

Systems and Policy RFP FAQ

Below is a list of questions that were asked during the in person information meetings

Q: How do you define a Coalition?

A: For the purposes of this RFP, we define a coalition as two or more organizations coming together to do the work.

Q: Can we apply if we are a new non-profit?

A: Yes, please be sure to provide information about your experience and history working with the communities or issue that you worked with before you acquired 501c3 status.

Q: Is an organization that is not led by or for the impacted community ineligible to apply?

A: No, it would not be ineligible.

Q: What should be included in the Landscape Analysis?

A: Other relevant information to the challenge – this may include but is not limited to: research or information gaps, influences on the decision maker, other organizations doing similar work, structural barriers preventing change from happening etc.

Q: Does the work proposed for this RFP need to be a new effort/program? Can it be used for implementation of a policy or systems change?

A: It can be a new effort, or one that you are currently working on, you may provide this context in response to question 9. This funding can be used to support work during the implementation phase of a policy.

Q: Will grantees contracted with King County or Seattle Foundation? Are there restrictions on the funding?

A: Seattle Foundation is the contractor, with dollars from King County and other foundations. If you anticipate your organization will participate in lobbying, please note that in your application so we can grant the funds appropriately.

Q: How are the grant funds received?

A: Seattle Foundation will develop a contract with successful grantees. We anticipate paying year 1 when the contract is signed in January 2020, and year two following the completion of grantees year-1 grant report at the start of 2021.

Q: Does an organization have to submit audited financial statements?

A: If your organization has audited financial statements please submit those; if you are part of a coalition, please submit the audited financials from the lead organization. If your organization has a fiscal sponsor, please submit the audited financial statements from the fiscal sponsor. We recognize not all organizations will have audited financial statements.

Q: Do we need to submit operating budgets for each organization in a coalition?

A: No, if you are part of a coalition, please send the operating budget for the lead organization. The proposed budget for your grant activities should specify how grant resources would be distributed amongst the coalition.

Q: Do we need to submit a letter of support?

A: No, please do not submit any attachments that are not specifically requested. We are asking for two community contacts to confirm that the work you are doing is supported by the community. We may reach out to them after the initial review, and before the site visit.

Q: Who is reviewing the applications?

A: There will be a panel of nine – eleven reviewers. One third will be SeaFnd / COO staff, and the rest will be made up of community members with relevant systems and policy change experience. Each reviewer attends a racial equity training, and we prioritize racial and other demographic diversity in selecting our review committee members. We also conduct site visits with a select group of organizations to help us make our decisions on funding.

Q: Does the application portal allow for edits and saves or do we have to upload all the info at once?

A: It does allow for edits and saves, but we recommend using Word to write your responses, and then cut and paste. Once you click submit you will not be allowed to make any changes.

Q: Does the six (6) page narrative limit include the attachments?

A: No, the attachments are separate. Please note, six pages is the limit, if you can answer the questions in fewer pages that is OK. You do not need to write a full six pages.