

THE
**FAMILIES &
WORKERS**
FUND

Powering Climate & Infrastructure Careers Challenge
Round 1 Application Questions

1. Is your organization based in the United States? *(The Challenge will only award grants to U.S.-based organizations.)*

- Yes
- No

2. Is your organization currently using or applying for government funding (such as federal, state, or local grants or contracts originating in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act, CHIPS and Science Act Funding, or American Rescue Plan Act)? *(The Challenge seeks to provide flexible philanthropic funds to organizations receiving or supporting effective implementation of government funding.)*

- Yes
- No

3. What type of organization is the primary applicant? *(The primary applicant must fit within one of these categories to be eligible for funding.)*

- 501(c)(3)-designated nonprofit or fiscally sponsored entity
- Public agency or Native government
- Public-private partnership (e.g., workforce development boards)
- Other

Contact Information

To start, please share the following contact information.

4. Contact Name

Full name of the primary contact person for this application.

5. Professional Title

6. Email Address

7. Phone Number

Organization Information

On this screen, we ask for basic information about your organization.

8. Organization Name

Please list the full name of the applying organization.

9. Please indicate the states and/or Native Nation and or territories where your organization serves.

10. Briefly describe the core mission of your organization and how your organization advances this mission. *(Word count: 250)*

11. Is your organization submitting this application in conjunction with a partnering organization or multiple partnering organizations?

- Yes
 - Please list your partner organization(s).
- No
- Unsure

Project Proposal

Now, please tell us about your organization's project.

12. In 1,000 words or less, what is the project your organization is submitting to the *Powering Climate & Infrastructure Careers Challenge*? What problems are you addressing and what makes your organization and any partners well positioned to address this problem? Finally, is your organization seeking funding from the *Challenge* in the form of grant funding or direct technical assistance (i.e., a technical assistance provider paid directly by FWF to work with you)? *(Word count: 1,000)*

13. Please describe your project in a single sentence. *(Word count: 100)*

14. Is your project working toward – or open to work toward – creating good jobs, connecting people to good jobs, or improving the quality of jobs?

Please review our [Statement on Good Jobs](#).

- Yes
- No

15. Building on your project description above, which of the following categories best capture the problems your project is attempting to address?

(Select top 3 priorities)

- **Unequal access to career pathways:** Barriers to uplifting careers for underinvested communities.
- **Sub-scale training:** Existing training is not being delivered at scale to meet the need for in-demand occupations. Too few training spots, too small of training programs.
- **Limited supportive services:** Insufficient funding for supportive services and/or stipends to support worker training, pre-apprenticeships, or apprenticeships.
- **Low quality jobs:** There is a need to improve job quality standards. Too many low quality jobs exist.

- **Underperforming training programs:** Low completion or placement rates into jobs for existing training programs.
- **Employer/retention challenges:** Low retention rates of workers once placed in jobs.
- **Lack of workforce coordination:** Insufficient long-term regional workforce planning and coordination among multiple stakeholders.
- **Occupational demand is unclear:** Communities and state/local/Native governments have insufficient information about which projects and jobs are coming and thus can't adequately prepare to meet labor and skills demand.
- **Other** (Write-in text box)

16. Roughly how much funding are you requesting from the *Challenge* and, at a high level, how would the funds be used?

Awards will range from \$150,000 to \$1.5 million with a one to three year term. (Word count: 250)

17. Is your organization's need for this funding so urgent that you would request an expedited review of your proposal (i.e., review and decision before the *Challenge's* timeline of making decisions in Q2 of 2024)?

- Yes
 - Please describe
- No

Project Category

The Powering Climate & Infrastructure Careers Challenge will review proposals in two tracks:

- *Training and Career Pathways:* Scaling catalytic models to train, place, support, and retain a diverse workforce that meets the growing labor demand in the clean energy, infrastructure, and related industries and spurs uplifting careers.
- *Government Planning and Implementation:* Supporting state, Native, and local agencies and their partners with workforce data analysis and planning, procurement, and job quality efforts to ensure effective, impactful delivery of federal funds.

18. Which of the following *Challenge* tracks best describes your organization's project? *(Select one)*

- Training and Career Pathways
- Government Planning and Implementation
- Both Tracks

Training and Career Pathways or Both

19. How many workers do you estimate that your organization will be able to train or impact if your proposal is supported? How might this figure change in the future? *As part of your response, please provide a figure rounded to the nearest 100 people. (Word count: 100)*

20. What would you expect to be your project's current placement rate in careers or apprenticeships? How might this figure change in the future? *As part of your response, please provide a figure rounded to the nearest percentage. (Word count: 100)*

Government Planning and Implementation or Both Tracks

21. How many jobs do you estimate that your organization will be able to impact or improve if your proposal is supported? *Please estimate to the nearest 1,000 jobs. (Word count: 100)*

22. Which of the following types of technical assistance support, if any, could be of interest to your organization as it operationalizes its program? *(Select all that apply)*

- Support collaboration among stakeholders on outcomes-based contracting and measurement
- Local labor market data analysis for workforce planning
- Guidance on embedding [good jobs standards or incentives](#), community benefits, and/or inclusion into public spending and implementation (e.g., through community benefits agreements)
- Support in developing a sustainable financing strategy that uses public and private funds to scale training programs
- Coalition-building and coordination support across public and private partners
- Other (please specify)

23. Is there anything else you'd care to share about your program's existing technical assistance support, or current gaps in support? *(Word count: 250)*

Communities Served

Next, we're interested in learning about the geographies and populations served by your project.

24. Is your organization located in a Native Nation or does it primarily serve Native communities?

- Yes
- No

25. Does your project prioritize individuals representing the following populations or communities? *(Select all that apply)*

- People facing racial inequities
- Youth without a college degree
- Women or gender minorities

- Individuals with incomes below the Federal Poverty Level
- Rural communities
- Court-involved individuals
- No, our project does not specifically prioritize any of the groups above

Funding and Leverage

Finally, we hope to gain deeper insights into your organization’s funding and financial capacity.

26. What type of government funding is your organization utilizing (or planning to apply for) in the coming year? *(Select all that apply)*

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
- Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- CHIPS and Sciences Act
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), including State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)
- Private investment or contracts from businesses receiving federal funds
- Other
 - Please describe other funding source(s)
- Unsure

27. If successful, to what scale do you anticipate your organization being able to leverage funds from this *Challenge*? *(Leverage includes funds both raised and impacted. For more information about how the Fund defines “leverage” please visit the [FAQs](#).)*

- Tens of millions or less
- One hundred million
- A few hundred million
- One billion or more
- Unsure

28. Is there any additional information you’d like to share with the Families and Workers Fund? *(Word count: 100)*

29. Is your organization comfortable with the Families and Workers Fund sharing your application responses with other interested grantmakers and technical assistance providers for the purpose of gauging their interest in supporting your project? *(Your response to this question will not impact the scoring of your application for this Challenge.)*

- Yes
- No

Before submitting your application, please review the Challenge's [disclaimer](#). Note that once you submit your application, you cannot edit it. Contact challenge@familiesandworkers.org with any questions.