

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Grant Eligibility**

**What is the grant eligibility?**

* Must be a \*Black-led and \*\*Black-serving organization.

\*Black-led: At least two thirds of the leadership (e.g., board of directors, executive, management team) must self-identify as Black

\*\*Black-serving: Significant portion of program activities prioritize serving Black communities of Canada

* Must be a registered Canadian **not-for-profit** or **charity**;
* Must **have an existing project** in the areas of Arts & Culture or Criminal Justice, which meets the granting program criteria**, or a proposed project for which initial funding has already been secured**;
* Must have an **online web presence** (i.e. up-to-date website, social media, etc.);
* Must be **able to show up-to-date financial records** (i.e., audited financial statements or unaudited financial statements within the past two years, coupled with a tax return & bank statements are acceptable);
* Organizations requesting $50,000 are required to submit audited financial statements for the past 3 fiscal years that have been audited by a licensed public accountant;
* Must be **able to provide a project budget** for the initiative for which funding is being sought;
* Organization **cannot have any outstanding tax debt – or should have an up-to-date payment plan** (demonstrating at least two (2) months of on time payment of outstanding tax debt);
* Organization cannot have **declared bankruptcy**

**What initiatives does the grant support?**

Some examples of priority focus issues in the areas of Arts & Culture, & Criminal Justice:

Arts & Culture:

* Systems change; collaboration initiatives that leads to system-wide changes for sustainability
	+ Capacity Building: initiatives that build governance, operations capacity, to increase impact
	+ Mental Health and Well-being

Criminal Justice:

* + Reintegration programs: programs or services that help individuals re- enter into society
	+ Prevention & supports: programs or services that reduce risk of incarceration
	+ Mental Health and Well-being

**What is the deadline to apply for the grant?**

Deadline: May 12, 2023, 11:59 PM (EDT)

**Can we apply if we don’t meet the requirement (i.e., not registered, don’t have financial records, etc.)?**

**No**. All requirements must be met to be eligible to apply for the grant.

**Can we apply if we haven’t been successful in previous application process?**

**Yes**. All organizations are encouraged to apply once they meet all eligibility requirements.

**Can we apply if the program we are applying for is receiving funding from another organization?**

**Yes.** There are no restrictions if you are currently receiving funding from another organization as long as you indicate clearly the cost allocations. Cannot be for the same expenses.

**Application Components**

**Overview of application process – what documents, info is required?**

Application process is as follows:

* Visit: https://bof.smapply.io/
* Take eligibility quiz
* Complete Organization information and Grant Application Questions
* Download/upload budget template
* Upload financial statements
* Authorize application
* Submit application

Documents & info required are the following:

* Budget template
	+ Organizations applying for $25K, Audited Financial statements or unaudited FS + Tax return
		- BOF has secured an additional funds for $15K grants which will be awarded based on the same eligibility criteria outlined under the Tier 2 amounts and will be awarded based on recommendation from the Adjudication teams.
* Organizations applying for $50K, Audited financial statements for past 3 years

 **Is there a minimum or maximum amount that can be applied for?**

**Yes.** The minimum amount that can be requested is $25,000 or $50,000 maximum.

**How many years of multi-year funding can we choose?**

Organizations can apply for one or two-year funding.

**If we choose multi-year funding, how is the funding distributed? Do we receive $50K per year or $50K over the 2 years?**

Multi-year funding would be disbursed as a reoccurring payment of $50,000 each year over the 2 years.

**Can a Third-party business apply on our behalf?**

Not for this current grant program.

**Who do we contact if we have questions?**

bofgrants@blackopportunityfund.org

**The URL does not accept my charity website info. How should it appear?**

The website address needs to include the http:// or https:// for example, <https://blackopportunityfund.ca/> vs [www.blackopportunityfund.ca/](http://www.blackopportunityfund.ca/)

**Can we apply multiple times i.e. if they have separate programs that cover arts & culture, and criminal justice?**

Yes

**Can we do a joint submission with a not-for-profit or charity if we are a for-profit organization who is running the program?**

**No.** Grant is only for registered Not-For-Profits and Charities

**How do we know if our application was approved?**

BOF will send notification to all applicants after adjudication has been completed and the winners have been chosen. Adjudication will be completed by early July 2023.

**Will there be any progress tracking/reporting BOF requires of the Grant Winners?**

**Yes.** Details will be outlined in the grant agreement.

**Yes.** BOF will announce grant awardees through our social media outlets and highlight winners on our website e.g., BOF Education & Health grant recipients <https://blackopportunityfund.ca/who-we-fund/>

**How soon will we receive funds if our application was approved?**

BOF will contact the grant awardees with details in the days following the completion of adjudication via email. Early July 2023.

**If we are not successful, can we receive feedback?**

**Yes.** BOF will provide notes from the Adjudication team that may be helpful as you apply for future funding.