Texas Foundations Fund 2024 Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Are there any differences between last year's guidelines and the ones for 2024?

A. Yes. Applications to the Texas Foundations Fund are now solely required to serve households at or below 50% AMFI. Just like last year, applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis in order to ensure sufficient funding for awardees. We highly recommend that all interested organizations submit their applications well before the deadline!

Q. Is this a matching grant program?

A. No. The Texas Foundations Fund no longer requires that organizations already have non-TSAHC grant funds available to match.

Q. If selected as a nonprofit grantee, what would the grant term be?

A. The grant term is one year.

Q. If selected, what information will I need to submit to access my grant?

A. If your organization meets the requirements to be selected as a grantee, we will require you to submit a signed grant agreement prior to receiving your grant award. Unlike previous funding rounds, you will not need to submit a separate funding request to access your grant.

Q. Our organization is a government entity. Are we eligible to apply?

A. No. Only nonprofits with a 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS are eligible to apply this year.

Q. Our organization serves people with disabilities. What definition does TSAHC use to determine if an individual has a disability?

A. TSAHC does not require applicants to follow one specific definition of a disability. We allow each organization to determine its own definition of disability based on your existing program guidelines. However, you must specify in your application how you define disability and how you document whether a client has a disability.

Documentation from the following sources may be used to verify disability status: Social Security Administration (SSI/SSDI), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services, and Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (permanent disability only). If the client does not receive benefits from one of the agencies listed above, you may also use a <u>self-certification form</u> that TSAHC has created to verify a client's disability status.

Q. Our organization would like to use a grant to tear down and reconstruct single family homes. Is this an eligible expense?

A. No. Reconstruction is not an eligible expense under the Texas Foundations Fund.

Q. How much funding should we request in our application?

A. This is an application to be selected as a grantee, not a grant application, so you should not request a specific funding amount in your application. TSAHC will announce selected grantees in August 2024 and will notify all selected grantees of the funding amount available to them.

- Q. Do we need to upload a current program budget as part of our application?
- **A.** Yes. Please include all program expenses (including but not limited to staff salaries, materials and supplies, etc.) in your attached budget. While you are not requesting a specific funding amount as part of this application, please include some information about how your award will be utilized. For planning purposes, past awards have ranged from \$10,000-\$25,000 per organization, although the amount may be more or less this year depending on the number of qualified applicants and total funds available.
- Q. Our 2023 financial audit will not be available until after the application deadline. Are we still eligible to apply?
- **A. Yes.** You can apply by uploading your 2022 audit with your application. However, we will require you to submit your 2023 audit separately as soon as it is available.
- Q. Our organization received a grant in 2022 and 2023. Are we eligible to apply this year?
- A. Yes, as long as you have met all the obligations of your most recent award. 2023 grantees are not required to submit their final report prior to applying for 2024 funding.
- Q. Can we provide supportive services to a specific population (such as veterans) with our grant?
- **A. Yes.** As long as you meet all organization and program eligibility requirements, you may use your grant award to provide services to a specific population. In this situation, you should designate your target population as the special population you intend to serve with your grant award.
- Q. Our organization provides supportive housing, but we partner with other local nonprofits to provide services such as case management, financial education and mental health counseling. Can we submit a joint application with our nonprofit partners?
- A. In this situation, TSAHC recommends that the organization that provides supportive housing serve as the 'applicant of record'. That organization would include narratives in their application that explains the partnership structure and the role played by each partner. If the applicant of record wants to use any portion of its grant to pay for services provided by a partner, that applicant would need to include a copy of the contract or Memorandum of Understanding in place to perform and pay for those services.
- Q. Our organization is statewide in scope, and we offer services in several communities throughout Texas. Can we complete a separate application for each location?
- **A. No.** Only one application is permitted per organization. However, you may serve as many Texas counties as you wish with your grant award.
- Q. Our organization provides supportive housing services to residents at a supportive housing community. Are we eligible to apply for funding for these services?
- **A. Yes**, you are eligible to apply.
- Q. We are a supportive housing provider that provides adult education, job training and financial literacy to both our residents <u>and</u> to the surrounding community. Are we eligible to apply for funding?
- **A.** Yes, you are eligible to apply. However, you must target your award specifically to residents of your supportive housing community that meet the underserved population that you have identified.

- Q. Our organization is a faith-based nonprofit organization. Are we eligible to apply for funding?
- **A. Yes.** As long as your organization is designated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit by the IRS, and your organization and program meet our other eligibility requirements, you are eligible to apply.
- Q. How does TSAHC define "supportive housing?"
- **A.** Supportive Housing is any housing that combines safe, lease-based, community-integrated, affordable housing with voluntary, flexible, and individualized services to ensure successful tenancies.
- Q. Is it possible for our organization to use the administrative allowance to cover the gap for the salaries of our case management and housing counseling employees?
- **A. Yes.** It is possible to use all or part of the grant award to fund case management and/or housing counseling staff.