



City of Racine GROW Racine Mini-Grants: Meeting Unmet Community Needs

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What kind of organizations are eligible to apply for these grants?

Only registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations with offices in the City of Racine are eligible to apply.

How much money can we apply for?

Organizations may request a grant of \$10,000-\$25,000.

What kind of projects are eligible for these grants?

We are seeking innovative and creative proposals that can be implemented quickly and that will address a clearly described unmet community need.

Proposals that do any of the following are particularly encouraged to apply and will be prioritized for funding:

1. Reduce disparities;
2. Support and/or empower historically marginalized City residents;
3. Add or enhance amenities and/or improvements to neighborhoods located within the [City's Neighborhood Stabilization and Enhancement Districts](#);

Proposals that can address their identified unmet community need in a short amount of time (i.e. projects that can be quickly implemented and achieve their desired results) will be prioritized. All proposed projects must be completed by December 31, 2023.

Funds can be used for existing staff or projects, but with the recognition that these grants are one-time, limited funding opportunities, priority for funding will be given to innovative, unique projects that organizations demonstrate they can quickly and effectively implement, and where the application clearly articulates the unmet community need and describes how the proposed project addresses that need.

What do we have to do to apply?

All you have to do is complete the GROW Racine Mini-Grants online application and, if selected for funding, provide a completed W-9 form for your organization.

Can our organization submit multiple proposals?

No, in order to serve a broader array of organizations and address a greater spectrum of unmet needs, organizations may only apply for funding for one project or project.

How long will the application take to complete?

We have tried to make the online application as simple as possible. If you have a clear idea of your project, the application should take you no more than 45 minutes-1 hour to complete. Please note that we expect the application process to be competitive (i.e. we expect to have more proposals than we have funding available), so it is in your organization's interest to be as clear, specific, and detailed as possible in your application.

What additional documentation do we have to submit?

A completed organizational W-9 form is all we will need.

What is the application deadline?

The online application (on the www.growracine.org website) will have a clearly stated deadline. All applications are automatically time-stamped and we will not consider late applications.

What happens if we submit a late application?

Late applications will not be considered.

What kind of reporting requirements are there for these grants?

We will have a very simple online form for funded organizations to complete at the completion of their project. We expect that online report will take less than 1 hour to complete.

What is the process and timeline for determining which proposals will be funded?

All proposals will be reviewed first by a diverse team of City staff. Projects recommended for approval by staff will then be directed to the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Advisory Board, and then to the Racine Common Council for final approval. We hope to have the Common Council approve proposals by the end of February 2023.

When will our organization actually get the funds?

If your proposal is funded, the City plans to distribute funding to selected organizations immediately after Common Council approval, as long as the organization has provided the necessary completed W-9 form. Our goal is to have all funding distributed to selected organizations by the end of March 2023.

How long do we have to spend these grant funds?

All funds must be spent by December 31, 2023. Projects that utilize the funding sooner than that, for more immediate projects and more immediate results, are encouraged.

Do you have additional questions? Direct them to Grow@cityofracine.org.

December 15, 2022