CitizensNYC All In Neighborhood Grant FAQ

Q: Are we eligible for this grant?

A: Please go through the <u>eligibility screener</u> and carefully review our application guidelines at the beginning of the application form.

Q: What does this grant cover?

A: In 2020, we removed many of the budget restrictions that were previously in place for our grants. However, there are a few budget restrictions still in place:

- Grants cannot be spent towards payroll, but stipends at a reasonable level (\$250 maximum per person) for volunteers and participants are okay
- Groups can purchase computer equipment, i.e., tablets and cameras, but please do not purchase luxury items, such as MacBook Air or a professional DSLR camera
- Grants cannot cover scholarship, litigation fees and 501c3 application fees
- We do not support regranting
- We strongly encourage groups to purchase items that will be housed in a publicly accessible location and think through how you can make the item accessible to the community

Q: How can we apply for this grant?

A: You can submit an application using <u>our online form</u>. Please contact grants@citizensnyc.org if you run into any technical difficulty with the form. If you would like to go through all application questions with your group members, you should be able to scroll through all the pages without needing to submit anything. You can also contact us at the same email to request a copy of our application in PDF format with the subject line "Request AING PDF Application." You will still need to complete the application using the online form, as the PDF form is for preview only. Again ALL applications must be submitted using CitizensNYC online portal. We cannot accept applications submitted by mail or email.

Q: We are writing a grant application for the first time. Can we get some help?

A: We've got you! Many of our applicants and grantee partners are first-time grant writers, so you are definitely not alone. Please watch our info session video and read our sample application before getting started. We understand that many of you are passionate New Yorkers simply hoping to get some funding for your community projects, so we want to make it easy and accessible to all; we will not evaluate your applications at the level of professional grant writers' work, and we appreciate you clearly and succinctly summarizing your proposals in layman terms. We strongly discourage applicants from seeking third-party grant writing assistance, as we want to hear your genuine voice. If you have any questions about the application or want to discuss your proposals with us, feel free to reach out at grants@citizensnyc.org.



PAST APPLICANTS – Please read this section about our Unique ID systems for groups already in our database.

Q: What is a "Unique ID"?

A: To help keep our database clean and up-to-date, we've assigned a "Unique ID" to each organization recorded in our system. Once you enter the Unique ID into our application form, the form will auto-populate the basic organization information we have on file, so you won't need to re-enter them unless you have updates. It also helps us to know that it's you.

Q: We are a return applicant. How can we obtain a "Unique ID" for our organization?

A: If your organization has applied for any of our grant programs (except West Side Small Business Grant and Neighborhood Business Grant) since 2018, your primary and secondary contacts should have received an email containing your organizations' unique ID. Please take a look at your junk folder to be sure it has not landed there.

If you are a return applicant from earlier grant cycles or have trouble locating the email, please contact grants@citizensnyc.org with the email subject "Find Our Unique ID," and our team will gladly share it with you.

Q: English isn't our first language. How do we apply for the grant?

A: In addition to English, we offer our application in Spanish (Español) and Chinese ($\pm \dot{\chi}$). You are welcome to reference the PDF forms and fill in your answers in the corresponding fields in our online form. You can also use videos, photos and other types of supplements to support your application. If you prefer to submit an application in English but are hesitant about your writing, we assure you that we do not assess applications based on applicants' writing skills, and we appreciate you describing your proposal to the best of your capacity.

Para saber más sobre esta oportunidad, favor de envíar un correo electrónico a Grants@citizensnyc.org.

如果您需要中文帮助,请邮件联系Di (DCui@citizensnyc.org)。

Q: Can we apply for multiple projects?

A: Yes, you can apply for funding for more than one project. However, you should submit a new application for each additional project that you are seeking funding for, and we will assess each project separately.



Q: How do we write our project snapshot?

A: Find <u>our tip sheet</u> detailing project snapshot guidelines and examples here. It is important for you to follow these instructions.

Q: We cannot complete the application at one time. What should we do?

A: No worries. You don't have to finish your application in one sitting, but you would want to save your work. Please click on the "Save my progress and resume later" check-box at the top of the page (right under the page navigator) in the online form, and you will be able to create a login and password so you can return to your work.



Q: When do we need to submit our application?

A: Please consult our grant timeline for more information.

Q: We are currently working on a project that will wrap up in January, 2023; can we use this grant for this project?

A: Our grant cannot not go towards past project expenses retroactively. Please keep our grant timeline in mind while planning your proposed projects. We also encourage you to seek additional funding channels, as applying for our grant does not guarantee winning the funds.

Q: We have submitted our application. What's next?

A: Please be mindful that our application has two parts: we will invite you to complete a short supplemental application to provide budget, expected project outcomes, and additional media information, so please be on the lookout for that email invitation from grants@citizensnyc.org within 3 months of your application submission.

Q: When will we find out about your decision?

A: <u>Our grant timeline</u> provides expected announcement times based on when you submit your applications.



Q: If we were to receive this grant, would we need to keep you posted on our grant spending?

A: If your grant is approved, we want to you to be in the "drivers' seat" to execute your project; we trust that you can use your best judgment for minor changes to quantity, brands, sizes or replacement with similar items, as long as you are sticking generally to your proposal. For any significant changes to your original budget or project, please contact us before spending the funds.

Q: Can we share photos or videos with you?

A: Definitely! Actually, we strongly encourage you to share any photos, videos, press mentions and materials about your work with us throughout your grant timeline. We would love to know how your project is going, share your accomplishments with our network and step in when you need support. We also require a simple final report within one month of project completion or by June 30, 2023, whichever is earlier. We also love promoting your ongoing work, even beyond the grant funded project, so please don't hesitate to share your upcoming events and resources with us at grants@citizensnyc.org.

Q: What are some other ways that we can connect with CitizensNYC?

A: Glad that you asked since we offer more than grants! You are welcome to attend our <u>CitizensNYC: LIVE series</u>, access project planning assistance and check out <u>our neighborhood leadership resources</u>. <u>Subscribe to our monthly newsletter</u> so you are in the loop of our upcoming events and opportunities.

CONTACT US

Grants@citizensnyc.org
Citizensnyc.org/grantmaking

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