

The Funding Update

January 2014

MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH SWORN IN AS 54TH MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

In a ceremony that also included the swearing-in of the Boston City Council, Mayor Walsh delivered his inaugural address on January 6, committing to moving a united Boston forward, a City that provides community, opportunity, and equality to all its citizens. *On Twitter:* @marty_walsh

RECENT GRANTS AWARDED

The Boston Foundation Food and Fuel Fund awarded \$210,000 to 13 organizations that provide urgent winter assistance to Massachusetts residents. In addition, quarterly discretionary grants totaling \$1,410,000 were awarded to 12 organizations. <http://www.tbf.org/news-and-events>

CITY OF BOSTON OPEN BIDS

Boston Public Health Commission, 1/31/14

Funding is available to Community Health Centers to increase their capacity to address and monitor uncontrolled hypertension in Boston REACH communities. Application is available at <http://bit.ly/198BnsI>. For information: mmcclaire@bphc.org

Department of Neighborhood Development, 2/1/14

Fairmount Corridor Acquisition Loan Fund offers zero or low-interest loans to developers seeking to acquire privately-owned parcels within one mile of the Fairmount Indigo Rail Corridor to develop affordable and/or mixed income residential and/or commercial projects. Call 617-635-0351 for further information, or download the RFP by registering at http://www.cityofboston.gov/dnd/rfp_list.asp

FEDERAL GRANTS

WOMEN, CHILDREN and FAMILIES

Culturally Specific Advocacy Services, 2/5/14

Community-based services to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

Eligible: Non-profits.

Range: Up to \$300,000

<http://1.usa.gov/1bBD1qJ>

Mental Health Services, 2/28/14

Reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on communities; address behavioral health impacts of trauma.

Eligible: Government agencies that are not current System of Care grantees.

Range: Up to \$1M/year; 4 years max. Cost sharing required.

<http://1.usa.gov/JZKIMX>

Sustainable Healthy Behaviors, 9/8/14

Research to pinpoint best practices for children and youth.

Eligible: Governments, colleges, non-profits, for-profits, community groups and faith-based groups.

Range: Up to \$50K/year for 2 years

<http://tinyurl.com/cdp100d>

EDUCATION and CAREER DEVELOPMENT

FREE Help Applying for Financial Aid for College!

Visit <http://fafsaday.org> for dates and locations.

STEM-C Partnerships, 3/18/14

To improve the quality of K-16 computer teaching.

Eligible: Non-profits, governments, colleges.

Range: \$200K-\$1M

<http://tinyurl.com/leaawhc>

STEM-C Math & Science Partnerships, 3/18/14

To advance K-12 STEM education and elevate computer science education.

Eligible: Non-profits, governments, colleges.

Range: \$2.5M - \$7M

<http://tinyurl.com/klutk2q>

Cyber Learning and Future Learning Tech, 3/19/14

Improving learning experiences; priority on education assessments and underserved communities.

Eligible: Non-profits, governments, colleges.

Range: Up to \$2.5M.

<http://tinyurl.com/nyggqss>

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National Science Foundation CyberCorps, 2/21/14

Cybersecurity education and workforce development. The *Scholarship Track* provides scholarships. Recipients will work in cybersecurity after graduation for a government agency for a period equal to the length of the scholarship. The *Capacity Track* seeks innovative proposals to increase the ability of US higher education to produce cybersecurity professionals.

Range: Total available \$19.6M; awards vary

<http://1.usa.gov/1c7zsjm>

National Science Foundation ITEST, 2/11/14

Interventions that support K-12 students' engagement in STEM learning experiences.

Range: Up to \$1.67M

<http://1.usa.gov/1c7zsjm>

Eligibility for both: Governments, colleges, nonprofits, for-profits, individuals, foreign organizations, federal agencies

Lemelson/MIT InvenTeams, 2/28/14

High school students can create solutions to real-world problems, as part of a team of teachers and mentors.

Eligible: STEM teachers at public, private and vocational high schools.

