MAYOR’S FUND FOR PHILADELPHIA
2019 Grant Guidelines for City of Philadelphia Departments and Agencies

The following guidelines concern the application process, eligibility, and criteria for Mayor’s Fund grants available to City of Philadelphia municipal departments and agencies.

In addition, the 2019 Innovation Fund is a grant opportunity available to City of Philadelphia municipal applicants. The Innovation Fund provides grants to launch pilot initiatives proposed by City employees that have the potential to improve the services and functions of municipal government. To learn more about the Innovation Fund guidelines and application process, click HERE.

Please note: you may not apply to the Mayor’s Fund and the Innovation Fund simultaneously.

If you are a charitable organization interested in learning more about grantmaking opportunities available to you, please visit the Mayor’s Fund Website.

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Mayor’s Fund for Philadelphia (the “Mayor’s Fund”) is an independent charitable organization whose mission is to advance the Mayor’s goals through leveraging public-private partnerships to benefit the citizens of Philadelphia. The Fund works in close partnership with the City of Philadelphia, private sector businesses, and community-based organizations to advance initiatives that reflect Mayoral priorities and seek to improve the quality of life for all Philadelphians.

The Mayor’s Fund application process for City of Philadelphia municipal applicants is coordinated by the Innovation Advisory Group – a cross-departmental advisory team of City employees who are trained and invested in seeding innovation. All final funding decisions are made by the Board of the Mayor’s Fund for Philadelphia.

The Mayor’s Fund has a total budget of $220,000 to distribute for this grant cycle. Most of our grants range from $2,500 to $15,000, and individual grants cannot exceed $25,000.

2019 FUNDING PRIORITIES

The Mayor’s Fund seeks to support proposals addressing Philadelphia’s greatest areas of need and which align with the Mayor’s goals to improve the quality of life for all Philadelphians. For its 2019 grant cycle, the Fund’s grantmaking will focus on the following priority areas:

- **Philadelphia’s Opioid Crisis**
  Philadelphia is facing its greatest public health crisis in a century. The human costs of the opioid crisis are staggering, and nearly every neighborhood is experiencing the effects of the epidemic of opioid use and overdose, from unsafe conditions where our residents live and work, to skyrocketing rates of homelessness and increased criminal activity. The Mayor’s Fund will support proposals that align with the City’s efforts to strengthen prevention and education, expand access to treatment, and prevent overdose.

- **Homelessness:**
  Each year, approximately 15,000 people access Philadelphia’s homeless services after finding themselves without a place to stay at night, and thousands more are at
risk of homelessness. The Mayor’s Fund seeks applications which align with the City’s goal to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring in Philadelphia.

- **Gun Violence:**
  While overall violent crime is down in Philadelphia, the 351 homicides and 1,403 shootings in 2018—the most in the last decade—represent an alarmingly increasing trend in gun violence in our city. The volume and impact of gun violence is so severe that Philadelphia is now in the midst of a public health crisis. The Mayor’s Fund will support proposals which align with the City’s gun violence prevention strategies and community supports.

- **K-12 Education:**
  Philadelphia has over 200,000 students in district, charter and alternative schools. The Mayor’s Fund seeks to support educational opportunities and outcomes for all of Philadelphia’s children. The Mayor’s Fund will consider proposals directly demonstrate an impact in K through 12 education.

**DISCLAIMER**

As mentioned above, the Innovation Fund is a separate grant opportunity available to City of Philadelphia municipal applicants. The Innovation Fund is funded by the Mayor’s Fund for Philadelphia, and managed by the Innovation Management team in the City’s Office of Innovation and Technology. The guidelines for the Innovation Fund can be found [HERE](#).

The Mayor’s Fund and Innovation Fund grant opportunities run concurrently, and the Innovation Advisory Group will be overseeing the initial intake forms for all applications from City entities for both grant opportunities. We feel the Innovation Fund process—which includes in-person pitch sessions to a review panel—is a valuable tool for both funder and applicant, and will better inform the Mayor’s Fund in its evaluation of City proposals.

The Mayor’s Fund and the Innovation Advisory Group reserve the right to move applications between Mayor’s Fund and Innovation Fund grant pools based on the best fit of a given project. If you apply for a Mayor’s Fund grant and your proposal is deemed a better fit for the Innovation Fund, we will contact you to discuss next steps.

