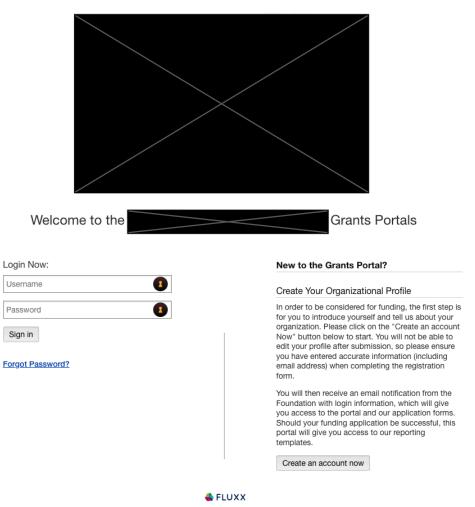
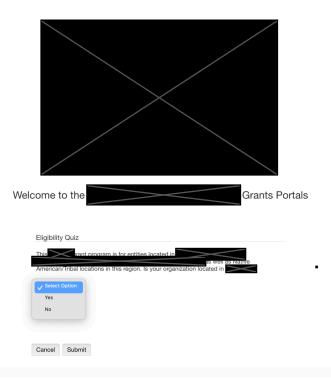
Draft Grant Application Applicant Organization Information Fields Screenshots

1) Login Landing Page to King Grant Portal with button to create an account and provide Applicant Organization information

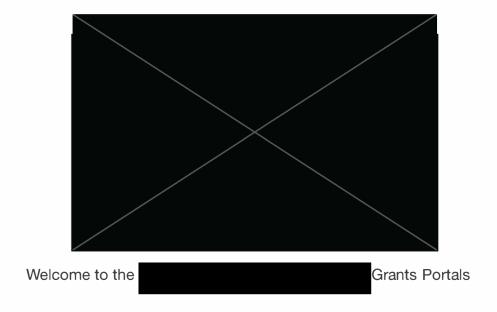


Privacy Policy Accessibility

2) Registration Page to create an account. Users start with an eligibility quiz.



3) If eligible, they can access the full registration form and enter their organizational information + primary contact information to create an account. As part of the registration organizational information such as Tax ID and UEI number are captured which allows organizational information to automatically flow to subsequent applications/proposals. This can be adjusted as needed per EPA requiremets.





Request for Applications (RFA)

Background

Administered by

The FPA Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program supports FPA's goals

This collection of information is approved by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. OMB Control Number: 2035-NEW. Responses to this collection of information are voluntary. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to be 2 to 6 hours. Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden to Director, Information Engagement Division; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2821T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.

1. Background

The EPA Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program supports EPA's goals and objectives of two Executive Orders (EO 14008 and EO 13985) issued by the Biden Administration that demonstrate the EPA's and Administration's commitment to achieving environmental justice and embedding environmental justice into Agency programs.

The is the Grantmaking partner of the EPA for this program in EPA

has worked at the

community level to advance environmental justice-, racial equity and address the social determinants of health across the nation.

This program's objective is to provide grant funding to community-based organizations and other eligible entities advancing environmental justice initiatives in their respective communities.

2. Executive Summary

Through this RFA process, will award a portfolio of 171 grants. Grants will be available for four (4) distinct tiers of community readiness:

Tier	Award Focus		Amount	Award Period
1	Assessment Projects	60	Up to \$150,000	1 Year
II	Planning Projects		Up to \$250,000	1-2 Years
III	Implementation Projects	50	Up to \$350,000	2 Years
N/A	Noncompetitive Capacity-Building		\$75,000	1 Year

60 Tier I awards will be for 1 year up to \$150,000 assessment projects,

51 Tier II awards will be for 1-2 years up to \$250,000 planning projects, and

50 Tier III awards are for 2-year up to \$350,000 project development projects.

10 Noncompetitive awards will be for one-year up to \$75,000 for severely capacity constrained communities.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, beginning in August 2024, and ending in November 2024 for 2-year proposals and ending April 2025 for 1-year proposals. will review applications on a rolling basis and issue awards through five rounds:

Round 1: December 2024 Round 2: February 2025 Round 3: April 2025 Round 4: June 2025 Round 5: August 2025

There is a limit for the total amount of funding (\$40,000,000) available (around 171 awards across all tiers). Should all funds be awarded prior to the later rounds, will keep potential applicants informed about the remaining awards available after each round. And if all funds are fully awarded prior to the last round, applicants will be directed to any competitions remaining at the national grant maker level. In addition, will have resource referrals to other funding opportunities to share with potential applicants as allowed and in accordance with EPA. Each eligible entity is restricted to receiving up to two awards.

