



Request for Proposals

EDF's 2023 SUMMER OF ACTION GRANTS PROGRAM

Celebrating Historic Investments in Climate and Clean Energy

Background

The last two years saw major climate progress at the federal level with the passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Nearly \$500 billion in investments are designated for climate and clean energy provisions that will create jobs, make communities healthier, and protect families. These two historic pieces of legislation demonstrate the popularity of taking action to slow climate change and communities' eagerness for the transition to an equitable, clean energy future. We now have an even more significant opportunity before us: to ensure these investments are implemented fairly and equitably, in communities that have been overlooked and under-invested for far too long.

Delivering the investments from IRA and BIL is a crucial, years-long process that will require all hands on deck, *and* it's not the only mission left to tackle. We need further progress in several areas in order to meet the goal of 100 percent clean economy by 2050: stronger federal regulations to limit pollution, expanded natural climate solutions that allow agriculture and fishing industries to thrive, and justice and equity for those communities overburdened by climate change and pollution. The fight for our future is just getting started.

Grant Details

Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) invites you to submit a proposal to the 2023 Summer of Action grants program. This is the seventh year EDF has awarded Summer of Action grants, intended to support organizations as they build their base of advocates to push for federal and local climate, clean energy, healthy communities, and environmental justice policies. **For 2023, preference will be granted to proposals that creatively engage federal lawmakers and/or influential stakeholders to lift up local stories that spotlight and celebrate investment opportunities flowing from BIL and IRA implementation.** Grants will range between \$10-\$20K.

All organizations engaging in one or more of the following efforts are encouraged to apply:

- Educating constituents and stakeholders on the transformative climate, clean energy, and community investments and benefits made available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and/or the Inflation Reduction Act, building public enthusiasm around the investments, and providing technical assistance, as needed, to access funding from these investments.
- Informing community members on the positions and actions of their elected officials to ensure successful, equitable implementation of BIL and IRA, making sure investments meet President Biden's Justice40 goals.

- Advocating for bold regulatory standards and building support for additional investments that protect our climate, cut pollution, promote nature-based solutions, advance equity and environmental justice, and ensure our communities are healthy and thriving.

Selection Process

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Creatively engages federal, state, and/or local lawmakers, the Biden administration, or influential stakeholders on clean energy investments, climate solutions, environmental/climate justice and environmental protections
- Demonstrates commitment to equity, environmental justice, and/or serving diverse communities including but not limited to advocating for equitable implementation/flow of funds from IRA/BIL in accordance with President Biden's J40 commitment (read EDF's definitions for equity and environmental justice [here](#))
- Presents clear metrics for success and reporting on activities (e.g. # of events, social posts, number of grassroots engaged, op-eds and letters-to-the-editor, petition signatures, etc.)
- Does NOT advocate for a *specific* legislative proposal

Timeline

Proposals are due by **11:59 pm ET on Friday, March 31st**. Decisions will be shared by Monday, May 1st with a grantee Kick-off Webinar hosted by EDF staff on Friday, May 5th. Projects must be concluded by September 30, 2023. Final reports are due by October 30th, 2023.

To answer any questions about this RFP, EDF will host a virtual gathering with interested applicants on **Thursday, March 16th at 3 pm ET**. [Register here](#).

Applicants may also reach out to Olivia Stevens at ostevens@edf.org for more information.

To apply please send the following information in a PDF document:

Organization information

- Full legal organization name:
- Address (to include City, State, zip code):
- Website:
- 501(c)(3)? (YES OR NO):
 - If YES, EIN:
 - Year established:
 - If NO, provide fiscal sponsor's name, address and EIN:
- Total organization budget (\$):
- Brief description of organization (no more than 3 sentences):

Point of contact (who can respond reasonably quickly?)

- Name:

- Title:
- Email:
- Preferred communication style: Email/Phone/Text (list those that apply)

Communications capacity and experience Y/N

- Have in-house capacity to secure earned media and/or draft opinion content:
- Have experience organizing virtual media event:
- Have reporter and editorial board contacts:
- Have specialized experience in digital communications and advocacy:
- Have experience mobilizing influential grassroots toward federal advocacy:
- If you answered 'No' to one or more of the above questions, is this an area where you would need support?

Social media

- Please include all active social media handles (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok, YouTube):

Grant proposal requirements

- Project name:
- Requested amount (proposals between \$10-20K considered):
- Detailed project description (no more than 500 words):
- Target state(s):
- Constituencies to engage:
- Decisionmakers to engage:
- Measurable outcomes/metrics to evaluate success (no more than 150 words):
- Type of mid-grant deliverable considered (social media post/blog post promoting project for EDF to share internally and externally):
- Previous experience working with EDF or partnering with EDF on messaging campaigns:
- Examples of similar projects executed successfully (no more than 150 words):
- Potential for sustained impact after grant (no more than 150 words):
- Have you received another EDF grant in the past 12 months? Please share brief details:

Delivery instructions

- Send completed proposals to Olivia Stevens (ostevens@edf.org)
- Subject line: Organization Name_Focus State_SOA
- Please include your proposal as an attachment (PDF preferred)
 - Naming protocol requested: Org Name_Focus State Abbreviations_date(DDMMYYYY)
 - EX: EDF_NY_03192022