

Call for proposals

Mozilla Common Voice: Public API Developer Fund

There are at least **7000+ languages** spoken around the world, and yet AI supports only a **handful**. We want to help you change that.

Common Voice is a Mozilla community project to help technology speak your language by providing free, open infrastructure to collect, host and release NLP datasets. We have been working on diversifying and making AI more democratic since 2017, and at 300+ languages, and 30,000+ hours we are the largest public participation speech dataset in the world – all thanks to the global communities we serve.

We heard from communities working with us that our platform approach was not flexible enough to support the varied and manifold ways that they wanted to contribute and that they wanted to be able to participate in Common Voice by using custom interfaces designed with their specific technical or cultural needs in mind.

As an answer to this problem, in **July 2025** we will be launching a **Public API**, which will allow communities and external projects to create their own interfaces to contribute data to the Common Voice platform.

In the initial release, developers will have the ability to design and deploy their own interfaces. This will allow for:

- Receiving credentials to interact securely with the Common Voice platform
- Submitting audio and text data to the Common Voice platform
- Additional retrieval of audio and text data from Common Voice beyond the usual dataset releases

In order to support the communities around Common Voice in their adoption of this new API, **we are delighted to announce the launch of a *Developer Fund*** to help projects bring Common Voice closer to their communities and to accomplish their goals.

Common Voice

moz://a

What types of projects are we interested in?

- Projects that facilitate offline or asynchronous contribution
- Custom landing pages for the Common Voice site that embed contribution but are rooted in a particular story, campaign or cultural context
- Integrations with instant messaging applications that allow people to contribute from different devices

How will projects be evaluated?

- **Participation:** Projects with active or large communities — which you might demonstrate by showing evidence of previous data collection, or engaged user bases with aligned interests (for example in the spheres of language learning, home automation or language maintenance and revitalisation)
- **Social impact:** Research projects that incorporate the collection of voice samples from communities with custom or particular needs
- **Knowledge and science:** Show the utility of the dataset to have an impact on an important research or technology problem.

Note: Applicants are not eligible to receive funds if they are on the US Specifically Designated Nationals (SDN) list or if there are sanctions against the applicant's country such that Mozilla is prohibited from paying them.

Projects will be evaluated and approved on a rolling basis. The deadline for final project deliverables is the **1st December, 2025**.

Your application

Applications should be submitted to commonvoice@mozilla.com with the subject line:

Application for Common Voice Public API Developer Fund

At this time we can review applications in English, French and Spanish. If you need our review in another language please let us know.

Please note, applications do not need to be lengthy in order to be high quality - three to five A4 pages will likely suffice.

Common Voice

moz://a

Please include:

- **Project motivation and description:** What do you plan to do and why?
- **A budget:** Funds are usually in the range of 5,000-20,000 USD. *(for the maximum grant size we would expect to see a well developed plan for dissemination and estimation of impact)*
- **Project and technical plan:** this should include a table of dates and milestones and should also include a description of the API endpoints, frameworks to be used, and the hosting environment. A draft description of the API can be found at <https://common-voice.github.io/common-voice-docs/openapi-docs.html>
- **Team and qualifications:** these can be links to bios or description of expertise and experience.
- **Community and sustainability:** a plan for engagement with the wider community, centring their needs and context and a plan for how the project will be sustained after the grant period.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis by a Common Voice internal committee.