

Peter & Elizabeth Tower Foundation

Community Experts Fund

Application Preview

The following is a preview of what to expect when completing an application for funding from the Community Experts Fund. To complete an application, please visit:

<https://towerfdn.link/communityexperts>

Applications must be submitted by Friday, July 22nd, 2022 by 11:59 PM

I. Organizational Information (*all applicants*)

- Contact person & contact information
- Organization EIN
- Signatory & contact information
- Tower Foundation populations served
- Tower Foundation geographies served

II. Diversity Information (*all applicants*)

To help the Tower Foundation Advisory Team understand more about your organization and the people you support, we are asking grant applicants to share how your organization reflects Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

1. Is your organization led by: (check all that apply)

- A person with a disclosed disability
- A person who identifies as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, or Person of Color)
- A person who reflects another key identity of the population served by the organization
- Other (describe)

2. Which of the following intersectional identities do you commonly find in your work? For example, an organization that serves a significant population of people with intellectual disabilities who also are low income would put a checkmark at the intersection of those two identities.



	Intellectual Disabilities	Learning Disabilities	Mental Health	Substance Use Disorders
Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low-income	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rural	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Immigrant/ Refugee Populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III. Application Preferences *(all applicants)*

- For 2022, the Advisory Team has prioritized funding for mentoring and coaching programs that support self-advocacy, and counseling that supports mental health. **Which category or categories does your request focus on?**
 - Mentoring and Coaching
 - Counseling
- Please choose how you will respond to your application.** As a reminder, all applicants will connect for a 20 minute zoom conversation in addition to your submission.
 - In writing
 - By video submission (5 minutes or less)

IV. Written Application Response *(written applicants only)*

- What services does your organization provide? (250 word limit, about a half page, single spaced)
- How do you reflect youth voice in what you do? (250 word limit)
- How much money are you requesting? Maximum request is \$20,000. (50 word maximum)
- What do you propose to do with the grant? (250 word limit)

V. Video Application Response *(video applicants only)*

A video application follows much the same outline as a written application, and addresses the same questions. The total length of the video should not exceed five minutes. In your video, please respond to the questions below.

- What services does your organization provide?
- How do you reflect youth voice in what you do?

Application questions continued

- How much money are you requesting?
- What do you propose to do with the grant?

Video Tips:

- You can record a video using a smartphone, computer with a webcam, digital cameras, or an honest-to-goodness video camera.
- Please keep your video as simple as possible. We're not looking for high production value (we don't have an award for Best Visual Effects or anything like that), so don't feel like you have to spend a lot of time on fancy graphics or animations.
- To the degree possible, make sure your audio is clear. Do your best to record in a quiet setting. The occasional animal sound or door slam isn't a big deal, so don't get too worked up trying to make it perfect.
- Acceptable file types include: mp4, wmv, mpg, mpeg, flv, avi, mov, mkv

VI. Zoom Call (all applicants)

Following your application submission, you can expect to hear from the Foundation to schedule a 20-minute Zoom interview to learn more about your organization and your request. Applicants will receive an email linking them to an interview sign-up form. Members of the Advisory Team and Tower staff will participate. The call will be recorded for viewing by other Advisory Team members during the grant review process.

What will the call be like?

The calls will be an informal chance for us to get to know your organization and your request better. Some questions will be asked of all applicants, others will be specific to your application. The following questions will give you a sense for what to expect:

- Give us an example of a young person going through your program. What is the experience like?
- What are you most interested in learning from this project?
- How will this make a difference to the organization and the people you serve?
- Additional questions in response to your application.

Advisors will review applications and call recordings between mid-August and mid-September. We expect all applicants to be notified of decisions by September 30, 2022.

To complete an application, visit:

<https://towerfdn.link/communityexperts>

Accommodations & Contact Information

For more information or to request an accommodation, contact:

Nick Randell at ngr@thetowerfoundation.org or 716-689-0370 x 205