

NECN Grants Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: How do I submit the grant application?

Answer: The application can be completed via any of the following methods: you may complete it online at our website www.necoalition.org/programs/grants, download it and send via email to mischa@necoalition.org, or deliver it in person or by mail to

NECN
4815 NE 7th Avenue
Portland, OR 97211

Question: What is the process for evaluating the grants applications?

Answer: All eligible applications will be reviewed and scored by a volunteer grants evaluation committee that is comprised of community residents and NECN Board members. Committee members will read and score each application individually according to the listed criteria. After all applications are scored individually, the committee will meet, as a group, and make final determinations for grant awards.

Question: Can the project application include participants who do not live within the NECN service area?

Answer: The program or project must take place within the 12 neighborhoods that comprise the service area (see map in application guide). The intent of the grant is to fund projects that would primarily benefit residents of inner North/Northeast Portland.

Question: What happens if the program/project budget is less than the established grant award amount?

Answer: The grants evaluation committee will consider requests of any amount less than the established grant award. It is expected that the application budget will accurately reflect program/project expenses, as reflected in the narrative portion of the application.

Question: How do you define “historically underrepresented or under-engaged communities”?

Answer: We define historically underrepresented and underserved community organizations as those primarily led by and/or involving people of color, immigrants and refugees, low-income individuals and families, youth, people with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bi, transgender people.

Question: Is it possible to apply for more than one grant during the same grant cycle?

Answer: No – NECN will only fund one grant proposal, per grant cycle, from the same applicant. NECN will not fund proposals that have already received grant funding within the previous two, consecutive years.

Question: Does the grant cover “general operating” expenses?

Answer: No. Grants cannot be used for ongoing general organizational support such as rent or utilities. Please refer to the eligible and ineligible costs section of application guide for specifics. Contact the grants coordinator if you are unsure about the eligibility of costs.

Question: What is the timeline involved? When can grantees expect to receive notification and checks?

Answer: It is expected that grant awards will be announced by March 7th, 2019. See the “Timeline” in the application guide for other dates.

Question: What if the grant applicant is not a 501 c 3 and does not have a fiscal sponsor?

Answer: NECN does provide fiscal sponsorship opportunities for successful applicants, as well as referrals to other organizations providing fiscal sponsorship. If the applicant is applying for NECN fiscal sponsorship in conjunction with our grant application, the fiscal sponsorship application will be pending until final awards are determined. **NECN will automatically fiscally sponsor NECN grant awardees for the NECN grant.**

Question: Can an individual apply for the grant?

Answer: Individual applicants will need to find an appropriate partner in order to be considered eligible to apply (see “Eligible Applicants” in the application guide). NECN will provide assistance with finding community partners, if needed.