3. Program Overview

Project Tiers

The Region 3 Thriving Communities Grant Maker (GHHI) has been awarded funding by the EPA to run a competition to provide funding to historically, underserved communities that have been disproportionately burdened by environmental hazards and health consequences and have faced environmental and energy justice challenges. These communities are often exposed to unhealthy land uses, poor air and water quality, dilapidated housing that leads to lead exposure, and other environmental threats that drive health disparities. The combination of environmental risks and social inequities creates a cumulative, disproportionate impact that hinders optimal environmental health and justice particularly for these communities.

To ensure that this program can best support the needs of communities working on environmental justice initiatives, EPA has structured the awards into three distinct tiers as well as an allocation of noncompetitive grants for severely capacity constrained communities. The RFA process has been designed to minimize the administrative burden for resource-constrained organizations to apply for federal funding.

Subgrants may address a wide range of environmental issues and consist of a variety of project types including (but not limited to) the following:

3. Program Overview

Project Tiers

The has been awarded funding by the EPA to run a competition to provide funding to historically, underserved communities that have been disproportionately burdened by environmental hazards and health consequences and have faced environmental and energy justice challenges. These communities are often exposed to unhealthy land uses, poor air and water quality, dilapidated housing that leads to lead exposure, and other environmental threats that drive health disparities. The combination of environmental risks and social inequities creates a cumulative, disproportionate impact that hinders optimal environmental health and justice particularly for these communities.

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Subgrants may address a wide range of environmental issues and consist of a variety of project types including (but not limited to) the following:

Air quality & asthma
Fence line air quality monitoring
Monitoring of effluent discharges from industrial facilities
Water quality & sampling
Small cleanup projects
Improving food access to reduce vehicle miles traveled
Stormwater issues and green infrastructure
Lead and asbestos contamination
Pesticides and other toxic substances

Healthy homes that are energy/water use efficient and not subject to indoor air pollution lilegal dumping activities, such as education, outreach, and small-scale clean-ups Emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency

Environmental job training for occupations that reduce greenhouse gases and other air

Environmental justice training for youth

To ensure that this program can best support the needs of communities working on environmental justice initiatives, EPA has structured the awards into three distinct tiers as well as an allocation of noncompetitive grants for severely capacity constrained communities. The RFA process has been designed to minimize the administrative burden for resource-constrained organizations to apply for federal funding.

Tier I: Assessment

The Tier I EJ (Environmental Justice) Thriving Communities Awards are available for severely capacity-constrained community-based organizations and/or "entry-level" applicants to assist them during the initial steps of their work to address specific issues impacting them locally by conducting assessments of environmental and public health concerns. Tier I EJ Thriving Communities Awards are for up to \$150,000 each for a one-year project period. Tier I projects can address multiple environmental issues (e.g., air quality, water contamination, toxic substances, etc.). The following is a list of the types of activities which may be considered by the Grantmakers for Tier I EJ Thriving Communities Awards. The following activities examples are provided for illustrative purposes only and the list is not all inclusive:

research (that is incidental to the project design) sampling testing monitoring investigations surveys and studies public education

Tier II: Planning

The Tier II EJ Thriving Communities Awards are available for community-based organizations and other eligible recipients are ready to formulate a community-wide plan to address those issues. Developing key cooperative partnerships with community stakeholders is an essential part of developing a community-wide plan and later implementing that plan. Therefore, partnership development is a key aspect of the Tier II Awards. Tier II EJ Thriving Communities Awards are for up to \$250,000 each for a 1 to 2-year project period. Tier II project activities can address multiple environmental issues (e.g., air quality, water contamination, toxic substances) and should also include plan formulation and partnership development activities to address those environmental issues. The following is a list of the types of activities which may be considered by the Grantmakers for a Tier II EJ Thriving Communities Award. The following activities are provided for illustrative purposes only and the list is not all inclusive.

