



Request for Proposals: EDF's 2022 Summer of Action Grant Program

2022 theme

Building a Better United States: Climate, Jobs, Democracy and Justice

Background and grant details

The window to make historic climate and clean energy investments at the federal level is now. We are in a fight for our future. Our economic dependence on oil has left us vulnerable to geopolitical conflicts, and investments in our clean energy future will help insulate our communities from crippling economic effects. While important progress has been made with the passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) in 2021 that included significant investments in climate and clean energy, legislators are still considering a half-trillion dollars of climate investments. In addition, the Biden administration has unveiled the Justice40 Initiative which aims to deliver 40% of the overall benefits of federal investments in climate and clean energy, including sustainable transportation, to disadvantaged communities. Local, state and national organizations can play a key role in educating their constituencies about the climate, clean energy and equity benefits to communities in the BIL. There is also a once-in-a-generation opportunity to amplify the need for further federal climate and clean energy investments that will create jobs, invest in our communities, and move the United States towards the goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. These current and proposed federal climate investments, the game-changing initiative to direct 40% of climate and clean energy benefits to the hardest-hit communities, combined with efforts to increase strong democratic participation, will move all of us toward a healthier, more equitable and more prosperous future.

Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) invites you to submit a proposal to the 2022 Summer of Action grant program. This is the sixth year EDF has awarded Summer of Action grants with awards ranging from \$5k to \$20K. These grants are intended to help organizations build their base of advocates and amplify their existing federal, state, and local advocacy efforts around the urgent need for climate action, clean energy investments, electrifying the transportation sector, climate resilience, healthy communities, equity and efforts serving vital constituencies. EDF is also interested in proposals identifying work supporting democratic processes, such as voting access and voting reform.

Preference will be granted to proposals that creatively engage federal lawmakers and lift up local stories on the need for and benefits of climate investments and the Justice40 initiative over this summer and into the fall. While all proposals will be considered, priority will be placed on organizations working in the following states: *Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.*

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

- Educating constituents and stakeholders on the transformative BIL investments and their benefits (including economic, health, climate and clean energy), building public enthusiasm

around the investments in the BIL and/or providing technical assistance, as needed, to access funding from BIL

- Educating community members on the positions and actions of their elected officials to ensure successful, equitable implementation of the BIL, making sure investments meet President Biden's Justice40 goals
- Advocating for additional climate and clean energy investments like those included in the House-passed Build Back Better Act to create jobs, keep communities healthy, significantly cut pollution and advance environmental justice
- Engaging in work that supports democratic processes such as voting access and reform, Get Out the Vote efforts and voter registration

Note: The structure of this funding does not allow grant proposals to advocate for specific legislation.

[Click here](#) to learn more about past grantees and projects.

2022 timeline

- March 18th: Request for applications open
- March 25th: Video chat with interested applicants at 3:30 p.m. ET. [RSVP here](#).
- April 8th: Applications are due at 11:59 p.m. ET
- April 29th: Final decisions shared
- May 13th: Financial documents due for payment processing
- May 18th: Grantee kick-off webinar
- Summer 2022: Regular check-ins with grant manager and mid-grant deliverable due
- September 30: Final reports due
- TBD: Grantee fly-in (in-person or virtual)

Selection process

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Demonstrates an urgent call for Congress and/or the Biden administration to act on clean energy, climate impacts, electrifying transportation, equity, democracy work, and/or public health
- Engages local, state and/or federal lawmakers in target states in implementing the climate and equity provisions in the BIL and President Biden's Justice40 initiative
- Does NOT advocate for a specific legislative proposal
- Presents clear metrics for success and reporting on activities (e.g. # of events, social posts, constituent meetings, trainings, op-eds and letters-to-the editor, petition signatures, etc.)

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 GOTV efforts:
- Have experience mobilizing influential grasstops toward federal advocacy:

Social media

- Facebook handle:
 - Does your organization engage federal lawmakers on Facebook Y/N
 - Is your Executive Director active on this platform Y/N
- Twitter handle:
 - Does your organization engage federal lawmakers on Twitter Y/N
 - Is your Executive Director active on this platform Y/N
- Instagram handle:
 - Does your organization engage federal lawmakers on Instagram Y/N
 - Is your Executive Director active on this platform Y/N
- LinkedIn handle:
 - Does your organization engage federal lawmakers on LinkedIn Y/N
 - Is your Executive Director active on this platform Y/N
- TikTok handle:
 - Does your organization engage federal lawmakers on TikTok Y/N
 - Is your Executive Director active on this platform Y/N
- YouTube handle:
 - Does your organization engage federal lawmakers on YouTube Y/N
 - Is your Executive Director active on this platform Y/N

Grant proposal requirements

- Project name:
- Requested amount (proposals between \$5-20K considered):
- Detailed project description (no more than 500 words):

- Target states (max 2 states):
- Constituency and federal lawmakers 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 campaign:
- Examples of similar projects executed successfully (no more than 150 words):
- Potential for sustained impact after grant (no more than 150 words):
- Does your proposed project promote democracy work? Y/N (If Y, briefly describe):
- 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) and Karin Quimby (kquimby@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