

GPA/OCF Equity Impact Grant
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated 7/18/18

- ***“May I submit after the deadline?”***

Unfortunately, we cannot accept late submissions and applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed.

- ***“Will there be a chance to supplement my application to address any missing/incomplete information, etc.?”***

We cannot accept updated applications after the deadline, although the review committee may, in some instances, request additional information.

- ***“Do all of the required proposal elements need to be submitted at the same time (i.e., should I wait until all of the required elements and attachments are ready before submitting my application package, or can I submit them over a period of time)?*** For ease of processing, please submit all proposal elements at the same time.

- ***“Will I get feedback on my application?”***

One purpose of this grant process is to provide feedback that you can use in other grant applications. We will provide feedback for every application. We are also happy to give more detailed feedback and recommendations, from a grant writer’s perspective, on each application.

- ***“Can my application be part of a larger program or project?”*** Yes. In fact, it’s helpful if you demonstrate other financial and in-kind contributions.

- ***“May my organization submit more than one application?”*** Generally, no. However, an organization may serve as fiscal sponsor for multiple organizations and/or also submit their own application.

- ***“You state, ‘Income and expense must match, unless the project includes a fundraising component.’ Is it OK if they don’t match exactly?”*** Please adjust expenses and/or anticipated sources of support so that they match. The reasons are as follows: (1) If income is greater than expense, then the entire grant award is not needed; and (2) If expense is greater than income, then there will not be sufficient funds to complete the project.

- ***“Why is the ‘Narrative Guidelines’ section so detailed?”*** One purpose of this RFP is to provide a learning opportunity for smaller organizations to develop grant writing skills. The narrative guidelines reflect best practices in proposal development for foundation funders.

- ***“Do I need to start each section on a separate page?”*** No.

- ***“Does it matter what specific items funds are used for?”*** We want to see that the funds will support the overall project, but where you choose to spend it is flexible.

- **“Do you support capital campaigns?”** Generally, we would not support a large capital campaign such as a building, but if this were part of a smaller purchase like a van or walk-in freezer with a well-developed program and fundraising plan, that could be a strong proposal.
- **What if my organization has not substantially served communities of color, but is interested in focusing more in this area? Would my organization still be eligible for this grant?** Priority will be given to organizations that demonstrate predominant representation of communities of color in organizational leadership and population served. Proposals from other organizations are welcome but will be scored lower.
- **How strict are the page limits/guidelines? What if I have more or less information to include?** Please submit no more than eight pages (including cover letter and application summary; attachments do not count toward this word limit).
- **Will you accept any non-written information about my organization/program (e.g., videos, interviews, etc.)?** You may submit one other attachment such as a brochure, annual report, visual diagram of project, etc., but these are not required. Please do not submit audio or video attachments or links.
- **My organization’s budget is greater than \$500,000. Would my organization still be eligible for this grant?** We understand some organizations may have a small staff but large budgets, thus priority is given to organizations with budgets under \$500,000 and organizations that do not have professional grant writers on staff or under contract.
- **Will finalists be required to participate in the GPA conference?** All finalists will be given complimentary admission for one member of their organization to attend the conference. In addition, the review panel may ask finalists if they wish to participate in a conference panel (for example, a 5-minute presentation on their experience with this application process), or if they are willing to share excerpts of their application that are particularly strong (identifying information can be removed). Although conference attendance by one organization member is required to be eligible for the reward, the other forms of participation described are optional although we certainly welcome finalists’ participation.

More questions?

Contact GPAEquityQuestions@gmail.com