Range: \$10K with Continuing Education Units available

<http://bit.ly/6KPqsb>

ARTS and CULTURE

National Arts and Humanities Youth Program, 2/10/14

Honoring programs for K-12 students.

Eligible: Non-profit after-school programs in operation since 2010; not a prior recipient of a Coming Up Taller award.

Range: \$10K

<http://www.nahyp.org/how-to-apply/>

Fellowship Programs at Independent Research Institutions (FPIRI), 8/14/14

Funds fellowships of four to twelve months of advanced study and research in the humanities.

Eligible: State, local or tribal governments; independent non-profits (libraries, museums, archives).

Range: \$60K - \$250K

<http://1.usa.gov/1cNBuVg>

RESEARCH

Patient Safety Learning Laboratories, 2/7/14

Innovative design and development to improve healthcare delivery systems.

Eligible: Principal Investigators and Program Directors

Range: Up to \$1M over 4 years.

<http://1.usa.gov/1a4EUmM>

National Science Foundation, 2/14/14

Informal research on STEM learning, STEM learning environments, workforce development, and broadening participation in STEM.

Eligible: Principal Investigators; unrestricted

Range: Capacity-Building: up to \$300K over 3 years;

Research: up to \$1.5M over 5 years.

<http://1.usa.gov/1cyoK8B>

Prevent Prescription Drug Overdoses, 3/19/14

Improve policies and administrative practices to decrease abuse and inappropriate prescribing.

Eligible: Governments, colleges, non-profits.

Range: Up to \$200K

<http://1.usa.gov/1eEILKo>

Substance Use/Abuse, Risky Decision-Making and HIV/AIDS (3 Grant Types), 5/7-6/5/14

Improve policies and administrative practices to decrease abuse and inappropriate prescribing.

Eligible: Colleges, non-profits, governments, researchers.

Range: Small grants: up to \$50K/year for 2 years;

Exploratory grants: up to \$275K over 2 years; Research

project grants: unlimited, up to 5 years.

<http://1.usa.gov/1gDWkeY>

ENVIRONMENT

Innovation in Affordable Housing Design Student Competition, 1/6/14 - 2/10/14

Cross-cutting team-work that proposes architectural design, neighborhood planning, and financial planning for a public housing authority site.

Eligible: Teams of US graduate students. Must register online to compete.

Range: \$10K to winning team; \$5K to runner-up team.

<http://1.usa.gov/KAIkYL>

Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving Cooperative Agreements, 2/18/14

To help communities understand and address exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks

Eligible: Non-profits, tribal governments, Native American organizations; partnerships encouraged.

Range: \$120K per EPA region over two years

<http://1.usa.gov/1lzxwbc>

FOUNDATION GRANTS

Russell Sage Foundation, 1/31/14

Application may be invited after review of letter of inquiry.

Social science research grants.

Eligible: Ph.D. researchers.

Range: \$35K to \$200K

<http://bit.ly/1lzCZyw>

Rutland Corner Foundation, 2/3/14

Committed to helping and sustaining programs serving girls and women ages 11-20 within Greater Boston.

Eligible: 501c3 nonprofits within the Route 128 beltway.

Range: \$15K, annually

<http://bit.ly/1htBh1I>

Hyams Foundation, 3/3, 9/3 and 12/2, 2014

Preliminary call and/or letter of interest can be helpful.

Priorities: civic engagement, affordable housing, teen engagement.

Eligible: 501c3 non-profits.

Range: Varies

<http://bit.ly/KAQJeB>

Mabel Louise Riley Foundation, Rolling

Application may be invited after review of Letter of Intent.

Priorities: Collaboration, arts, education, social services, preschool reading, community development, high impact.

Eligible: Massachusetts nonprofits.

Range: Up to \$50K to \$100K

<http://rileyfoundation.com/GRANTGUIDELINES.pdf>

Lynch Foundation, Rolling

Application may be invited after review of concept paper.

