

2021 Request for Proposals

The Fund for New Citizens in The New York Community Trust is committed to helping immigrant-led nonprofits advocate for pro-immigrant policies and provide critical services and support to immigrants in New York City. Since it was started in 1987, the Fund has awarded more than \$25 million in grants to help local immigrants and the organizations that work on their behalf.

The new federal administration has promised to create immigration policies that are fair, humane, and welcoming, and Congress is considering legislation that would provide a path to lawful status for 11 million undocumented immigrants. Nevertheless, years of escalating immigration enforcement has generated considerable fear and anxiety among local residents, and left many even more vulnerable to exploitation. Of pressing concern, immigrant communities continue to disproportionately suffer the effects of the pandemic. Many work in service industries that have been devastated by the shutdown of nonessential businesses. Others perform front-line jobs that leave them particularly vulnerable to contracting COVID-19. Households are struggling with illness, death, job loss, and educational interruption, and nonprofits and mutual aid groups have stepped forward to meet the needs of immigrant communities and fight for an inclusive approach to economic recovery.

Against this backdrop, the Fund is inviting local, immigrant-led nonprofits to submit proposals of up to five pages in length for advocacy projects that respond directly to the current immigration policy environment. Electronic copies of proposals are due to The Trust's grants portal **by 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 13**. Proposals must focus on **advocacy and community education** efforts, including:

- Immigration policy advocacy at the local, state or federal levels;
- Community organizing around immigrants' rights;
- Know-your-rights training, community outreach, and emergency planning for immigrants and their families; and/or
- Advocacy and community education to meet the needs of immigrant communities responding to health concerns, bigotry, or economic needs linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grants are expected to range from \$40,000 to \$70,000 for one year of funding. However, most grants will not exceed \$60,000. Up to \$20,000 may be allocated toward technical assistance activities aimed at strengthening organizational infrastructure and addressing administrative challenges.

Eligibility and Priorities

Competitive applicants will:

- have an annual budget of between \$200,000 and \$3,000,000;
- have an office in New York City;
- be immigrant-led (i.e., a majority of the board and staff are first or second-generation immigrants);
- have a clear track record of advocating for immigrant communities (e.g., conducting public outreach and education, organizing, and/or policy advocacy focused on immigrant rights); and
- collaborate with other organizations addressing common concerns.

Groups that have open grants from the Fund are welcome to apply for renewal grants or to propose new projects. New applicants are also welcome. Current grantees are not more or less likely to receive support than new applicants.

Application Requirements

Your application should include the following:

- A. A project narrative (please limit to five single-spaced pages and use a 12-point font) that includes information about:
 - your organization's mission, programming, and immigrant leadership of the staff and board;
 - the ethnic and geographic groups that you serve, the particular challenges your constituents face, and how you are helping to address those challenges;
 - your goal for the project and the activities you propose to undertake;
 - a list of 3-6 project deliverables that you plan to complete during the proposed grant period (groups that propose to use a portion of the grant for capacity-building should provide at least one activity tied to that work);
 - the names of any consultants you plan to work with; and
 - *for renewal requests only*, a brief summary of your progress toward accomplishing the expected results in your current grant (please see the grant letter for a bulleted list of those deliverables).
- B. A project budget, including expenses (including staff time and other organizational costs) and sources of revenue, i.e., the names of other foundation, government, and corporate funders and the amount you expect to receive from each of them (please specify whether grants are committed or pending). The project budget should also include the amount (no more than \$20,000) that you will spend on capacity-building.
- C. A list of the members of the board of directors, including years with the organization.

D. Your 2020 actual income and expense statement and year-end balance sheet and 2021 projected organizational budget (including income sources and expenses).

Submission Process

Merge items A-D into one PDF. Next, go to <https://proposals.nycommunitytrust.org/> and click on the “Apply Here” button. Then click the "Apply" button next to the Fund for New Citizens RFP and complete the Cover Sheet (make sure it says Fund for New Citizens at the top of the page). Finally, attach the PDF of your application to the completed Cover Sheet and click “Submit.”

You must submit your application to the Grants Portal between **9:00 am on Monday, April 1 and 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 13** (the portal will not open until April 1). All applications must be submitted to the portal **by 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 13**. Applications that are incomplete or submitted after the due date will not be considered for funding. Questions about this RFP may be emailed to Eve Stotland at eas@nyct-cfi.org. Grants will be announced in fall 2021.