1. What’s new about the Core Grantmaking process?

We’ve streamlined our process for Core Grantmaking to help us implement trust-based grantmaking practices. We no longer require an Intent to Apply (ITA) step. Instead, we’re asking returning grantee partners and new applicants to simply fill out or update an Organizational Profile Form which will collect contact details, and data for the grant request including demographic information for staff and board and providing an organizational budget.

We do collect demographic data as part of our funding criteria to support organizations that have 51% people of color on the executive leadership (however that’s defined by the organization) and Board of Directors combined.

We are not requiring proposal narratives or reports. Instead, this information will be collected through site visits with your Program Officer.

For new applicants, we ask for two additional things to help us better understand your work:

1. Respond to the question: How does your organization build power for directly impacted people?

2. Upload a copy of a grant proposal that you previously submitted to another funder that clearly communicates your community organizing or public policy advocacy work.
3. What’s the site visit process like now?

While we’ve missed opportunities for in-person site visits, we still plan on hosting virtual site visits for our Fall Core 2022 Grantmaking process.

For returning grantee partners, your Program Officer will send an email to schedule time with your team in June or July. Since we are not requiring a proposal narrative as part of the application process, your Program Officer will send a list of questions prior to the site visit. These are questions that are typically found in a proposal narrative. No need to prepare anything for us in advance! The questions are to help guide conversation and help Program Officers capture updates. One of our goals in streamlining the grantmaking application process is to create more space for conversation with our grantee partners to build relationships and gain a deeper understanding of the work.

For new applicants, after reviewing your Organizational Profile, we will follow-up with organizations that we are interested in inviting for a site visit by the week of June 13th. The site visit process for new applicants is the same for returning grantee partners. One of our Program Officers will contact you to schedule a virtual site visit and send a list of questions in advance.

4. What are the important dates for the Fall Core 2022 Grantmaking?

The grantmaking portal will opened on Monday, May 16. Please visit our website if you need instructions for applying on the grant portal. The grants portal will close on Wednesday, June 1. Site visits will take place between June – July. Grant decisions will be made at the Wood Fund Board of Directors meeting in September 2022.