



Grants For Change Fund

a program of Maine Initiatives

application 2024

Maine Initiatives is now accepting applications for the 2024 Grants for Change Program, which seeks to fund and strengthen community-based efforts advancing racial justice in Maine. The 2024 Grants for Change Program is prioritizing Black and Wabanaki communities in decision-making and funding support. All Black, Brown, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, and People of Color (BIPOC) -led and -serving organizations whose work advances racial justice in Maine are encouraged to apply and will be eligible for grant awards. All applicants are strongly encouraged to review the Funding Opportunity Announcement before beginning the application. The deadline to apply is Wednesday July 31, 2024 at 11:59pm EST.

SECTION A: GENERAL INFORMATION

This first section asks for general organizational information. Groups or other entities that do not identify as organizations are eligible to apply and receive funding with a Fiscal Sponsor. The term 'organization' will be used throughout the application to refer to all applicant entities.

1. Organization's name:

2. Organization's mission statement (in a few sentences):

3. What year was your organization founded?

4. What is your organization's mailing address?

5. Website address _____
(If none, please share your organization's Facebook or Instagram address. If none of these are applicable, please write N/A.)

6. Who is the Primary Contact for your organization? (This might be the Executive Director, Board President, or other most prominent public spokesperson.)

First Name: _____ Title: _____

Last Name: _____ Email: _____

Pronouns: _____ Phone: _____

7. Organizational Budget: Please share your operating budget for the most recent completed fiscal year. Operating income may include in-kind contributions. The budget limit is \$2.5 million annually.

a. Operating income for the most recent completed fiscal year \$

b. Operating expenses for the most recent completed fiscal year \$

8. Counties where you work (check as many as apply).

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cumberland County | <input type="checkbox"/> Sagadahoc County | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Franklin County | <input type="checkbox"/> Summerset County | <input type="checkbox"/> York County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Piscataquis County | <input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln County | <input type="checkbox"/> Aroostook County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oxford County | <input type="checkbox"/> Knox County | <input type="checkbox"/> Penobscot County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Androscoggin County | <input type="checkbox"/> Hancock County | <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kennebec County | <input type="checkbox"/> Waldo County | |

The following questions ask about the people involved in your organization and the partners with whom you work currently:

9. Does your group have paid staff? Yes No how many? _____

10. Does your group have volunteer staff? Yes No how many? _____

11. Please list up to four (4) other organizations or groups that are consistent and significant partners in the work you do that identify as Black, Indigenous, or other People of Color (BIPOC)-led organizations/groups in Maine, regionally, or nationally.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

12. What work (learning or action) are you doing in collaboration with these partners? Please describe these efforts in a few sentences:

SECTION B: LEGAL/FISCAL ORGANIZATION

This section is needed for the fiscal administration of any grants made by Maine Initiatives. Maine Initiatives does directly fund organizations that do not have official 501(c)(3) status, but any such applicants will need to obtain a fiscal sponsor or sponsorship by a Tribal entity by November 1, 2024.

13. Is this application presented on behalf of a Tribal government or Tribal entity? Yes No

If yes, please indicate the Tribal government or Tribal entity: _____

14. Does your group have 501(c)(3) status? Yes No

15. If you do not have your 501(c)(3) status, please provide the following information about your Fiscal Sponsor (if you have one).

Fiscal Sponsor Organization: _____

Address: _____

Fiscal Sponsor Primary Contact Information:

First Name: _____ Title: _____

Last Name: _____ Email: _____

Pronouns: _____ Phone: _____

16. What is your group's EIN or the EIN of your Fiscal Sponsor? (if you have one)

17. For all organizations, if your organization is awarded a grant, it is imperative that we have the correct information on file as to who and where to mail the Award Packet and Grant Check. Please provide this information below. This cannot be left blank and must be filled out, even if this contact information appears elsewhere on this application.

Name of contact to receive the Award Packet and Grant Check: _____

Email address for this contact: _____

Phone number for this contact: _____

Address the Award Packet and Grant Check will be mailed to: _____

I will contact Grants for Change staff if/as soon as any of this information changes

SECTION C: ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

This section will help our Application Readers and Grantmaking Advisory Committee gain a clearer picture of the people closely involved with your organization. The Grants for Change Program funds and strengthens Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) community-based, nonprofit organizations working exclusively or primarily in Wabanaki Territory (Maine).

18. My organization identifies as being (please select all that apply and use space provided if needed):

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black-led | <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous-led | <input type="checkbox"/> My organization's leadership identity is not listed here. My organization's leadership identity is:
<hr/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wabanaki-led | <input type="checkbox"/> Latinx/o/a-led | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrant-led | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian-led | |
| | | |

19. Please further explain identities selected above, if needed or desired:

20. Please check all that apply.

- Does your organization have BIPOC members on the Board of Directors: 50% or more in governing decision-making roles?
- Does your organization have BIPOC members on the Board of Directors: 50% or more in governing decision-making roles?
- Does your organization have BIPOC organizers: 50% or more of on-the-ground, community interfacing staff/volunteers?

** If your organization does not meet all three because of intentional strategic or equity considerations made by BIPOC decision-makers within the organization, please explain below:*

21. Please provide a full listing of governing body members (first and last names, up to ten (10) members):

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SECTION D: NARRATIVE

This section is your opportunity to share with our Application Readers and Grants Advisory Committee information about your organization and the community-based efforts you do to advance racial justice in Maine.

Please write a maximum of four (4) pages, single spaced with 12 point font, addressing the following four (4) questions. Please note, the word counts are only approximations and are completely optional. We include them to help guide you in dividing up your written narrative, but again, they are provided only as suggestions. If you have questions or concerns about any of the following questions, please contact the Grants for Change program staff at grants4change@maineinitiatives.org.

I. Your Organization (approximately 350 Words)

Please explain what your organization seeks to achieve in Maine. Why is your mission important, especially in the context of Maine in 2024?

II. Your Work (approximately 300 words)

What programs and activities does your organization implement to achieve its mission?

III. Advancing Racial Justice (approximately 450 words)

Which of our funding commitments does your work align with?

- Advancing racial justice through work that addresses systemic, structural, and institutional expressions of racial injustice;
- Prioritizing leadership by and work that strengthens Black and Wabanaki communities in Maine;
- Foregrounding community building, community organizing, grassroots advocacy, and/or policy change as central strategies for advancing racial justice and equity; and
- Strengthening communities through traditional and/or indigenous wisdoms and liberatory cultural practices, including (but not limited to) healing, rematriation, earth protection, embodied practices, and the arts.

Please explain how your organization works to advance racial justice in Maine through one or more of the above strategies.

IV. Success (approximately 350 words)

How do you know that your organization is being successful advancing racial justice in Maine? Please provide a story that will illustrate this impact.

SECTION E: ANYTHING ELSE? (OPTIONAL)

On *no more than* one (1) additional page, please share with us anything you wish we would have asked about but didn't or anything else that will help our Application Readers and Grantmaking Advisory Committee make their decisions.