2024-2025 Partnership Grant

Legal Foundation of Washington

2024-2025 Partnership Grant Letter of Intent Instructions

**Partnership Grants** provide recurring general operating funds to civil justice nonprofits, with a goal of ensuring the stability of civil legal aid in Washington and building an aligned movement toward equity and lasting change. Partnership Grants support direct civil legal aid, including volunteer attorney programs, and specialized nonprofits focused on impact litigation, policy reform, and systemic advocacy. Partnership Grants vary in amount and are two years in length. We seek to partner with organizations that are client-centered, community-based, and anti-racist in their approach.

For Partnership Grants, the LFW Board aims to provide stable funding for the statewide network of civil legal aid providers and maximize systemic impact. The funding for these grants is tied to our limited resources, including state-funding, and considers previous awards, other funding sources, Alliance goals, statewide legal aid coverage, and the impact of decisions on all programs. LFW also employs several layers of equity analysis when reviewing proposals and making funding decisions, including: long-term impact, community need, client service, racial justice approach, and LFW's overall strategy of centering racial justice.

A Letter of Intent (LOI) is the first step of the grant application process for new Partnership Grants. An LOI is an overview of your organization and program. You will receive notification by September 12, 2023, if your proposal has been selected to move on to a full application. The full applications will be due October 4, 2023, and includes more detailed questions about your program's goals and impact of your program.

**Who can apply:** Civil legal aid organizations serving low-income people in Washington.

**Grant amount:** Varies. A list of existing Partnership Grant awards are available on our website.

**Deadline for LOIs:** August 15, 2023. You will receive notification by September 12, 2023, if your organization is selected to move on to a full application.

**Deadline for full applications:** October 4, 2023. Grant awards will be announced by November 30, 2023.
Sign up here for our informational webinar on Thursday, July 27, 2023, at 11:00am PDT. We will be discussing LFW’s Partnership Grants, the application process, and answering questions.

Please note the following as you complete your LOI:

• We recognize that it can be challenging to fit your responses into character/word limits. To help address this, all questions have the maximum character limit applied. However, this does not mean that we expect you to answer every question to the limit.

• If you have applied for an LFW grant before in the grant portal, you can copy previous answers. Click here to learn how.

• If you would like to submit this LOI in a language other than English, please email LFW's Grants Coordinator at arielle@legalfoundation.org.

• If you would like LFW staff to review your LOI before submitting, please email LFW's Grants Coordinator at arielle@legalfoundation.org. We will not be able to provide feedback after August 8, 2023.

• Feel free to schedule a 15 min call with LFW's Grants Coordinator by clicking here if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal.

LFW staff are ready to offer assistance as you develop your proposal. Please email LFW’s Grants Coordinator, Arielle Handforth, at arielle@legalfoundation.org if you have any questions, need technical support, or an accommodation.

Request Overview

Project Name*
Character Limit: 100

Proposal Synopsis*
Please provide a one-sentence summary of the proposal.
Character Limit: 250

Amount Requested (2024-2025)*
LFW's Partnership Grant term is two years. For "Amount Requested" please calculate your total request for two years (1/1/2024-12/31/2025). If your grant is approved, LFW will divide the total two-year award equally into eight quarterly payments.
Character Limit: 20
Total Organizational Budget (2024-2025)*
What is your organization's two-year total budget for 1/1/2024-12/31/2025?

*Character Limit: 20

Geographic Area Served*
What is the geographic region(s) served by your project? Write "statewide" if your project is serving the entire state of Washington.

*Character Limit: 250

Organizational Information

Non-Discrimination Statement*
To be considered for an LFW grant, please affirm the following:

Our policies and practices provide equal opportunity to all qualified individuals in leadership, staffing and service, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship status, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion and any status protected by law.

We do not require attendance or participation in religious/faith activities as a condition of service delivery, nor do we require adherence to religious/faith beliefs as a condition of service or employment.

Choices
My organization affirms the non-discrimination statement.
My organization does not affirm the non-discrimination statement.

