

*Texas Foundations Fund 2023*  
*Frequently Asked Questions*

- Q. Are there any differences between last year's guidelines and the ones for 2023?**  
**A. Yes.** Applications to the Texas Foundations Fund will now 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?**  
**B. 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.** While partners selected in 2020 were selected for a two-year term (with funds made available both years), this application is for a one-year term.
- 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 is serving households affected by the recent tornadoes. Are we eligible to apply?**  
**A. Yes!** Nonprofits assisting with recovery efforts related to recent disasters are encouraged to apply. When submitting your application, please indicate "households affected by a recent disaster" as the underserved population you are targeting and provide information in the narratives explaining the disaster's affect on your community, as well as your recovery efforts.
- Q. What qualifies as an underserved population? What will be needed from my organization to demonstrate that the household member is part of an underserved population?**  
**A.** While TSAHC has focused past funding rounds specifically on serving people with disabilities and rural communities, this year we are expanding our guidelines to allow applicants to serve other underserved populations they have identified in their communities. Examples may include, but **are not limited to**, serving veterans, people in communities that have historically faced red-lining and disinvestment, and seniors (in addition to people with disabilities and rural communities, which are still eligible populations).

We ask that in the application you provide some documentation, data, evidence, etc. demonstrating how that/those population(s) is/are underserved in your community. We also ask that you collect and provide demographic information, such as race/ethnicity, gender and age, on the target population selected as part of your application.

Additionally, while we require that you target 100% of your award to the underserved population(s) identified, we do not require your organization or program to exclusively serve those populations.

**Q. Our organization serves people with disabilities, and we would like to designate people with disabilities as the underserved population to be served with our award. 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 [self-certification form](#) 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 2023 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 \$15,000-\$20,000 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 2022 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 2021 audit with your application. However, we will require you to submit your 2022 audit separately as soon as it is available.

**Q. Our organization received a grant in 2020 and 2022. Are we eligible to apply this year?**

**A.** Yes, as long as you have met all the obligations of your most recent award.

**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 underserved population you intend to serve and demonstrate why that population is underserved in your community.

- 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 and 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.