



Fall 2023 Request for Proposals (RFP)

Release Date: Monday September 18th

We believe in the power of women to drive social change. Women's movements need the ability to respond to threats and opportunities with flexible and responsive funding. The Women's Catalytic Fund (WCF) offers one-time grants of up to \$15,000. We aim to put resources into the hands of people with bold visions who are working to end gender-based inequity and fundamentally change the systems that perpetuate it. We prioritize investing in female identifying, nonbinary and gender non-conforming leaders from BIPOC communities.

Through our catalytic giving, we are prepared to take risks, respond rapidly, and give directly to frontline organizations when resources are most needed. We are looking for powerful ideas that address and reimagine what is possible when those who have long been ignored are centered in the work. **We will only consider initiatives, projects, actions or events that include all of the following:**

- Are catalytic: have the potential to serve as a model or to have a ripple effect, accelerate change, be inventive or experimental
- Are intersectional and collaborative
- Address gender-based inequity, gender-based violence, patriarchy, or transphobia
 - Respond to the unique needs, challenges, and strengths of women and girls in targeted communities
 - Develop the talents and leadership of women and girls in targeted communities
 - Support women and girls to act on their own behalf, and on behalf of their families and communities, to improve their quality of life
- Prioritize low-income women, women of color, or immigrant women, inclusive of all those identifying as female
- Are led by and representative of the community being served

Note: Having a majority of girls or women participating in your program does not solely qualify as addressing gender-based inequity.

Who can apply?

- Organizations and proposed projects **must be based in California.**
- Organizations must have an **annual budget under \$1,000,000.**
- Applicants must be registered as a 501(c)3, have a designated 501(c)3 willing to accept a grant on their behalf, or have a registered fiscal sponsor.

Funding

- These are **one-time** grants of up to **\$15,000**.
- Proposals should utilize one or more of the following strategies:
 - Community organizing
 - Leadership development
 - Media and / or public education
 - Policy advocacy
 - Research
 - Capacity building
 - Convening / event

This fund may support:

- Project / initiative support
- Pilot or experimental programs
- Early stage or seed funding that catalyzes additional resources

This fund does not support:

- Ongoing, regularly scheduled programs
- Previously planned or long-term campaigns
- Budget shortfalls
- Capital Campaigns
- Scholarships

RFP timeline

- Proposals are due to [JustFund](#) by **5pm Tuesday October 10, 2023**
- Grant recipients will be notified no later than the week of **December 11, 2023**

How to apply

Women's Catalytic Fund is accepting applications via [JustFund](#), a digital platform to connect social justice funders, foundations, and funds directly with grassroots organizations and urgent projects. Begin by registering for a JustFund account at www.justfund.us. For more information, check out the JustFund [Help Center](#) or email info@justfund.us.

Part I: JustFund Common Proposal Questions and Requirements

JustFund utilizes a [Common Proposal](#) with four narrative questions:

- Proposal Summary (max 140 characters): Think of this like a tweet. Please tell us about the mission of this proposal in a couple of sentences.
- Proposal Description (recommended 2500 - 3500 characters): Tell us about your proposal.
- Team Description (recommended 1250 - 2500 characters): Tell us about who the organizers are.
- Financial Need (recommended 1250 - 2500 characters): Please describe what you will use the funding for.

Required Attachments

- 501(c)(3) Determination Letter
- Project Budget Outline

Supplemental Questions

- Supplemental Question 1)
 - How does your initiative relate to the movement for gender equity, and why is it important at this moment? (recommended 1250 characters)
 - *A clear gender-based equity focus means your political analysis and project specifically address gender inequity, gender-based violence, patriarchy, or transphobia. The initiative must include an intentional gender analysis and, as such, must: (1) Respond to the unique needs, challenges and strengths of women and girls in targeted communities. (2) Develop the talents and leadership of women and girls in targeted communities. (3) Support women and girls to act on their own behalf, and on behalf of their families and communities, to improve their quality of life.*
- Supplemental Question 2)
 - How is your proposal catalytic? Describe how it is inventive or experimental, how it has the potential to serve as a model or have a ripple effect, and how it can accelerate change. (recommended 750 characters)
- Supplemental Question 3)
 - Part 1. How do you expect to know if the proposed activities are making a difference?
 - Part 2. In two words, how did you hear about this RFP (e.g., JustFund, EBCF, WCF directly, Social Media, Other: please explain)? (recommended 500 characters combined)
- If you would prefer to respond to the supplemental questions via video submission, please include it in the Attachments section, either by uploading your video file directly or including the link after you have uploaded the video to a streaming site (e.g. YouTube, Vimeo, etc). **Video submission should not exceed 3 minutes.**

Contact Information

Email: wcfgrantinformation@gmail.com