Planning
Partnership-building
Public outreach and education
Coordination with community stakeholders to address environmental issues
Training activities for community organizations and community members
Projects and activities to spur community involvement (e.g., cleanups of vacant lots)
Smaller land purchases and acquisitions that require less than half of the total amount of Award funding

The Tier III EJ Thriving Communities Awards are available for community-based nonprofit organizations and other eligible recipients who already have assessed their local environmental and/or public health issues, have already formulated a community-wide plan addressing those issues, and/or are now ready to develop the technical aspects of the project (i.e., implement the project on the ground). Developing key cooperative partnerships with community stakeholders is an essential part of developing a community-wide plan and later implementing that plan. Therefore, partnership development is a key aspect of the Tier III Awards as well. Tier III EJ Thriving Communities Awards are for up to \$350,000 each for a 2-year project period. Tier III projects can address multiple environmental issues (e.g., air quality, water contamination, toxic substances). The following is a list of the types of activities which may be considered by the Grantmakers for a Tier III EJ Thriving Communities Award. It is provided for illustrative purposes only and is not all inclusive.

Project Development

or cleanup projects, schematics, and technical development (grant funds cannot be used directly for construction)

Work to get permits in place directly related to an environmental project Implementation of project plans
Public outreach and education

Noncompetitive Awards

The Thriving Communities Program operates with participatory governance, a formalized way to ensure meaningful participation and community engagement in decision-making processes. This is aligned with a core principle of Environmental Justice, which is that all communities can participate in decisions that impact their environment.

grantmaking activities are overseen by an Advisory Board comprised of various environmental justice organizations.

and the Advisory Board have set criteria around organizational capacity to identify organizations that are "severely capacity-constrained" and thus would be eligible for receiving a \$75,000 noncompetitive award to achieve concrete goals., but will, as a recipient of EPA funds, have reporting requirements. There will be approximately 10 noncompetitive awards provided.

and the Advisory Board will collect information from potential recipients of these noncompetitive funds. Potential achievable activities under this up to \$75,000 award include the activities eligible under Tier 1 (1 (1 (Assessment)).

The Advisory Board will review and approve all noncompetitive awards.

Organizations that are interested in the noncompetitive award process should contact

4. Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must meet the eligibility criteria. Applicants, and projects, must be in EPA

Applicant

must be registered in the Federal System of Award Management (SAM) to be eligible [https://sam.gov]

Any proposed activity must be in an area considered disadvantaged, as defined by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. If you need assistance using the tool, please reach out to Thriving Communities staff at

Eligible entities include:

Nonprofit organizations

Community-based and grassroots nonprofit organizations

Philanthropic and civic organizations with nonprofit status

Tribal governments (both federally recognized and state-recognized) and intertribal consortia (i.e., a partnership between two or more tribes that work together to achieve a common objective.)

Native American Organizations (includes Indian groups, cooperatives, nonprofit corporations, partnerships, and associations that have the authority to enter into legally binding agreements) Local governments (as defined by 2 CFR 200.1 – includes cities, towns, municipalities, and counties, public housing authorities and councils of government) Institutions of higher education (e.g., private, and public universities and colleges, including community)

Individuals

For profit businesses unless EPA's Award Official makes an exception based on factors such as those described in Appendix A of EPA's Subaward Policy

State governments

Projects that include human subject testing

Is your organization type one of the following?



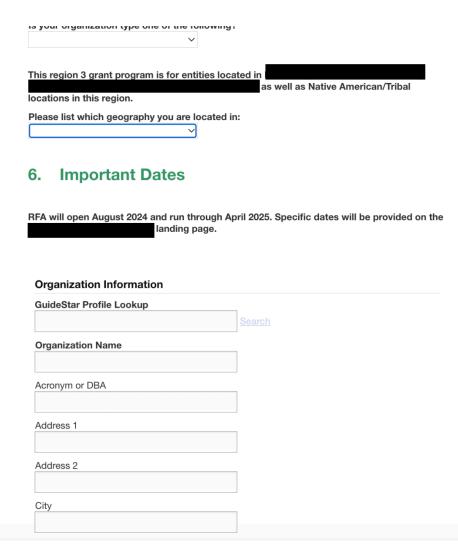
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A 501C3



Organization Information GuideStar Profile Lookup **Organization Name** Acronym or DBA Address 1 Address 2 City Country United States ~ State/Province ~ Postal Code (Zip) Organization E-mail Organization Phone Tax ID

