Vote Your Voice: Round 2
APPLICANT FAQ
Last updated at 2 PM on Tuesday, August 5, 2020

ELIGIBILITY

Q: Do applying organizations have to be headquartered in one of the five key states?
A: No, applying organizations do NOT have to be headquartered in one of the key states, so long as they have strong relationships and history of involvement with the populations they are seeking to engage in voter registration and voter mobilization.

Q: Do applying organizations have to be 501c3 organizations in order to apply?
A: No. However, if you are not a 501c3 but would like to apply, you must apply through a 501c3 fiscal agent.

Q: Does the applying organization need to be Black, Indigenous or People of Color (BIPOC)-led?
A: No, it is not a requirement that the applying organization is BIPOC-led.

Q: Does the applying organization need to be working in all five priority states to be considered?
A: No, an applying organization can be working in one or more of the priority states and does not need to be working in all five states.

FUNDED ACTIVITIES

Q: The grant period extends from September 2020 to February 2021. With elections ending in November 2020, what activities are applying organizations expected to undertake after elections?
A: We expect that funded organizations will require time to assess and analyze post-election voter data after November 2020 elections.

Q: We plan to use grant funds for re-granting to small grassroots agency partners in our area/region/state. Is that allowable?
A: Yes. Please be sure to describe the timeline, criteria and structure for the regranting and how you would support and engage with organizations receiving regrants.

Q: Is there a preference for tested/traditional voter engagement tactics versus new/innovative voter engagement tactics?
A: No. We are open to both tested/traditional and new/innovative tactics.
Q: We have local offices in multiple priority states. Can we apply jointly for both locations?
A: Yes, you may apply jointly for both locations.

TRACKING PROGRESS

Q: My organization has an existing platform through which we track and report on our voter outreach. If we receive a grant, will we need to change how we track and report our data?
A: The initiative's data partner, BlueLabs, is committed to working with each funded organization to determine how we can best gain clarity on the universe of voters on which the group will focus its outreach, consistent with the target populations of the initiative, and the progress of the group in reaching its contact, registration and mobilization goals. BlueLabs will work with the data structure your organization might already be utilizing. We are committed to understanding, learning and sharing lessons from the outreach conducted through the Vote Your Voice initiative. We also recognize the importance of streamlining data reporting systems, so as not to cause an undue burden during a busy time.

Q: Will grantees be expected to send voter data to track progress?
A: Yes. BlueLabs will work with you to determine the best way to get data on your target population and the responsiveness of your target population to your voter registration and mobilization efforts. We are not aiming for a “cookie cutter” approach, but we do seek to understand the progress of the organizations funded through this initiative.

Q: Can you provide more detail about the data tracking requirements?
A: BlueLabs will meet with each funded organization to understand how they are currently tracking voter data and determine how they can build on their current data tracking system to best share data and information with BlueLabs.

OTHER

Q: Is this a one-time grant? Or will there be multiple grant cycles?
A: The Vote Your Voice Initiative will offer multiple grant cycles. This current grant cycle (i.e. Round 2 proposals due August 14, 2020) is intended for proposals focused on 2020 voter registration and mobilization; the grant period will start in September 2020 and end in February 2021. In early 2021, we will offer another grant cycle that will provide multi-year grants.

Q: For the 2021 grant cycle, will Vote Your Voice only fund 2020 grantees? Or will new applicants be considered?
A: The Vote Your Voice Initiative will consider both new and past applicants in the 2021 grant cycle.

Q: Can past Vote Your Voice applicants and grantees reapply for funds?
A: Yes.