Black Opportunity Fund We Back Black.

Call for Applications: Strengthening the BD3 Sector

A National Capacity-Building Program for Black Disability Organizations

The Black Opportunity Fund (BOF) is pleased to announce the Call for Applications for the Strengthening the BD3 Sector: A National Capacity-Building Program. This project is funded by the Government of Canada's (Social Development Partnership Program Disability Component).

We are seeking five Black Disability-led, Black Disability-serving and Black Disability-focused (BD3) not-for-profit organizations and charities from across Canada to join a national cohort designed to strengthen organizational capacity, leadership and long-term sustainability.

Applications open November 2, 2026, and close November 27, 2026, at 11:59 pm EST.

Why this program

Black people with disabilities experience the compounding impacts of racism and ableism, creating unique and persistent barriers across employment, education, healthcare, housing, social services and other areas of life. Organizations working at the intersection of Blackness and disability are often under-resourced and underserved by traditional capacity-building programs. This program is designed to help address that gap.

What will participating organizations receive?

Selected organizations will have access to:

- Culturally relevant leadership and organizational development
- Individualized coaching and mentorship
- Monthly peer-learning opportunities with other BD3 leaders from across Canada
- Accessible learning, tools and resources tailored to organizational needs
- Flexible grant funding to support organizational development
- Wellness and leadership supports
- Opportunities to strengthen organizational systems, including governance, strategy, leadership and sustainability
- A national network of Black disability organizations and leaders

The program will use a flexible, cohort-based and individualized approach. Each organization will work with the program team to identify its strengths, priorities and areas

for growth, supported by facilitated sessions, accessible resources, peer learning, coaching and mentorship.

Who should apply?

We welcome applications from Black Disability-led, Black Disability-serving and Black Disability-focused not-for-profit organizations and charities that:

- Are committed to advancing the well-being, inclusion and rights of Black people with disabilities;
- Are ready to strengthen their organizational and leadership capacity;
- Can commit to active participation throughout the program;
- Are open to learning, reflection, collaboration and organizational growth; and
- Are prepared to contribute to a national community of BD3 organizations.

Organizations do not need to be at the same stage of development or have the same organizational needs, but should have the readiness, commitment and potential to engage in meaningful organizational development and change.

BD3 eligibility

To be eligible, organizations must meet the program's BD3 eligibility requirements. Organizations identifying as Black Disability-led must meet the program's requirements for Black Disability leadership, including having at least 51% of leadership/governance representation consisting of Black persons with disabilities. The application will ask organizations to provide information that allows BOF to verify eligibility.

An accessible application process

Accessibility is central to this program, including how organizations apply. Applications will be submitted through SMApply, with options available for organizations that require an alternative way to apply.

Applicants may request:

- An accessible Word version of the application;
- Support to complete the application;
- Alternative formats or methods for providing responses;
- Additional time or other accommodations; or
- Other individualized supports based on access needs.

Requesting an accommodation will not disadvantage your application.

You do not need to disclose a diagnosis or provide extensive information about your disability to request an accommodation. If SMApply creates a barrier for you or your organization, please contact us. We will work with you to identify an accessible way to apply.

A program grounded in lived experience

The BD3 Capacity-Building Program is being delivered by the Black Opportunity Fund with guidance from the National Black Disability Advisory Council and Black disabled leaders and advocates from across the country. It is grounded in an intersectional Black and disability-focused cultural context, an Afro-centric and disability justice framework, and the principle of "Nothing Without Us."

The knowledge, leadership and lived experience of Black disabled communities are central to how this program is designed and delivered.

Key dates

- Applications open: November 2, 2026
- Application deadline: November 27, 2026
- Organizational assessment and onboarding: December 2026
- Capacity-building activities begin: January 2027

Five organizations will be selected to participate in the national cohort.

Our Commitment to Inclusion

BOF is committed to reflecting the full spectrum of the Black Canadian experience. We encourage applications from individuals with diverse identities, experiences, and perspectives, including diversity in gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, age, immigration status, language, disability, and geographic location.

Accessibility and Accommodations

BOF is committed to ensuring the adjudication process is accessible and inclusive. Accommodations are available throughout the application, orientation, and adjudication process, and information shared for accommodation purposes will be handled confidentially.

If you require accommodations or accessible arrangements to participate, you may contact the designated BOF representative at BD3project@blackopportunityfund.org with the subject line: BD3 Accommodations.

Requests for accommodation will not affect your suitability for the role.

How to apply

If your organization is committed to serving Black disabled communities and is ready to strengthen its organizational capacity, leadership and sustainability, we invite you to apply.

Application deadline: 11:59 pm EST on Friday, November 27, 2026

Apply through SMApply: Application Link for BD3 organisations

About BOF

The Black Opportunity Fund (BOF) is a community-led Canadian registered charity supporting a prosperous, healthy, and thriving Black Canada. BOF addresses anti-Black racism by responding to long-standing underinvestment in Black communities and strengthening collective action among Black organizations and leaders.

Together, we can strengthen, connect and expand the BD3 sector across Canada.