

Frequently Asked Questions

We've compiled a list of frequently asked questions. If you still have a question, please feel free to contact us by email at Foundation@Allstate.com.

About The Allstate Foundation

The Allstate Foundation is an independent, charitable organization made possible by subsidiaries of The Allstate Corporation. It works to create more prosperous communities where people are inspired and empowered to fulfill their hopes and dreams by breaking the cycle of domestic violence, inspiring the next generation of leaders, strengthening nonprofit leaders and honoring Allstate volunteers. More information is available at AllstateFoundation.org.

A deeper look at our Domestic Violence Program

1 in 4 women experience domestic violence in the United States. Nearly all those cases include financial abuse. It's one of the main reasons victims are unable to leave an abusive partner or have to return to one.

Since 2005, The Allstate Foundation has been committed to ending domestic violence through financial empowerment. We provide survivors with the education and resources needed to achieve their potential again and equip young people with the information and confidence they need to help prevent unhealthy relationships before they start.

A deeper look at our Youth Empowerment Program

The Allstate Foundation believes that SEL skills like resilience, empathy, and teamwork should be part of every young person's education – whether in the classroom, after school, or at home.

We give students, educators and families access to evidence-based programs and curriculum that foster the five core SEL competencies, as well as the opportunity to build these skills through volunteer and service-related programs. Combined, SEL and service-learning enable our future leaders to build confidence, empathy and resilience to achieve their hopes and dreams.

Funding Opportunity Eligibility

I'm a current Allstate Foundation or Allstate Insurance Company grantee, am I eligible to apply?

Nonprofits that have an active program grant of any size from the Allstate Foundation and/or Allstate Insurance Company are not eligible for this grant opportunity. An active grant is defined as a grant that has a current grant agreement or are current recipients of sub-granted funding. This includes programs that received a final year of funding from The Allstate Foundation or

Allstate Insurance Company in 2021, otherwise known as “exit” grants. Nonprofits that have received a sponsorship or Helping Hands Grant from Allstate Insurance Company or The Allstate Foundation are still eligible.

If we’re a sub-grantee of The Allstate Foundation (the primary grantee is a Coalition or other national organization disburses the grant), does that disqualify us per the grant criteria?

Yes, any program that is a recipient of sub-granted Allstate Foundation funding is not eligible for this funding opportunity.

What states/city locations are eligible for funding?

Nonprofit programs in all 50 states and cities are invited to submit a pre-application. At this time, U.S. territories are not eligible. All organizations must be nonprofit tax-exempt organizations with 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Code. By law, The Allstate Foundation cannot provide funding to programs that have a religious base or exclude participation based on religion.

Are schools eligible to apply?

No, schools and foundations directly serving schools are not eligible for this funding opportunity. However, Public Charity (501c3) programs that work with and within schools are eligible to apply.

We work with our local schools/school district, are we eligible?

Yes. Independent nonprofits that partner with schools or deliver programming to schools are eligible for funding.

Can a higher education institution or university apply?

No. Colleges, universities, higher education institutions and nonprofits that operate as a function of a college or university are not eligible for this opportunity. This includes college or university foundations.

Our organization is an 501c3 education foundation and we support a local school or school district. Are we eligible to apply?

Based on our eligibility requirements, we are not able to fund schools or school districts, this includes charitable non-profits and/or foundations that directly support schools and school districts as their primary beneficiaries. While you are not eligible to apply, we hope that you share this opportunity with other organizations within your network.

We run a youth empowerment program that works with young people disproportionately affected by gun violence. Would this fit into your youth empowerment focus?

No. This funding opportunity is for youth empowerment and teen relationship violence prevention programs that advance racial equity. Programs that only address violence in communities more generally are not eligible.

Are STEM programs eligible for funding?

All programs will need to demonstrate their ability to advance racial equity in one or more of the outlined focus areas. If your program includes STEM as a tool for achieving these outcomes, you are eligible.

Are start-ups or brand-new nonprofits eligible to apply?

We are looking for organizations that have a history of serving the target population and are informed by the communities served. Eligible nonprofits must all be able to demonstrate fiscal responsibility to qualify for funding.

If we are not a 501c3, can we use a qualified fiscal agent to apply?

No, only 501c3 Public Charity organizations are eligible to apply for funding.