UEI Number

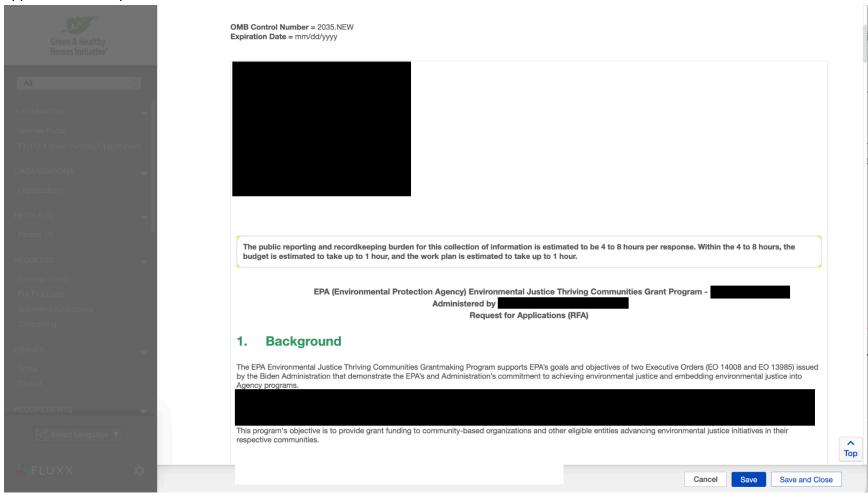
UEI Number	
Primary Contact Information	
First Name	
Last Name	
Title	
E-mail	
Work Phone	
Cancel Submit Request	



4) Once a user's account is created and they log into the portal, they will be able to complete all pre-award and post-award functions over the life of the program



Application within portal:





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- · Improving food access to reduce vehicle miles traveled
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- Pesticides and other toxic substances
- Healthy homes that are energy/water use efficient and not subject to indoor air pollution
- Illegal dumping activities, such as education, outreach, and small-scale clean-ups
- Emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency
- · Environmental job training for occupations that reduce greenhouse gases and other air pollutants
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- research (that is incidental to the project design)
- sampling
- testina



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- Planning
- Partnership-building
- · Public outreach and education
- · Coordination with community stakeholders to address environmental issues
- Training activities for community organizations and community members
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- · Smaller land purchases and acquisitions that require less than half of the total amount of Award funding

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- Project Development
- · or cleanup projects, schematics, and technical development (grant funds cannot be used directly for construction)
- · Work to get permits in place directly related to an environmental project
- · Implementation of project plans
- · Public outreach and education



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Noncompetitive Awards

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Applicants must be registered in the Federal

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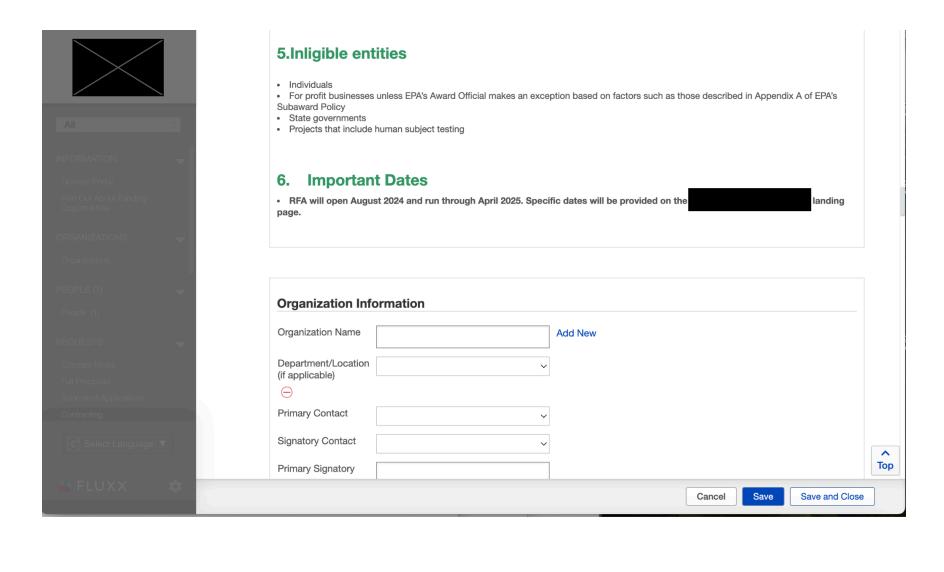
Eligible entities include:

