

The Transgender Strategy Fund - TGNC Families

Invitation to Apply

Transgender Strategy Center (TSC) is offering funding through the Transgender Strategy Fund to support organizations and informal networks led by* and serving transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC) people.

The primary aim of the Transgender Strategy Fund is to support organizations and leaders who seek to elevate TGNC liberation in their work. This includes the realms of public health, harm reduction, policy and advocacy, social service and mutual aid provision, financial assistance, leadership development and mentorship, HIV prevention and care, and beyond. Please visit our grantmaking page to learn more about previously funded organizations and programs.



Transgender Strategy Center (TSC) is a multiracial transgender and gender non-conforming (TGNC)-led organization that bolsters organizations fighting for TGNC liberation through capacity building services and grantmaking. We nurture TGNC leadership to reach autonomy; support TGNC people in expressing their voices and heal from trauma; fund and advocate for direct resourcing of TGNC communities; sustain a community of TGNC peers; and educate cisgender people in meaningful allyship.

TSC is committed to building TGNC power and sustainability. Our mission prioritizes providing support, training, and coaching to grassroots TGNC-led organizations throughout the United States. We believe genuine TGNC liberation only comes through the leadership of TGNC communities.

No-Cost Capacity Building

TSC provides grassroots, TGNC-led organizations with a wide range of capacity building topic areas, from program expansion to executive leadership training. As part of the funding under this initiative, TSC would like to provide capacity building assistance to those funded organizations at no cost to the grantee. See TSC's website for more information.

*We adhere to the Trans Justice Funding Project definition of TGNC-led: the majority of people in charge of the organization identify as trans or gender non-conforming. If your group has a TGNC-related program that includes TGNC leadership, but the majority of your organization's leadership (director, staff, board, etc.) do not identify as TGNC, your group is not TGNC-led. Non-TGNC led organizations with a TGNC focused project are not eligible for this funding.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is specific to supporting the health and wellbeing of current and future TGNC families through advocating for dignity, recognition, and rights across the nation.

TSC recognizes TGNC families as birth families, chosen families, adoptive families, ballroom families, and other structures that break traditional narratives of the term. Work in this area may include service provision, advocacy and policy related to justice and equity for TGNC families, and narrative shifting about families.

Note that additional opportunities for TSC funding, for both 501(c)3 and fiscally sponsored organizations, will be released for general operating support in the upcoming months. Those who apply for this funding will still be eligible for general operating support.

As funding for this RFP is limited, please only apply if your organization or program is actively engaged in this core topic area. Startup funding for TGNC family projects will not be accepted for this RFP.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive funding through this initiative organizations must meet the following requirements

- Be TGNC-led* and provide services to TGNC people. We believe that the path to TGNC liberation must include the resourcing of TGNC organizations who have a significant impact in their communities. Within this, we recognize the roles of anti-blackness, racism, and misogyny in our social inequities. As such, **we strongly encourage BIPOC-led and serving organizations to apply for funding through the Transgender Strategy Fund**
- Have a 501(c)3 tax designation; for this particular request, organizations cannot be fiscally sponsored
- Have a component of your organizational work or active program that meaningfully addresses the health and wellbeing of current and future TGNC families

Priority will be given to applicants who have an organizational budget of less than \$750,000; organizations with larger budgets may still apply.

Grant Amounts

Grant awards will range from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

Use of Funds

These grant funds will be distributed to grantees in the form of general operating support. General operating support grant funds may be used for any activities or expenses, as long as the expenditures are for charitable purposes, do not violate any laws or IRS guidelines, and do not jeopardize the nonprofit status of the organization.

Please refrain from reaching out to TSC about funding decisions.

If you have question about your eligibility, need assistance registering for Good Grants, or have questions about the process or completing an application, please email TSC at grantmaking@transgenderstrategy.org

Application Process

Eligible applicants will need to complete an application, using TSC's Grant Application portal, Good Grants.

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Starting with the **intake form tab**, applicants will be required to respond with the following organizational information:

- Organization Name and EIN
- Location; as City and State
- Mission Statement
- Organization's current fiscal year's budget amount
- Website/social media page

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After completing this portion of the form, applicants must submit the required documents in Good Grants, using the **Required Documents tab**, and may proceed to submit a full application through one of two methods, on the **Application tab**.

Applicants can either:

1. Complete a written application form
2. Request a virtual Zoom interview application.

Please note that the required documents must be submitted BEFORE the interview takes place.

Required Documents

The following items are required for all applicants and must be submitted at least two (2) business days before your application interview is held or with the submission of a written application.

Please be certain to rename all documents with your organization name included.