Priorities: education, culture, historic preservation, health care/medical research, religion.

Eligible: Boston-area nonprofits.

Range: Up to 5% of total organizational budget.

<http://thelynchfoundation.com/how-to-apply>

Boston Foundation, Rolling

Application may be invited after review of letter of inquiry.

Key criteria: alignment with strategic framework, high-need people and places, collaboration, financial and programmatic capacity, leadership, measurable results..

Eligible: 501c3 nonprofits

Range: \$7.5K to \$150K

<http://bit.ly/1koJlmw>

RGK Foundation, Rolling

Application may be invited after review of Letter of Inquiry.

Priorities: Education, community, health/medicine.

Eligible: Nonprofits, hospitals, schools, government.

Range: Average - \$25K

<http://bit.ly/1a9oWYE>

Michael & Susan Dell Foundation, Rolling

Priorities: Education, health and microfinance.

Eligible: Schools and national nonprofits; verify eligibility online.

Range: \$25K to \$1.1M

<http://bit.ly/1ihQuAB>

Klarman Family Foundation, 1/17 and 4/15/14

Apply online at instrumentfund@klarmanfoundation.org

Purchase, repair or rental of instruments used for music education programs.

Eligible: School or non-profit after-school programs that provides access to high-quality, sequential instruction for low-income youth by dedicated music teachers.

Range: To be determined.

isherman@klarmanfoundation.org.

Boren Graduate Fellowships, 1/28/14

Boren Scholarships, 2/5/14

Awarded for studies in regions that are critical to US interests, including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Eligible: US undergraduate and graduate students.

Range: Up to \$30K

<http://bit.ly/1afMCOv>

Institute for International Education - Scholar Rescue Program, Rolling

Provides fellowships for established professors, researchers and public intellectuals whose lives or careers are threatened in their home countries.

Eligible: Fellowships are approved by a Selection

Committee which convenes at least three times per year..

Range: \$25K. Match is usually required from the host

academic institution.

<http://bit.ly/1hwgoD8>

Fund for Teachers, 1/30/14

Self-designed professional development experiences.

Eligible: Full-time K-12 teachers with at least 3 years' experience in Boston Public Schools.

Range: Up to \$5K for individuals; up to \$10K for teams.

[Dottie Engler](mailto:DottieEngler@617.275.0709) (617.275.0709); <http://bit.ly/1gepJLU>

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, 2/4/14

Fellowships to support advanced doctoral students whose dissertation concerns promising students.

Eligible: Must have defended dissertation before 2/4/14.

Range: Up to \$25K.

<http://bit.ly/1er6e1j>

Northeastern Students 4 Giving, 2/14 - 3/7/14

Students will award grants for Diversity & Inclusion, and Trauma Treatment.

Eligible: 501c3 nonprofits working in Mission Hill,

Fenway, Roxbury, and the South End, who have submitted a Giving Common profile to the Boston Foundation. Past grantees are not eligible to apply.

Range: \$10K

<http://bit.ly/1iUnwt9>

Generous U, 3/3/14

A national contest to increase philanthropy/philanthropic values on US college campuses.

Eligible: A recognized campus student club, group, or organization, including fraternities and sororities.

Range: \$5K to 10K

<http://bit.ly/JHAXOk>

Paralyzed Veterans of America, 2/1/14

Educational projects that improve the lives of those with spinal cord injury and disease, their families and caregivers.

Eligible: Academic institutions, healthcare providers, consumer advocates.

Range: \$10K for one year, up to \$95K for two years.

<http://bit.ly/19dUgKT>

Blackstone Veterans Hiring Initiative, 2/14/14

Supports programs that provide job skills and targeted resources for entrepreneurship.

Eligible: Non-profits.

Range: \$10K to 50K

<http://bit.ly/1ejP9X2>

National Book Foundation, 2/19/14

Projects that generate excitement and passion for literature.