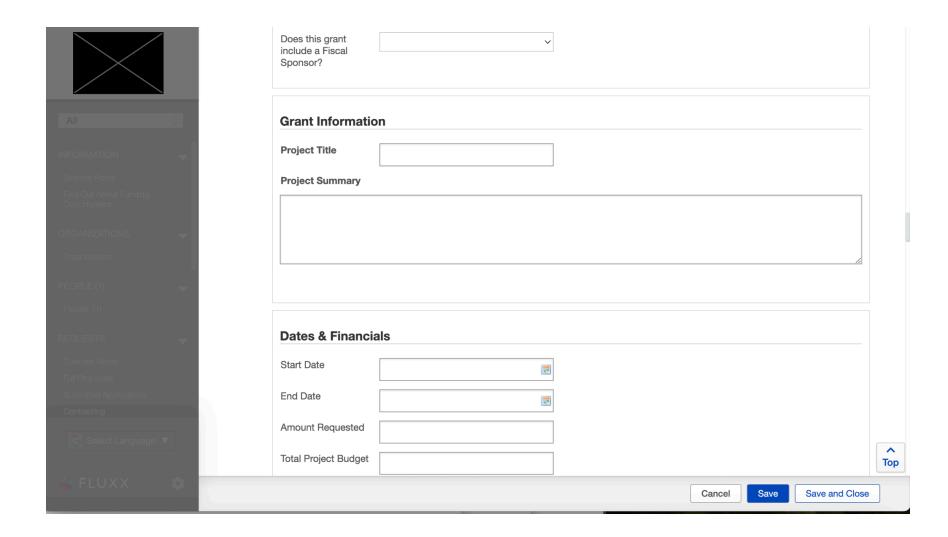
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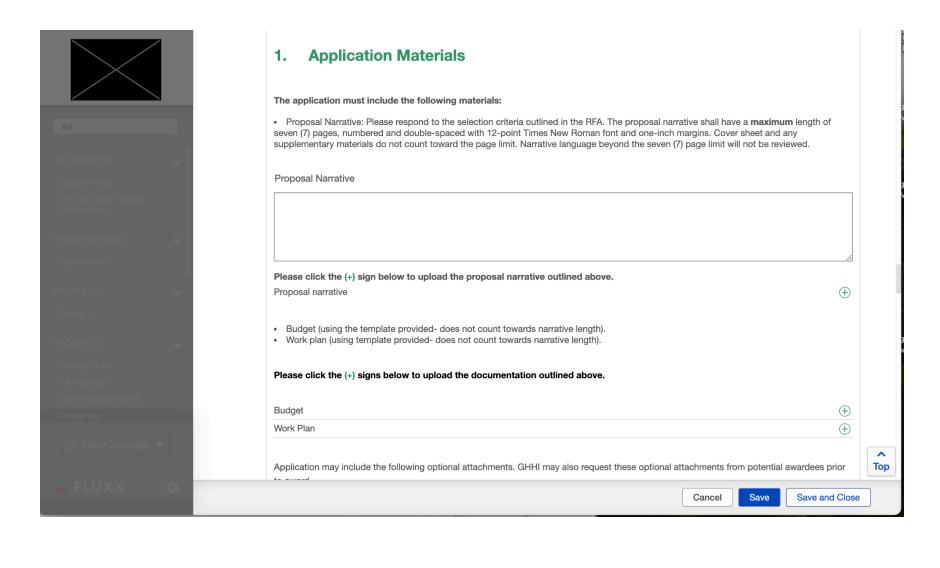