Are nonprofits that provide capacity building services, with a focus on DEI, to mentoring programs eligible? What about curriculum development or "train the trainer" models?

Yes, all of these programs are eligible to apply for the funding opportunity.

We are a national organization with local independent chapters - if the national program is awarded, are funds allowed to be sub-awarded to local chapters for program implementation?

Yes! National organizations may also submit separate proposals from the local chapters or affiliation if each program is a standalone 501c3 Public Charity.

Does the organization have to have an Allstate member on our board of directors?

No. All organizations that meet eligibility requirements and funding criteria are eligible to apply regardless of current affiliation with Allstate, The Allstate Foundation and Allstate employees.

Are Tribal programs eligible?

Yes, Tribal programs are eligible if they are:

- A 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code ("Code")
- A governmental unit (e.g., a tribal government)
- Are not a "private foundation" as described in section 509(a)(1) or (2) of the Code.

Nonprofit tribal programs will need to provide their IRS 990 form to demonstrate good standing. For tribal domestic violence programs operated by tribal governments that do not submit 990s, a program budget approved by a tribal government or by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Justice, Department of Housing and Urban Development, or other federal agency can be submitted to demonstrate good standing.

Service-Learning Program Eligibility:

Service-learning can be defined as: An approach to teaching and learning in which students use academic and civic knowledge and skills to address genuine community needs (source).

Eligible programs service-learning program should go provide youth with the opportunity to not only engage with their communities through service, but should also allow youth to lead and apply the service-learning model of: investigating, planning, implementing/activating, reflecting, and demonstrating.

Professional Development for Educators Eligibility (e.g., teachers, administrators, out-of-school program providers, etc.):

Eligible programs must be able to demonstrate how they are implementing culturally relevant teaching or responsive teaching practices. Trainer the trainer program models are eligible. Funding will not be provided to support the development of an individual or conference attendance.

Are there any funding opportunities for financial education/intervention services for domestic violence survivors?

This funding opportunity is for youth empowerment and teen relationship violence prevention programs that advance racial equity. Domestic Violence programs that provide healthy relationships education or other teen dating violence/gender-based violence prevention programming for young people are eligible to apply.

Building a Proposal

Program Beneficiaries

Programs that are serving U.S based youth grades K-12 (5-17 years old) young adults (18-24 years old) or educators and/or program providers with programing aligned with the focus areas of this grant opportunity are invited to submit a pre-application.

This grant program is to advance racial equity. The inclusion of beneficiaries from other marginalized communities is allowable as long as racial equity is also addressed in the proposal. Marginalized communities include any group that experience discrimination and exclusion.

International programs or efforts are not eligible to apply. However, if your program designs connects beneficiaries with cultures and communities outside of the U.S., that's allowable.

We're seeking programs that were informed by the beneficiaries that are being informed. In other words, we're looking for programs that are or will be created with feedback from the beneficiaries served. For instance, if a program was designed for a specific community of color, members of that community were consulted while the program was being developed.

May I apply for both funding opportunities?

No. Organizations may only apply for one of the funding opportunities available:

- Relationship Violence Prevention
- Inclusive Leadership Programming for Youth and Educators their Adult Champions

Programs also may only submit one pre-application. If multiple pre-applications are received from one organization, only one will be reviewed by The Allstate Foundation and honored as a submission.

Can I submit an application with a partner organization?

The Allstate Foundation encourages collaboration and partnership. If you collaborate with other organizations in the execution of your program, you are eligible to apply. Please submit one pre-

application. To be eligible for this opportunity, your organization must engage in direct program delivery. Nonprofits that are acting as a fiscal agent are not eligible. Private foundations, community foundations, and other grantmaking organizations are not eligible for funding.

What if my program overlaps with both focus areas outlined for this funding opportunity?

Your program may encompass elements that address two or more of the funding focus areas and that's OK! In the application, you will be asked to select the focus area your program is most aligned with.

If we are interested in submitting for inclusive leadership for youth and educators, does our program have to include all three areas outlined?

No. While it is possible that a program could provide programming that addresses all three sub-categories under the focus area of "Inclusive Leadership Programming for Youth and Educators their Adult Champions," it is not required. In the pre-application, you will be asked to select the option that best aligns with your program. A preview of the pre-application is available [here](#).

