![Peter & Elizabeth Tower Foundation logo]

Strengthening Partner Capacity
2024 Guidelines

Eligibility

- It's easiest for us to accept grant applications from:
  - Not-for-profit organizations with a 501(c)(3) designation that are not private foundations;
  - Not-for-profit public benefit corporations;
  - Public or diocesan school districts; or
  - Private or charter schools.
- We will be making grants to organizations currently providing services in one or more of these regions:
  - Massachusetts: Barnstable County, Dukes County, Essex County, Nantucket County
  - New York: Erie County, Niagara County
- At a minimum, grant partners must currently provide prevention, treatment, and/or recovery services to people aged 26 years or younger from at least one of these populations:
  - People with intellectual disabilities (including those on the autism spectrum)
  - People with specific learning disabilities
  - People with mental illness/mental health challenges
  - People with substance use disorders
- Our ideal grant partners serve one or more of the populations listed above who also have intersecting identities as members of historically marginalized communities (e.g., Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latinx, Native American/Indigenous Peoples, disability, housing insecure, immigrant/refugee, LGBTQIA+).
- The Foundation may give preference to organizations that have not received a grant award recently.

Funding Availability

- Grants are for one year, with a maximum award of $30,000, including administrative overhead (at 20%). **We will not consider applications for multi-year awards through this funding opportunity**.
- A total of $1,050,000 is available in 2024, with $350,000 awarded in each of three grant cycles.

Application Timeline

	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
Applications Due	January 24, 2024	May 22, 2024	October 9, 2024
Decisions Sent	March 13, 2024	July 3, 2024	November 20, 2024

What We're Most Interested in Funding

The Foundation is interested in funding requests that, "build and/or strengthen the systems, structures, cultures, skills, resources, and power that organizations need to serve their communities."

Here are some examples to get you thinking, but this is not a complete list of everything we'll consider:

- Board/Leadership development
- Diversity, equity, inclusion
- Evaluation/Evaluation design
- Mergers/affiliations
- Organizational development (e.g., strategic planning; marketing, development, and/or communications support; process improvement; succession planning)

- Professional development
- Program design and planning (not service delivery; contact us if you have questions!)
- Small capital projects/equipment purchases
- Staff mental wellness support
- Technology planning/purchasing
- What are your ideas? (We're happy to discuss them!)

We recognize that many of these investments target the growth and well-being of an entire organization. For capacity-building projects intended to benefit specific programs or departments, we will give preference to requests that address the needs of young people affected by intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, mental health, and substance use disorders who also have intersecting identities as members of historically marginalized communities (e.g., Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latinx, Native American/Indigenous Peoples, disability, housing insecure, immigrant/refugee, LGBTQIA+).

What We're Not Interested in Funding

- Existing staff positions (start-up/temporary/short-term positions will be considered)
- General operating support
- Multi-year projects
- Service delivery or program implementation (these are a better fit for our Programs & Services portfolio).
- Reminder: Organizations must currently provide services to our focus populations and geographies to be eligible.

How to Apply

- Most of our grant requests come in through the Foundation's grants portal (https://towerfdn.link/grants-portal).
- Please drop us an email (info@thetowerfoundation.org) to let us know what accommodations would make it easier for you to apply.
- For any of the following situations, please get in touch with a Program Officer to discuss your circumstances:
  - We are happy to take applications in non-written formats (e.g., video, audio). Nothing highly produced, though – keep it simple (but make sure you have good sound quality!).
  - Not one of the organization types listed above? No problem. We'll take proposals from groups or organizations that do not have non-profit status as long as they apply through a fiscal sponsor.
  - We are open to accepting proposals written for other funders.

How to Contact Us

If you have any questions that aren't covered in these guidelines, you'd like to discuss a special circumstance, or you want to see whether an idea you have for a grant is a good fit for the Foundation, please get in touch with one of our Program Officers.

- Schedule a phone call: https://calendly.com/towerfdn-program
- Send us an email: info@thetowerfoundation.org