



Social Justice Fund Nomination Guidelines

Goal

The goal of the Social Justice Fund at The Alaska Community Foundation is to create a more progressive environment in Alaska where there is equity in access to services, equal rights for all, and high levels of civic engagement. By providing grants across the state and other activities, the Social Justice Fund aims to develop and retain capable leaders, facilitate meaningful collaborative work and partnerships, and build awareness and broad support of the social justice sector.

This fund has the unique opportunity to support pressing current needs and strategic longer-term efforts in the social justice sector. ACF seeks to fund eligible entities conducting innovative and collaborative social justice work in Alaska. Our goal is to support progressive entities that can harness the power of the grassroots base and maximize cross-agency partnerships.

Grant Types

Social Justice Fund grants are meant to be responsive to the changing needs of the social justice sector. This fund will award flexible grant support that can be used for projects, programs, partnerships, and assist with general operating expenses to advance measurable social justice work. The expectation is that the funds will be used to advance progressive efforts that are in line with the goals of the Social Justice Fund. Grantees may use the award to fund their own work and/or to support partner and grassroots efforts.

In the first round of Social Justice Fund grantmaking, the Advisory Panel will balance grantmaking between near-term immediate needs and longer-term multi-year operating support. The Advisory Panel is expected to disburse up to \$100,000 for this first grant cycle. There will be a set of smaller grants up to \$5,000, multiple mid-size grants ranging from \$10,000-\$20,000, and a limited set of larger grants. The levels of support disbursed by the Social Justice Fund will vary from year to year as community needs and support change over time.

The Grantmaking Process

This is a non-competitive award process initiated through a nomination process. Eligible entities for funding include 501(c)(3) nonprofits or equivalent charitable organizations located in the state of Alaska. Equivalent organizations may include tribes, schools, faith-based centers, and local municipalities. These entities may serve as fiscal sponsors for grassroots groups and other cross-sector collaborations.



If you are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or equivalent charitable organization in Alaska that is already conducting or preparing for innovative and collaborative social justice work, you are encouraged to submit a self-nomination form on our website at <http://alaskacf.org/blog/grants/socialjustice/>.

Individuals and other nonprofit partners are also welcome to nominate nonprofits and equivalent charitable organizations that they know are doing exemplary social justice work. These will be considered external nominations. The following sections explain how to submit a nomination if you are planning to submit a self-nomination or an external nomination.

Nominations will be reviewed by the Advisory Panel. The Advisory Panel is composed of individuals with long-term expertise and leadership experience with social justice issues in Alaska, those working with affected constituencies, and individuals interested in enhancing support who have a passion for social justice issues in our state.

More weight will be put on nominations that prioritize collaboration and partnership with other organizations, agencies, or grassroots efforts in the nominee's social justice work.

The period to submit nominations runs from March 28th to April 27th. Awarded grantee organizations will be announced in late-May.

Submitting a Self-Nomination

If you are an organization planning to submit a self-nomination please visit <http://alaskacf.org/blog/grants/socialjustice/> and click the "Nominate here" button, which will take you to the log-in for ACF's web-based grants management system. You can also access the nomination form through the Grants Management link on the footer section of our website. Please log-in and then click on the Apply tab on the top of the Applicant Dashboard, this will take you to a list of grants that are currently open including the Social Justice Nomination Form.

If your organization has never applied to The Alaska Community Foundation before you will need to create a new account. This should only take a few minutes. We have posted a "2017 Foundant Application Tutorial" on the Social Justice Fund Grant homepage to assist you if needed.

The nominations should not be time consuming. Therefore, we have set 1,500 character limits for most of the questions. A copy of the nomination form is available at <http://alaskacf.org/blog/grants/socialjustice/>.

Do not hesitate to call Kelsey Potdevin at 274-6710 or email her at kpotdevin@alaskacf.org if you have any questions.



Submitting an External Nomination

Any nomination submitted by another organization or an independent individual will be considered an external nomination. These nominations could be drafted by individuals who work alongside the nominee as a partner, or are members of the general public. External nominations will use the same nomination form as the organizations that are self-nominating, but there is more flexibility in the level of detail required within the nomination form.

To submit a nomination please visit <http://alaskacf.org/blog/grants/socialjustice/> and click the “Nominate here” button, which will take you to the log-in for ACF’s web-based grants management system. You will have to create a new account prior to submitting the nomination. Our grants system requires that you enter an EIN number when creating an account. **If you do not have your own EIN, please use the placeholder EIN 12-3456789 to proceed with creating your account and filling out the nomination.**

Once you have created your account and are logged-in you will be directed to your Applicant Dashboard. Please click on the Apply tab on the top of the Applicant Dashboard, this is where you can access the Social Justice Nomination Form. We will include a “2017 Foundant Application Tutorial” on the Social Justice Fund Grant homepage to assist you if needed.

The nomination process is short, but if you are not involved in the day-to-day operations of the nominee, you may have difficulty answering some of the questions. In such cases, we request that the nominator answer relevant questions to the best of their ability, and to focus their attention on answering the last question that provides space for a general recommendation of the nominee to the Advisory Panel. Some individuals might want to submit a letter of recommendation in lieu of, or in addition to, filling out the nomination form. You can attach a letter of recommendation to the nomination form. Allowable formats include .doc, .docx, .pdf, and .jpeg. You can also submit a letter of recommendation to grants@alaskacf.org.

The nominations should not be time consuming. Therefore, we have set 1,500 character limits for most of the questions. Additionally, it is not required to answer every question. For example, if you aren’t sure how a grant award could lead to community mobilization, or what the nominee’s vision for social justice is, you are welcome to leave these responses blank. A copy of the nomination form is available at <http://alaskacf.org/blog/grants/socialjustice/>.

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