Eligible: Individuals and nonprofits

Range: \$2500 Innovations in Reading Prize

<http://bit.ly/1gIwsi2>

Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, 2/28/14

Applications may be invited after review of letter of inquiry. Seeking arts projects of national significance.

Eligible: Non-profits.

Range: \$60K to \$200K.

<http://bit.ly/JHAXOK>

Bringing Theory to Practice, 3/15/14

Seminars on engaged learning, civic engagement and development, and the psychosocial well-being of college students; priority for undergraduates.

Eligible: Higher education institutions.

Range: \$1000.

<http://bit.ly/1a8Y8rD>

eWomen Network, 3/31/14

Health, wellness, and safety of women and children.

Eligible: 501c3 nonprofit with 2 consecutive forms 990 and interim financial statement from the past 90 days.

Range: \$6000 cash plus sponsorship to international conference and business expo in Dallas, TX.

<http://bit.ly/1fbzVbD>

American Honda Foundation, 2/1, 5/1/14

Youth education in science, technology, engineering, mathematics; the environment; job training; and literacy.

Eligible: Schools and nonprofits.

Range: \$20K to \$75K in one year.

<http://bit.ly/1gBfYbv>

Toyota USA Foundation, Rolling

Programs that improve the teaching and learning of mathematics, science, and environmental education.

Eligible: Educational nonprofits, including higher education institutions.

Range: \$50K to \$200K .

<http://toyota.us/1cPly5a>

General Motors Foundation, Rolling

Priorities: Education; health and human services; environment and energy; community development.

Eligible: Nonprofits.

Range: Average grant: \$20K

<http://bit.ly/1a1aEfI>

Mutual of America Foundation, 4/1/14

Community Partnership Award annually honors outstanding contributions that nonprofit organizations, in partnership with public, private and other social sector organizations, make to society.

Eligible: 501c3 and 501c4 non-profits.

Range: National award: \$25K, plus video of project.

<http://bit.ly/1adjSWE>

American Psychological Foundation, 4/1/14

Visionary grants: research, education, and intervention .

Eligible: Researchers affiliated with 501c3 nonprofits.

Range: Up to \$20K

<http://bit.ly/1dXx2Z0>

ING Unsung Heroes Award, 4/30/14

To help fund innovative classroom projects.

Eligible: K-12 education professionals in the US

Range: \$2K to \$27K

<http://bit.ly/1eqjXW2>

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, (6 grants) 5/2/14

Teacher Action Research; In-Service Math Education; Math Improvement & Professional Development; two Prospective Teacher Scholarships; Active Professionalism

Eligible: Applicant must have current individual or school membership with NCTM.

Range: \$3K to \$24K

<http://bit.ly/1ghx5yg>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Federal <http://grants.gov/>

Grants.gov has released a new-applicant training video:

<http://tinyurl.com/kt7m6qa>

State <http://www.comm-pass.com/>. Search tips: <https://www.ebidsourcing.com/includes/BuyerTips.html#BuyerTip5>

City

<http://www.cityofboston.gov/purchasing/bid.asp>

CATALYST FUND FOR NONPROFITS

Technical advisory and financial support is provided as a catalyst for promising, voluntary collaborative ventures and mergers. <http://nonprofitfinancefund.org/northeast/new-england-catalyst-fund>

THE OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

Grants, scholarships, and fellowships are awarded throughout the year. <http://osf.to/1hZ6XY>

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The Funding Update is distributed by the Boston Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Relations to over 5000 subscribers per month. To subscribe, send an email to join-funding_update@listserv.cityofboston.gov. If you wish to partner with a City department on a grant, technical assistance and advocacy are available through our office. Call 617.635.3954, or email inez.foster@cityofboston.gov.

Ways to Make Your Grantwriter's Time Count

Edited from an article by Allison Shirk

1. Get organized. Make sure your grantwriter has everything needed to be as autonomous as possible. While likely to require a substantial amount of time in the beginning, it will save you time in the end. Ask your grantwriter for a checklist of needs, as well as a wish list. For nonprofits, the basics include audited financial statements and organizational budgets. Go a step further, with project budgets for every program or capacity-building initiative that may be eligible for the grant. Also: letterhead, photographs, .jpegs of logos, and anything else needed to tell your story.

