



PETER & ELIZABETH TOWER FOUNDATION

Strengthening Partner Capacity

2023 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 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+).
- While we have eliminated the waiting period between receiving a Strengthening Partner Capacity grant and reapplying in a later cycle, the Foundation may give preference to organizations that have not received a grant award recently.

Funding Availability

- The maximum grant award for this opportunity is \$40,000.
- A total of \$900,000 is available, with \$300,000 awarded in each of three grant cycles.

Application Timeline

	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
Applications Due	January 11, 2023	May 17, 2023	September 20, 2023
Decisions Sent	February 22, 2023	June 28, 2023	November 1, 2023

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:

- Diversity, equity, inclusion
- Leadership development
- Mergers/affiliations
- Network/field-building events
- Organizational development
- Professional development
- Program design and planning
- Small capital projects/equipment purchases
- Technology planning/purchasing
- What are your ideas? ([We're happy to discuss them!](#))

Requests focusing primarily on service delivery or implementing new programmatic initiatives are better suited to our Programs & Services portfolio.

We recognize that many of these investments target the growth and well-being of an entire organization. For more focused projects, the Foundation 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 \(e.g., Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latinx, Native American/Indigenous Peoples, disability, housing insecure, immigrant/refugee, LGBTQIA+\).](#)

How to Apply

- Most of our grant requests come in through [the Foundation's grants portal](#). If you don't need any sort of special consideration (see below), please submit your application here: <https://thetowerfoundation.force.com>
- 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