

United Way of Coastal and Western Connecticut Social Equity Council Community Reinvestment Pilot Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

(Last Updated: 7/14/2023)

What if my organization receives Federal Funding?

Funding for all Social Equity Council programs and activities is sales tax revenue from Connecticut's Adult-Use Cannabis Industry, which is currently not federally legal. Applicants should check with their legal counsel, funders and/or governing body to determine eligibility to apply for and receive these funds. **Verification of eligibility is the sole responsibility of interested applicants.** This guidance has been confirmed by the Social Equity Council.

What is the source of the Social Equity Council funding?

The source of funding is the sales tax revenue from CT's Adult-Use Cannabis Industry.

What are the grant reporting requirements? What is the report format?

Funded agencies will be required to submit quarterly reports highlighting:

- Spending of funding
- Progress of project completion
- Outcomes
- Impact of funding on the community

UWCWC staff will provide technical assistance to support organizations with collecting the appropriate data and completing reports.

We anticipate reports will be due as follows, though dates are subject to change based on Social Equity Council guidance:

- October 15, 2023
- January 15, 2024
- April 15, 2024
- July 15, 2024 Final Report

We are in the process of developing the report format. This will be made available before grants are awarded. Some details of reporting requirements are provided in the application. Please refer to Forms 5 and 6 for some of the information that will be a part of the quarterly reports.

Can an agency apply for multiple grants for different projects?

Yes, an agency will be able to apply for different projects/programs with this application. We do not currently have a limit to the number of projects/programs; however, we want to ensure an agency looks at the purpose of the grant, as well as their capacity, programmatic needs, and administrative capacity.



Can you elaborate on what expenses are allowable under this grant?

Eligible expenses can include, but are not limited to:

- Direct programmatic/project expenses
- Subcontracted costs that further the purpose of the grant

We encourage you to review your proposed expenses to ensure, if asked by our review teams and/or the SEC, that you can answer how an expense is necessary and is reasonable for proper and efficient administration of the proposed services.

Can my Fiscal Sponsor and my Community Based Organization (CBO) be awarded funding through this grant if we apply separately?

According to the guidance we have received from the SEC to this point, yes it is possible for your CBO and your fiscal sponsor to apply for this grant and receive funding separately. If both entities are applying separately for funding, the CBOs application and budget should not include any administrative or fiduciary fees to the Fiscal Sponsor. The Fiscal Sponsor cannot benefit financially as a result of the CBOs application.

Who will review the applications?

UWCWC will form a Social Equity Council Grant Review Committee, with two sub-committees to review applications by City – one in Bridgeport and the other in Stamford. The committee will be made up of 24 individuals with demonstrated expertise in reentry/reintegration, youth education/enrichment, community development, grassroots organizing, grants management, or related areas of interest.

If I am awarded funds, how will they be paid?

If your organization is awarded funds, UWCWC will provide payment in a single installment within 30 days of full execution of the grant agreement.

I need support with my application. Can you help?

UWCWC staff will provide office hours on Friday's from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm through phone and by Zoom (<u>click here to join the Zoom meetings on Fridays</u>). In addition, you can reach out to staff at any point: Victoria Scofield at <u>Victoria.scofield@uwwesternct.org</u> or Meghan Hadley at <u>Meghan.hadley@uwwesternct.org</u>.