Organizational Mission and Vision*
Please provide a summary of your organization's mission and vision for change. Tell us why you do what you do.

*Character Limit: 10000

Current Board Members*
Please provide a list of current board members and their community and/or professional affiliation in the text box or as an attachment.

*Character Limit: 10000 | File Size Limit: 2 MB

Organizational Demographics*
In an effort to better understand the organizations we fund, we ask applicants to provide aggregate demographic information about their staff and board. This helps us see trends and gaps including who is and is not applying for funding and receiving grant awards, and how our funding is meeting or not meeting the changing needs of communities across Washington.

If you already share this information in your GuideStar profile, please let us know.
If you already collect different data or would like to share any other information about your organization's demographics, such as how your staff and board's demographics reflect the demographics of clients served, please let us know in the text box below.

Thank you for providing this information and helping us improve!

**Character Limit: 10000**

**BIPOC Leadership**
Does 50% or more of your senior leadership identify as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color)? We define senior leadership as board and staff members with decision making power over the actions and budget of your organization. You are welcome to use the text box to provide additional information.

**Choices**
Yes
No

BIPOC-led nonprofits have been disproportionately under-resourced by funders for decades impeding their long-term growth, stability, and capacity to drive change. LFW collects this information from all applicants and tracks this data each year to ensure our funding strategies align with our commitments to anti-racism, equity, and inclusion. Responses to this question do not affect eligibility for funding.

**Character Limit: 10000**

**Race Equity/Anti-Racist Practices**
Please describe how your organization incorporates a race equity/anti-racist lens into your internal work. This could include your organization's strategies, policies, and practices around race equity learning, staffing, and leadership and decision making.

**Character Limit: 10000 / File Size Limit: 2 MB**

**Proposal**

**Proposal**
Please describe your civil legal aid work and why you are requesting funding. LFW partners with organizations providing direct civil legal aid, including volunteer attorney programs, and specialized nonprofits focused on impact litigation, policy reform, and systemic advocacy. Include how your organization meets the civil justice needs of your community/ies, how your work addresses systemic inequities, and how your organization incorporates a race equity/anti-racist lens into your programming.

A one to two page length is ideal but not mandatory.

**Character Limit: 10000**
Communities Served*  
Please describe the communities your program serves or plans to serve in Washington State. Were these communities involved in planning the program?  
*Character Limit: 10000

State Plan for the Coordinated Delivery of Legal Aid*  
The State Plan for the Coordinated Delivery of Civil Legal Aid guides LFW’s priorities and the collective efforts of Washington’s legal aid network. The purpose of the State Plan is to expand access to our civil justice system and identify and eliminate barriers that perpetuate poverty and deny justice. The State Plan sets forth five goals intended to reflect the universal commitment of the Alliance and other advocates for an equitable legal system, which are:

1. Promote and foster race equity  
2. Provide clients with legal education to understand when their problem is legal in nature  
3. Increase access for underserved and underrepresented communities  
4. Develop and increase holistic client-centered services  
5. Engage in systemic advocacy

Each of these goals has specific strategies and indicators of success, outlined in the State Plan. How does your work align with the goals, strategies, and indicators of success of the state plan?  
A one to two page length is ideal but not mandatory.  
*Character Limit: 10000

Optional: Additional Information  
If you have any additional information you would like to share, please include it here. If you have attachments, please combine multiple documents into one file before uploading.  
*Character Limit: 10000 | File Size Limit: 2 MB

Budget  
2024-2025 Partnership Grant Budget*  
Please provide a 2024-2025 budget using the LFW proposed budget template. We do not need the budget to be separated into each year and ask that you combine the costs for 2024-2025 in column A. There will be opportunities to provide revised budgets as needed throughout the grant term.

If you would like to include additional information related to your budget or the grant amount you are requesting, please do so in the text box.
Thank you for taking the time to complete this Partnership Grant Application! We appreciate your partnership in the fight for justice for all and welcome your questions and feedback. You can provide anonymous feedback anytime on our GrantAdvisor profile.