Can I include an advocacy project in my proposal?

Advocacy is not an allowable activity as part of this funding opportunity. We define advocacy as an activity by an individual or group that aims to influence decisions within political, economic, and social institutions. However, civic engagement or getting youth civically involved is allowed.

Does it matter if the program you are requesting funding for is new or old?

Nope! In your pre-application please specify if your program is existing or new.

Will the lack of a DEI statement factor into whether an organization passes the pre-application round? We want to know where organizations stand in terms of their commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. If you have a DEI statement, you will be asked to share in the pre-application.

Do you have prevention best practices and/or models that you are interested in funding (bystander prevention, Coaching Boys into Men, etc.)?

We welcome applications from programs that are implementing existing evidence-based programs, but that is not required to be considered for funding.

Allowable Costs

Grant funding is available for existing and new programs. Please keep in mind that we are looking to support programs that advance racial equity. You will be asked to demonstrate how your program has been informed by the communities it serves.

No predetermined funding amounts have been set. If invited to submit a full application, you should be prepared to provide budget details, which can include both direct and indirect costs. Nonprofits can request funding for the full program cost if it fits within the outlined funding parameters. Applications may also reflect partial program funding, if the full program cost is not needed. We encourage organizations to apply for the budget amount that best suits their needs.

How large of a grant can I apply for? Does The Allstate Foundation make multi-year grants?

No predetermined funding amounts have been set. The most promising projects who fit within the funding opportunity criteria will earn the funding. Applicants may submit a proposal ranging between \$25,000 and \$100,000 for a single year of funding. If multi-year funding is desired, the application must reflect the full funding amount and timeline for a maximum of two years.

Programs may request up to \$200,000 for a proposal that spans two years.

For example, a nonprofit may request a \$100,000 grant for a one-year proposal, or a \$200,000 grant for a two-year proposal. Funding renewals are not guaranteed. Reasonable salaries, general operating or indirect funding needed to complete the project can be included in your request.

Are the grant funds provided restricted or unrestricted/programmatic?

The funds provided in this grant opportunity are programmatic and therefore restricted. While funds cannot be used for general operating expenses, nonprofits can include both direct and indirect costs in the proposed budgets.

Does The Allstate Foundation fund indirect costs?

Yes. The Allstate Foundation will consider awarding indirect costs up to 20% of the total grant amount requested. Other necessary operating costs - such as personnel - may be added as line items within the application budget.

Are mini grants to youth participants allowed?

Yes, if mini-grants or stipends to program participants are an essential part of your program delivery method, they are permissible (e.g. Mini-grants to support youth service-learning projects).

Can one grant request support multiple programs at the same agency?

Sure! As long as the programs receiving funding are supporting the project proposal and focus area as described in the pre-application.

Financial requirements

The following questions detail the required financial information needed to submit the invitation-only full application.

Will the full application require audited financials?

Yes – if your nonprofit is required by state law to submit audited financial statements in connection with renewal of charitable registration.

No – if your nonprofit is not required by state law to submit audited financial statements. These requirements for both initial and annual submission of audited financial statements may not apply to your nonprofit even if it is operating in a state where audit requirements exist since the requirements depend on specific circumstances, such as the amount of revenue contributed or the annual gross income of the charitable nonprofit - such details are specified in each state's law. We suggest visiting the websites of the state government agency in your state that regulates fundraising for up-to-date information on what forms and filings are required.

If you are not required to have an audited financial statement, please submit reviewed financial statements **prepared in accordance with generally** accepted accounting standards (GAAP) or other comprehensive basis of accounting (OCBOA) to demonstrate your organization’s fiscal responsibility.

Can you clarify what “proven fiscal responsibility” means?

We are seeking nonprofit partners that employ financial management practices that build stability and flexibility, both today and in the future. If you are not required to have an audited financial statement, please submit reviewed financial statements prepared in accordance with generally **accepted** accounting standards (GAAP) or other comprehensive basis of accounting (OCBOA) to demonstrate your organization’s fiscal responsibility.

Nonprofits can demonstrate proven fiscal responsibility by providing an audited or unaudited financial report and memorandum on internal controls (aka as a management letter) documentation includes a demonstrated history of balanced revenue and expenses, diversity in revenue resources (corporate, government, individuals, other), compliance with all state and federal filing requirements including submission of 990 forms as well as adoption of financial policies by the Board of Directors that include a conflict of interest policy.