- Organization's IRS 501(c)3 Determination Letter
- Organization's 2021 Audit -OR- 2021 990 -OR- 2021 990-N
- Organization's W-9
- Organization's current fiscal year budget, including revenue with individual funders listed, where applicable, and expenses. If you do not have an existing organization budget, the template provided on the TSC website.
- Representation Table; this will be filled out in Good Grants. Please review the template on the TSC website in order to find and prepare the relevant demographic information.

Completing the Application

The information below is provided to better assist you in completing the application:

- **To start an application, register for TSC's Good Grants portal here: <https://tsc.grantplatform.com>**
- It is strongly encouraged that you complete the application questions and prompts in a separate document and then paste your responses into Good Grants.
- If you choose to submit your application by scheduling and completing an interview, please start your application in Good Grants and on the Applications tab check the interview box; this will populate a Calendly link to sign-up for an hour-long interview time.
- Be sure to have the listed required documents available.
- This application includes the submission of a completed staff and Board representation table; you can preview this table on the TSC website but must provide this information through Good Grants. The purpose of collecting this data is to ensure that the leadership and staffing of, and the communities served by, the applicant organization align with the communities of priority for this initiative. This table is required for all applicants, both written and interview formats.
- Be sure to review the questions and prompts below along with the description of what is expected for each to ensure the best responses possible.

Please note the following:

- If an interview is not scheduled by February 13, 2023, applicants must complete a written application.
- If a written application is submitted, an interview cannot be scheduled.

Applicants must select just one means of applying.

Applicants will be able to make this selection in Good Grants.

TSC does not have a preferred method of application and encourages applicants to choose the format that is more appropriate and comfortable for them.

All applications and interviews must be completed by February 22, 2023

Application Questions & Prompts

The questions and prompts provided below along with a description of what makes a strong response, the character or time limit for each, and the corresponding points.

1 Describe your program and how it relates to supporting the health and wellbeing of current and future TGNC families.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is specific to supporting the health and wellbeing of TGNC families and youth through advocating for dignity, recognition, and rights across the nation. A strong response will indicate the specific services provided that are tailored to TGNC families and youth, advocacy and policy related to justice and equity for TGNC families, and narrative shifting about families. TSC is seeking an indication that an organization is already engaged in TGNC-specific work in these areas.

1,500 characters; 10 minutes; 15 points

2 Provide an example of the work that your organization has done to shift narratives around the meaning of family.

A strong answer will provide a concrete example of narrative shifting. This may include social media campaigns, TGNC competent service provision practices, local or national advocacy to support the visibility and acceptance of TGNC families, the development of programs that center chosen families, etc. TSC would like to see tangible ways that your organization has approached this topic.

1,000 characters; 10 minutes; 15 points

3 How do you intend to use the funds under this grant, if received?

Funds underneath this grant are for general operating support. TSC would like to gather a better understanding of how you would utilize this money, and its relationship to the goals and priorities of this initiative

750 characters; 5 minutes; 5 points

4 How do you engage Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) TGNC people within and outside of your organization?

The Transgender Strategy Fund prioritizes supporting the needs of BIPOC TGNC communities; therefore, a strong response includes a description of how BIPOC TGNC community members are engaged in the development of programming and services that your organization provides, along with how the BIPOC TGNC staff of your organization are engaged in program development and leadership.

1,500 characters; 10 minutes; 10 points

5 Please describe the TGNC communities your organization serves, particularly BIPOC community members. What are their needs as it relates to the goals and priorities of this grant opportunity?

A strong response will include the racial demographics of the people served by your organization and specifics about how TGNC people in your community are affected by stigma around queer families, recent legislative changes and attacks on TGNC people, and the lack of resources or information available to TGNC communities on reproductive health.

1,500 characters; 10 minutes; 10 points

6 How do you measure how successful your organization is at meeting its mission?

A strong response will include a description of what success means to your organization. For example, 80% of your clients attend a TGNC family support group or 4 workshops on TGNC inclusion and family needs were conducted with healthcare providers.

1,000 characters; 5 minutes; 5 points

7 OPTIONAL – TSC offers No-Cost Capacity Building -to TGNC-led organizations. Is this something your organization would be interested in receiving?

Your response to this question will not influence the outcome of a grant decision. If your organization is interested in Capacity Building, you can also mention what areas of focus your organization is most in need of.

Timeline for Proposals

The timeline below outlines the important dates for the RFP:

RFP Released

January 26th, 2023

Orientation Webinar for Applicants

February 1st, 2023

Written Application Window

January 26th to February 22nd, 2023

Interview Window

February 13th to February 22nd, 2023

Interviews must be scheduled by February 13th

Proposals Due

February 22nd, 2023

Applicants Notified of Decisions

March 24th, 2023

Grant Start Date

April 1st, 2023