**ELIGIBILITY**

*Please note: in order to be considered for funding, applications must be submitted according to the deadlines, eligibility, and format as set forth in these guidelines and on the online submission forms.*

- All City of Philadelphia departments and agencies are eligible to apply. As part of the application process, City applicants will be expected to demonstrate that the funding requested cannot be supported through the City’s budget, or solely by the City’s budget. Applicants will also be expected to demonstrate Department Leadership’s commitment to the proposed project.

- Requests may not exceed the Fund’s maximum grant award amount of $25,000. Please be aware that the average grant amount ranges from $2,500 to $15,000. For the 2019 cycle, the Mayor’s Fund has a total of $220,000 to distribute.

- **The Fund will not support:** Proposals that seek multi-year funding; grants for lobbying or political activity; proposals for activities or services taking place outside of Philadelphia; proposals that do not satisfy the Eligibility Criteria or Timeline described in these guidelines, or proposals from applicants that previously received a grant from the Mayor’s Fund and did not submit a final report or did not fulfill
grantee requirements. Additionally, grants must fund future projects and will not reimburse past expenses.

**APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE**

The initial intake of Mayor’s Fund grants from City applicants will mirror the intake process of the Innovation Fund. This is a unique evaluation process that aims to help City employees think strategically about their potential initiatives. While we value the opportunity to fund a select group of projects, we also strive to provide structure and guidance through the Idea Lifecycle, allowing applicants to critically examine all components of their idea, connect with relevant stakeholders, use funds effectively, and create realistic and impactful outcomes.

*Although not all projects will receive financial support from the Fund, we will do our best to offer feedback and capacity support to all applicants.*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOW EXTENDED:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, January 10</td>
<td>Initial submission form is due; applications must be submitted via the online form linked below.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td><strong>Mayor’s Fund Application (for municipal applicants) is <a href="#">HERE</a>.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>All submissions will be reviewed and scored using an appropriate rubric developed by the Innovation Advisory Group and the Mayor’s Fund Grants Committee and staff.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Please direct any questions or issues to Stephanie Orlando, Innovation Coordinator, at <a href="mailto:stephanie.orlando@phila.gov">stephanie.orlando@phila.gov</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 4</td>
<td>Applicants are notified of status; high scoring applicants will be invited to attend a <em>mandatory</em> Pitch Session where they will workshop their proposal with members of the Innovation Advisory Group. Low scoring applicants will be invited to attend an <em>optional</em> session where they can receive feedback on their submission and explore other potential funding avenues and growth opportunities.</td>
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<td>February 17 – February 28</td>
<td>Pitch Sessions will be scheduled during these two weeks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 10</td>
<td>Applicants are notified of status; a select group of submissions will be invited to submit a full proposal to the Mayor’s Fund for funding consideration. We will provide further instructions about the full proposal in this email.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, March 27</td>
<td>All full proposal submissions are due.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Full proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the Mayor’s Fund Grants Committee and staff. Final funding decisions will be made by the Fund’s Board.</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Please direct any questions or issues about the full proposal to Stephanie Orlando, Innovation Coordinator, at <a href="mailto:stephanie.orlando@phila.gov">stephanie.orlando@phila.gov</a>.</td>
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EXAMPLES OF PAST MAYOR’S FUND (MUNICIPAL APPLICANT) PROJECTS

Performances in Public Spaces (OACCE)

In 2014, the Office of Arts Culture and Creative Economy (OACCE) received a grant from the Mayor’s Fund for the inaugural year of its Performances in Public Spaces project. Performances in Public Spaces is a series of free, family-friendly cultural performances in parks and plazas across Philadelphia neighborhoods from May through October. The OACCE selects performers and provides grants ranging from $500 to $3,000, to support artists to cover fees, marketing, production, and other administrative costs. Past performances have included theater productions, circus arts, contemporary dance, and more.

Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence (DBHIDS)

In 2017, the Department of Behavioral Health and DisABILITY Services received a grant to support its Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence Program. The Network of Neighbors Responding to Violence (NNRV) is a citywide trauma and violence response network that promotes long-term, sustainable support and healing through collaborative early intervention. The Network offers a free, 2.5 day training every year to train Philadelphians, identified as Acute Trauma Responders (“ACTs”), who respond to support their communities after violent traumatic incidents. ACTs receive free training to acquire skills in trauma informed interventions including Psychological First Aid and Post-Traumatic Stress Management.

Hub of Hope Partner Meal Provider Program (Office of Homeless Services)

In 2018, the Office of Homeless Services received a grant to continue its meal provider service at Hub of Hope, a newly-opened engagement center in the Suburban Station Concourse that provides access to housing and other services to vulnerable, homeless, and housing-insecure individuals.