2. Single point of contact. If working with a contractor, it's always best to have a single point of contact. This must be a decision maker who can delegate effectively to every department/function within the organization. Development directors of small organizations may be too busy with special events to give grant proposals the attention they require on a regular basis. Having the grantwriter report directly to the executive director is optimal, in that it will give better access to the "big picture" and help ensure that the information needed is produced in a timely fashion.

3. Put it in writing. Dictating instructions or narrative over the phone can be a poor use of time and increase the chances of miscommunication or error. Instead, take the time to put key ideas and information in bullet-point form for the grantwriter to elaborate on and polish. Use a descriptive subject line in e-mails so s/he can quickly locate information at crunch time. It's also a good idea to keep e-mail threads current by changing the subject line when important new information is introduced in the thread. If an attachment is included, make sure to reference it in the body of the e-mail.

4. Back off the deadline. Too often, busy applicants will wait until a deadline looms to send critical information. **Don't.** Grantwriters need time to analyze the grant opportunity, write and edit the proposal, incorporate revisions and additional edits into the proposal, and package it all to best effect. Organizations lose the opportunity to put their best foot forward if they wait until the last minute. If there's going to be more than one reviewer, create a review calendar and stick to it. Or better yet, use Google docs so that the appropriate parties can participate in the group-editing process, leaving time for the grantwriter to finish it up. Be sure to note the time of day and time zone for online applications. Leave time for logistics. Last but not least, give the grantwriter a chance to give the proposal a final read-through before submitting it.

5. Provide the budget first. One of the most frustrating experiences for a grantwriter is to get a proposal ready and then receive a project budget that doesn't remotely resemble the proposal narrative. Follow the money. It's critical that the grant budget is set first, so that the narrative serves to describe the request for funds. Remember, organizations that have a solid understanding of what it really costs them to provide a service tend to do best in the quest for sustainable funding.

6. Use your grantwriter to write grants. Be careful not to let your team assign administrative tasks. Keep in mind what you are paying by the hour, and while gently nagging team members for important information, crunching numbers, and creating board rosters might be useful in the short term, you might want to use the time for writing grants.

7. Take their advice, seriously. Experienced freelance grantwriters are worth their weight in gold because they know what foundations want, and expect, to hear and can help organizations move in that direction. They also tend to be familiar with a broad range of research, the latest developments in technology, and can suggest ways that the organization can work more efficiently and effectively — but only if you ask.

8. Keep them in the know. Make sure a grantwriter receives pertinent e-mail, board/staff meeting minutes, and reports. The more s/he knows about your organization and its work, the better able s/he will be to keep an eye out for appropriate grant opportunities.

9. Try a retainer. Working with your grantwriter on a monthly retainer basis provides flexibility to respond to urgent needs or back off when things are slow. If an urgent opportunity comes up, s/he can devote extra hours to that particular proposal and spend fewer hours the following month so that things balance out over time. Your financial team also will appreciate having a consistent monthly dollar amount to figure into the budget planning process.

10. Project wisely. Encourage your grantwriter to write several proposals at a time. Developing a completely new proposal for every opportunity that comes up is labor intensive and inefficient, as is having your grantwriter switch his or her focus from project to project. One way to avoid this is to focus one month on general operating support grants and the next on program support or special projects.

11. Leave time for follow-up calls. One of the best ways to get your grant proposals funded is to build a relationship with the funders you have targeted. Allotting time for follow-up calls, even for proposals that are declined, is one of the best investments of your grantwriter's time you can make. You might even want to consider giving your grantwriter an organizational e-mail address to use for initial inquiries and follow-ups. Relationships and personal contacts matter in development work, and the more resources your organization devotes to cultivating them, the better the chances your proposal will end up on the top of the submission pile.