

Information Session for Portland Votes 2024 Grant Program

April 16, 2024, 3-4pm (Zoom)

Questions and Answers

Who is making and paying for the printed materials (under this grant opportunity)?

The City will be making the voter education materials for organizations to use to ensure accurate information and consistency in messaging. Multnomah County will also be producing materials which will be available for subgrantees to use. The City will provide subgrantees with materials in digital form. If an organization's proposal includes a need for printed materials to distribute at an event (e.g. fair, community event,) the cost for printing is an eligible cost that can be included in the proposed budget.

Is our community going to be filmed by Hearts and Minds?

It is not something currently included in their early planning. However, Hearts and Minds staff will work with selected grantees to assist them in the media campaign for this project to respond to needs in different communities. Being filmed is not a requirement, nor expectation, of this grant.

Will the selection committee do a pre-site visit or interview to ensure you select actually does the work within the communities?

Conducting pre-site visits or interviews are not part of this evaluation process. The evaluation committee will be comprised of members with a range of backgrounds and expertise, including familiarity and prior experiences working with organizations in our communities. The committee will rely on what is communicated through the applications to assess applicants' experience, capacity, and abilities to carry out their proposed work in their communities. Reviewers will identify any concerns or questions that may arise through the review process and may follow up with agencies during that process for further clarifications.

Will the United Way host any education sessions?

United Way's role with this grant opportunity is they serve as the fiscal sponsor for Portland United for Change (PuFC), the lead organization of this grant opportunity. In United Way's broader role as a community organization, they may conduct education sessions around a range of topics in the community. Grantees selected for this funding will receive education and training sessions led by PuFC as part of this grant.

Is the work expected to be completed within 4 months?

Yes. The timeline is defined by the election schedule. Selected grantees will begin work in June and continue through election day (in Nov 2024).

If our population is not on the priority population list, and if the programming is in English, should we still apply for category 2 grants?

Interested organizations may still apply if the population(s) they serve are not on the list, and if the programming is in English. Interested organizations are encouraged to apply for whatever tier(s) they think are most appropriate for their proposed plans and capacity. The sample activities and tiers of grants listed on the website are guidelines and are not finite.

Do you need to have a 501 c3 designation to be eligible?

No, being a 501c3 organization is not a requirement for eligibility. Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Located within the City of Portland
2. NOT on the Oregon Department of Justice list of Disqualified Charities
3. Can commit to *Use of Funds* requirements, complete trainings with the Portland Votes team about ranked-choice voting and the separation of 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4) and permissible activities, and participate in monthly meetings and reporting for the grant period.

What will expectations be for follow up & reporting?

There will be reporting requirements throughout the process so that we can determine progress, make corrections as needed, and track success. The program lead will provide the information, materials, and support required for selected grantees to understand and complete the reporting requirements. Examples include monthly progress/check-ins and a final report.

Can religious organizations apply?

Religious organizations are not precluded from this opportunity, so long as they meet the eligibility requirements of the grant. Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Located within the City of Portland
2. NOT on the Oregon Department of Justice list of Disqualified Charities
3. Can commit to *Use of Funds* requirements, complete trainings with the Portland Votes team about ranked-choice voting and the separation of 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4) and permissible activities, and participate in monthly meetings and reporting for the grant period.

If an organization submitted an application before today's session, can they re-submit?

Yes, an organization may submit an updated application. The review committee will consider the applicant's most recent submission as their final application.