Submitting an Application

What is the best way to approach The Allstate Foundation to discuss a pre- application?

We’ve scheduled two optional informational sessions to help you prepare for the pre-application. Given the number of expected applications, we cannot schedule individual discussions. Please consider attending one or both of the optional sessions:

- August 31: [Watch the Recording](#)
- [September 15, 2021 from 1- 2p.m. CT](#)

Can I change my proposal after I submit the pre-application or when I complete the full application?

No. Proposal direction or total request amount may not be altered or changed following submission of the pre-application. If invited to complete a full application, the proposed program must mirror the program proposed in the pre-application.

Will The Allstate Foundation accept applications that are mailed, emailed or postmarked on the submission due date?

All applications must be submitted through our online grants management system, Cybergrants, by 11:00 p.m. PT on September 17, 2021.

How can I get technical help with the pre-application?

If you’re having difficulty completing the pre-application, first consider trying the pre-application link in a different web browser such as Chrome or Microsoft Edge. If the issue still persists, scroll to the bottom of the pre-application page and click the “Need Support” button to

complete a form and request formal support and troubleshooting help from Cybergrants Support team.

Will applying for this opportunity prevent me from receiving future Allstate Foundation or Allstate Insurance Company Funding?

Programs that submit a pre-application, are invited to complete a full application, and/or those that receive funding from this grant opportunity are still eligible for future funding from The Allstate Foundation.

Award Distribution

Are you considering equity in geographic distribution of awards as well as program size?

Yes. This grant opportunity is open to programs from all U.S. geographic locations and programs of all sizes. The group of applicants that are invited to complete a full application will reflect a broad range of geographic locations, program and budget sizes with the most promising proposals. The number of total grants to be awarded has not been predetermined.

Will you consider operational budget when weighing size of the grant requested? (i.e., a smaller grant request from a nonprofit with a small operating budget is more likely to get approved than a larger grant request from the same organization?)

We are looking for organizations that can demonstrate a track record of fiscal responsibility. Many additional considerations will be made in the full application stage of this program such as tenure and experience serving key beneficiaries as well as the program's ability to meet the unique needs of beneficiaries served.

What if we want to apply for the largest grant and do not receive it? Would our chances be better to apply for a smaller grant?

We encourage applicants to request a grant amount that best suits your needs. The most promising proposals that meet the criteria of the grant program will earn funding. We will fund promising proposals at their full request amount, no reduced funding will be provided.

What resources will be provided to grantees as part of this program?

Depending on an organization's needs, the Foundation has several resources available (all free, some available to all via our website and others on an as-need basis) to supplement our financial support, including but not limited to:

- [Allstate Foundation Nonprofit Leadership Center](#) - Free nonprofit leadership development courses offered in partnership with Northwestern University Kellogg School's Center for Nonprofit Management.
- [The Allstate Foundation Moving Ahead Curriculum](#) – Free financial empowerment curriculum for domestic violence survivors.
- Networking opportunities
- Allstate Fellows (skilled volunteers) or governing board service
- Strategic counseling

Allstate has a strong employee presence in Chicago, Charlotte, Dallas/Irving, and Phoenix, AZ and more than 10,000 agency owners across the nation. Our employees and agency owners are eager to provide additional support such as skills-based or hands-on volunteer services; however, volunteers cannot be guaranteed, so programs must be able to operate without Allstate volunteers.

Measurement and Reporting

If my grant is funded, do I need to provide any reports to The Allstate Foundation?

Yes, an annual report is required of all Allstate Foundation grantees. If selected to receive grant funding, you will receive additional information in your grant agreement.

Can you share more about outcomes/outputs you'd hope to see? How long-term do results need to be, given the expected reporting timelines?

The outcomes and outputs we'd like to see vary across each funding focus area. We'd like for you to share the outcomes your program is already tracking to define success for your program. While we will ask for annual reports, we appreciate ways a program can demonstrate long-term impact of their programs. As it relates to outputs, programs are expected to report on the number of beneficiaries served (this will also apply for capacity building, training or TOT model programs) as well as the race and ethnicity of the beneficiaries served among other metrics, which will be shared with award recipients.