoing node upgrades and infrastructure maintenance will continue as long as the platform is sustained.
- **Future Catalyst:** Applying to future Catalyst funds for sustaining or scaling is possible if challenges and categories fit.
- **Community:** Contributions, feedback, and use of the open source repos (<https://github.com/PoolTool-io>) are welcome.

8. Final Declaration

This report accurately describes the delivery of the PoolTool Sustaining project under Fund 13 (Cardano Open: Developers). All four milestones have been completed as proposed: PoolTool remained operational and open source for the full 12 months, and this close-out report is submitted as the final deliverable for Milestone 4.

We thank Project Catalyst and the Cardano community for the support that made this year of operation possible.

Team:

Mike Fullman — Team lead, primary developer

Leon — Mobile application developer

Date of submission: February 4, 2026