



Partnership Mobilization Fund Overview

DESCRIPTION: An overview of the Vibrant Democracy Initiative Partnership Mobilization Fund grant and application process

CONTACT: Aaron Robertson at a.robertson@seattlefoundation.org or 206.515.2135.

MORE INFORMATION: seattlefoundation.org/nonprofits/nonprofitgrantopportunities#VDIpartnershipmobilization.

Application Overview

Through the Partnership Mobilization program, part of Seattle Foundation's [Vibrant Democracy Initiative](#), nonprofit partnerships can apply for a total of up to \$30,000 to fund partnerships that increase the civic voice and participation of underrepresented communities. Grants will range from \$2,000 - \$10,000 per organization.

These grants are catalytic, one-time investments to existing and emerging partnerships and coalitions to develop or strengthen organizational relationships and collaboration. Groups may self-define the nature of their partnerships (e.g., ethnicity, geography, service area, issue, etc.). Grant dollars will support planning, coordination, staff time, facilitation and other costs associated with building partnerships.

The Partnership Mobilization grant proposals are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis to reduce the equity gap in building partnerships and relationships.

For more information, contact Aaron Robertson at a.robertson@seattlefoundation.org or 206.515.2135.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

A significant need among nonprofit organizations working to amplify underrepresented voices in policy and systems change is resources to establish strategic partnerships with other organizations and institutions. Authentic and effective partnerships allow groups to leverage limited resources and build collective power.

We seek to fund:

- Partnerships that build community influence in areas including policy and systems change, advocacy, community organizing, leadership development, voter registration and voter education.
- Partnerships of organizations with limited staff and financial capacity collaborating with other nonprofits or institutions such as school districts or government agencies.
- Partnerships that enable groups to accomplish collective efforts they would not be able to achieve alone.

Eligibility is restricted to:

- Each funded organization must have 501c3 status or be fiscally sponsored by a 501c3 organization. 501c4 activities are not eligible for funding.
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- Submitting applicant is limited to applying for one Partnership Mobilization grant per year. Submitting applicant and organizations in the partnership may be included in other Partnership Mobilization grant proposals.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Total grant request should not exceed \$30,000. Grant per organization ranges from \$2,000-\$10,000, depending on scope of work, activities and role in partnership.
- The partnership must include at least two organizations, with no limit on the total number of organizations.
- Partnerships awarded a grant must submit a final report with lessons learned and outcomes from the joint effort.

Additional grant information and criteria are listed in the [RFP](#), also linked to from seattlefoundation.org/nonprofits/nonprofitgrantopportunities#VDIpartnershipmobilization.

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Step One:

Nonprofit groups come together as a partnership to collaborate on shared civic activities and identify which organization will submit the grant proposal. Contact Aaron Robertson at a.robertson@seattlefoundation.org or 206.515.2135 if you have questions about your fit for the Partnership Mobilization program.

Step Two:

If eligible, download and complete the VDI Partnership Mobilization grant application materials. Technical assistance is available to complete the application.

Step Three:

Email a completed application packet to a.robertson@seattlefoundation.org. A completed application packet will consist of the following:

1. Narrative Response describing the partnership, goals and activities (not exceeding 4 pages).
2. Attachments: (a) Cover Sheet (b) Partnership Table (c) Board Lists and (d) Organizational Budgets.
1. If relevant – fiscal sponsorship letters for any organization that is fiscally sponsored.

Step Four:

Seattle Foundation staff may follow up to request additional information or a site visit.

APPLICATION MATERIALS:

[Partnership Mobilization RFP \(.pdf\)](#)



[Partnership Mobilization Cover Letter \(.docx\)](#)

[Partnership Mobilization Table \(.docx\)](#)

These materials are also available at

seattlefoundation.org/nonprofits/nonprofitgrantopportunities#VDIpartnershipmobilization.
