

Maine Initiatives 2025 Outdoor Equity Fund Application

Groups whose work advance outdoor equity as outlined by the goals of the Outdoor Equity Fund (OEF) and who meet our eligibility requirements are welcome to apply. Please review the Funding Opportunity Announcement prior to beginning your application.

Please complete and submit this form if your organization or group is applying to the 2025 Outdoor Equity Fund. Applications are due March 28, 2025 by 11:59 PM EST.

Please note: All information provided through this application will be kept confidential, only shared with Outdoor Equity Fund grant readers and Grantmaking Advisory Committee members.

PART 1: GROUP/TRIBE/ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

This first section asks for general information about your group. The term 'group' is used throughout and is used synonymously for organization and/or tribe affiliated effort. Please share the following:

1. Group or organization name
2. Please share your group's Mission Statement (in three sentences or less):
3. What year was your group founded:
4. From the list below, please select up to three of the top programmatic priorities for your group. Please use Other and summarize below if a relevant programmatic priority is not listed.

- Land-based cultural continuation & preservation
- Land-back and land return projects
- Leadership development and mentoring
- Environmental justice, policy, and advocacy
- Farming, gardening and farmworker justice programs
- Outdoor accessibility development
- Outdoor expeditions, such as hunting, fishing, and hiking trips
- Outdoor learning or environmental education, including school-based experiences

- Therapeutic and trauma-informed nature programs
- Other:

5. Please share your operating budget for the most recently completed fiscal year. Operating income may include in-kind contributions.

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

6. Please share your group's website address (If none, please share your group's Facebook or Instagram address):

7. What is your group's primary mailing address?

8. Where does your group conduct the bulk of its work (check as many as apply)?

- Androscoggin County
- Aroostook County
- Cumberland County
- Franklin County
- Hancock County
- Kennebec County
- Knox County
- Lincoln County
- Oxford County
- Penobscot County
- Piscataquis County
- Sagadahoc County
- Somerset County
- Waldo County
- Washington County
- York County
- Statewide
- Outside of Maine - New England
- Outside of Maine - Canada

9. Who is the contact person for your organization?

Name:

Title:

Phone:

Email:

10. Who is the contact person for this proposal? (If different from the person named above.)

Name:

Phone:

Email:

PART 2: LEGAL/FISCAL INFORMATION

This section is needed for the fiscal administration of any grants made by Maine Initiatives. Maine Initiatives does fund groups who do not have official 501(c)(3) status, but any such applicants that are selected to receive funding will need to obtain a Fiscal Sponsor or sponsorship by a tribal entity prior to receiving the grant funds.

1. Is this application presented on behalf of a tribal government or tribal entity?

Yes

No

1a. If yes, please indicate the tribal government or other entity:

2. Does your group have 501(c)(3) status?

Yes

No

2a. If you do not have your 501(c)(3) status, please name your Fiscal Sponsor:

2b. What is the name of the contact person and what is the mailing address and email address of your Fiscal Sponsor? (If you have one.)

3. What is your group's EIN or the EIN of your Fiscal Sponsor?

PART 3: LEADERSHIP, STAFFING, AND PARTNERSHIPS

1. Does your (BIPOC) group identify as led by (select all that apply, and please use space provided at end to describe or specify):

- Black
- Wabanaki
- Other Native American or Alaskan Native
- Immigrant
- Asian or Asian-American
- Middle Eastern or North African

- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Hispanic, Latine, or Central/ South American origin

1a. Prefer to self-describe or not listed above (optional):

1b. Please describe or specify identifications above if needed (optional):

2. To be eligible for 2025 OEF funding, applicants are required to meet at least two out of three of the following for at least the past two years. Exceptions are provided for organizations who do not satisfy this requirement because of intentional strategic or equity considerations made by BIPOC decision-makers within the organization.

2a. Does your organization have BIPOC organizers - 50% or more of on-the-ground, community interfacing staff/volunteers?

Yes

No

2b. Does your organization have BIPOC members on the Board of Directors - 50% or more in governing decision-making roles?

Yes

No

2c. Does your organization have BIPOC key staff leaders of the organization - 50% or more of the total in operational leadership roles?

Yes

No

If your organization does not meet at least two out of three of the requirements above because of intentional strategic or equity considerations made by BIPOC decision-makers within the organization, please explain briefly below:

3. Please provide a full listing of your current Board Members and/or primary advisory council members or governing body members (first and last names):

4. Does your group have paid staff?

Yes

No

How many?

5. Does your group have volunteer staff?

Yes

No

How many?

6. Please provide names of key staff or volunteer in your group:

Name (A):

Title:

Name (B):

Title:

Name (C):

Title:

7. Partnerships. Please list up to three (3) organizations or groups that are consistent and significant partners in the work you do.

1.

2.

3.

7a. What work (learning or action) are you doing in collaboration or solidarity with these partners? Please describe these efforts in a few sentences:

PART 4: NARRATIVE

This proposal narrative is your opportunity to share with the Outdoor Equity Fund Grantmaking Advisory Committee information about your organization and the community-based efforts you do to advance outdoor equity in Maine.

Please note, the word counts are only suggested. We include them to help guide you in dividing up your proposal narrative, but again, they are provided only as suggestions. If you have questions or concerns about any of the following questions, please contact oef@maineinitiatives.org.

1. Your Organization (approximately 250 words)

Please explain what your organization seeks to achieve in Maine. Why is your mission important, especially in the context of Maine in 2025?

2. Your Work (approximately 300 words)

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

3. Advancing Outdoor Equity (approximately 350 words)

Please explain how your organization works to advance outdoor equity in Maine.

4. Success (approximately 300 words)

How do you know that your organization is being successful addressing outdoor equity in Maine? Please provide an example from your work that illustrates this impact.

PART 5: NON-FINANCIAL RESOURCES (OPTIONAL)

Please list up to 5 needs, resources, tools you need to do your work better in addition to funding. Responding to this question is optional.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

PART 6: ANYTHING ELSE? (OPTIONAL)

Please share with us anything you wish we would have asked about but didn't.