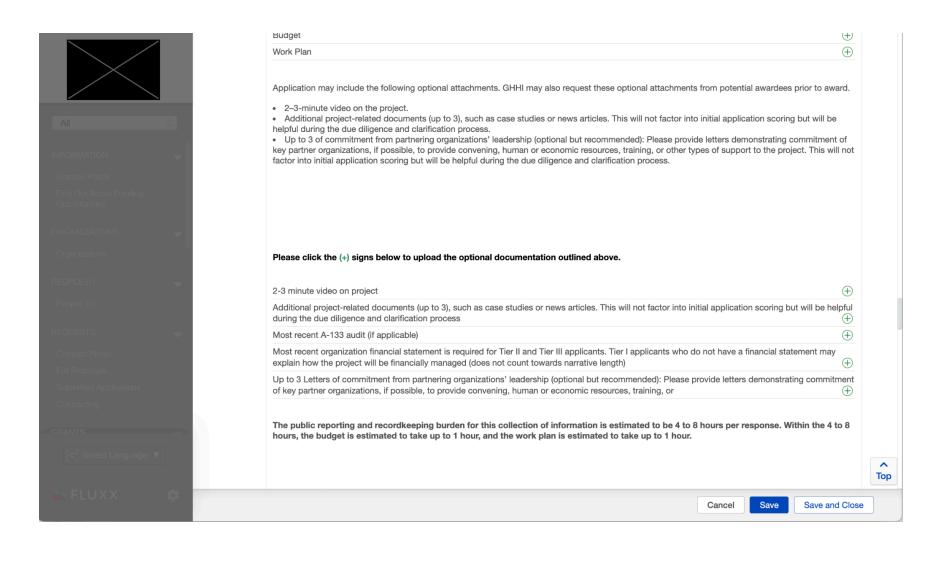
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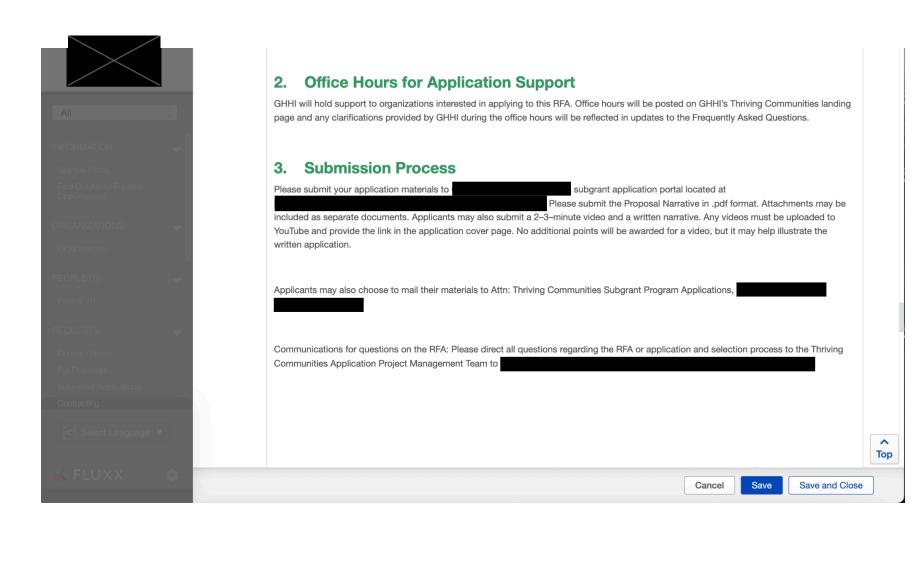
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4. Review Process

will prioritize both expeditious review and dedicated feedback to all applicants. Within 15 days of receiving an application, determine if the applicant meets the basic threshold criteria (applicant is an eligible entity and has provided the required application components). If an applicant does not meet the threshold criteria, they will be notified and told why they are not moving forward in the review process. Applicants who receive this notification may rectify the identified threshold criteria issues and resubmit their application within the open RFA window. Those projects that do meet the threshold criteria will be fully evaluated for the award within 1.5 months of receipt. Following selection, financial risk analyses and award, agreements will be completed within 30 days for applications identified for awards. The duration of the grant making process from submission to award agreement for applicant organizations will be 3 months.

The review process will be guided by continuous quality improvement and transparency governed by an Advisory Board. The Advisory Board will ensure that has a receives and responds to a breadth of perspectives and voices when it comes to recruitment, review, award selection, and awardee oversight.

will hold detailed debriefing meetings with applicants not awarded funds to support their potential future success in applying will provide feedback on ways the applicant may strengthen their application for future funding round opportunities. If the RFA is still open, and funds are available for the applicant's tier of interest, applicants are allowed 1 re-submission.

5. Grant Compliance and Oversight

is committed to supporting Awardees throughout the duration of their projects. This includes working with Awardees through regular touchpoints to ensure compliance with federal requirements and reporting. The compliance and oversight processes are intended to strengthen the internal capacity of Awardees to increase readiness for future funding opportunities. Compliance activities will include:

- Regular check-in meetings between Awardee and
 Program Officer
- · Quarterly reporting
- · Initial risk assessment to establish ongoing compliance activities
- · Desk review and/or site monitoring visits to review organizational internal controls and other grant program performance



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6. Application Narrative and Scoring Rubric

Applications for Tier I (Assessment), Tier II (Planning), and Tier III (Project Development) must include an application narrative that addresses the following prompts. Applications will be scored based on the points shown below.

Application Section Maximum Suggested Page Length

Possible Points

n/a n/a

Cover Page:

- Organization name
- Organization address
- Unique Entity Identifier (Proof of SAM Registration)
- Tier I, II, or III
- Request Amount
- Project name
- Brief project description (2-3 sentences)
- · Point of contact name, title, email address, phone number
- Optional YouTube video link

20 points 1 to 2 pages

Community Need:

Describe the community need(s) that the proposed project will address. As applicable, include relevant). Tier I project applications that may not have access to existing data may use this section to describe the importance of the issue area being addressed. Describe the target population to be served and geographic area/footprint of the project.



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