Coalitions for Equity in Wealth Policy Request for Proposals
Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Do I need to be a current member of a coalition?**
   No. We will ask that you have formally joined the coalition by the time of the full application deadline. The Trust’s review of applications will consider the roles and demonstrated contributions of existing members, as well as the desire and potential contributions of new members. For new members, mission alignment, roles, and a track record of policy advocacy must be demonstrated.

2. **Can I apply to develop a new coalition?**
   No. For this first grant cycle, we are looking to support members of existing coalitions.

3. **Do I have to apply as part of the coalitions listed?**
   No. We will accept applications from members of other coalitions. While the Trust did conduct a scan of coalitions that are advancing policy change in the priority areas for this RFP, we know we may be unaware of others and look forward to learning about them.

4. **What is the duration of the grant?**
   This is a one-year grant with an opportunity to renew for a second year.

5. **How many awards will this partnership be allocating?**
   We will be distributing approximately 10 to 15 grants, ranging in amounts between $35,000 and $150,000. Grant sizes will vary based on organizational size, need, and role in the coalition(s).

6. **Due to COVID-19, if the city/state legislative sessions are pushed back and we can no longer work on our current legislative priorities, will this affect our grant?**
   This grant opportunity is intended to support the participation of organizations within coalitions that are advancing multiple policies and system change efforts aligned with the Trust’s policy priorities. Given that, in most cases grants will be provided in the form of general operating support; they are not intended to support any one specific piece of legislation. The Trust is also aware that the timing of the grant would not have aligned with the current legislative session and as such, had no expectations that the Trust’s support would impact legislation for the current session. Finally, given the impact of COVID-19 on economically vulnerable families, the Trust firmly believes this flexible funding support for policy efforts is critical to reduce the negative economic impact of this pandemic on these families.

7. **Will this be a Project grant or a General Operating grant?**
   Funds awarded will be for general operating support unless requested otherwise. If an organization is already receiving general operating support from the Trust, we will still consider
the application, but only for project-specific funding. In addition, an organization may be considered for project support for a specific legislative effort by invitation during the full proposal phase, based on a conversation and agreement with the Trust.

8. How should applicants document their participation in a coalition?
In the LOI stage of the process, we will not ask for any formal documentation of participation or pending participation in a coalition. We will ask that you designate if you are a current member within your narrative and Coalition Partner Table. However, for organizations not currently members of a coalition, we will request that you demonstrate that you have joined the coalition(s) by submitting a Letter of Support from the coalition chair(s) or other documentation of membership, such as a coalition membership list. Strong applications will clearly articulate the organization’s role in and value to the coalition.

9. Will grant recipients be able to sub-grant funding?
Given this will be a general operating grant in most cases, we would prefer that organizations you would sub-grant to instead apply on their own. This grant opportunity is developed to support various types of participation. This is a preference, not a requirement. If your coalition currently operates through sub-granting, we are open to this.

10. If your organization is part of multiple coalitions, should you only submit ONE application?
Yes. The Coalition Partner Table allows you to describe up to five coalitions in which your organization participates.

11. Is it recommended that multiple organizations within the coalition apply or should we choose one or two organizations to apply?
We encourage any organization that plays or could play a valuable role within a coalition to apply. Once an organization creates or updates its organizational profile within the Trust’s Grant Central system, the LOI is simple with two questions and the Coalition Partner Table. As such, we don’t think this would create undue burden for most organizations and it connects the Trust to a broader set of organizations doing this work.

12. Will participation in national policy efforts be looked on favorably? Or, should applicants focus solely on the state and cityside activities when describing the progress of the coalition?
The focus of this RFP is on state and local level policy. Federal efforts are welcomed, but they should not be the main or sole focus of the request.

**IMPORTANT DEADLINES**
LOI deadline: March 30, 2020, at 11:59 p.m.
Invitation for full proposal: April 17, 2020
Proposal deadline: May 11, 2020, at 11:59 p.m.
Site visits: May 14 – May 29, 2020
Final funding decision: June 5 – June 30, 2020
Announcements: June 30, 2020