

Frequently Asked Questions about Applying to PFund

When is the application deadline?

Letters of inquiry must be postmarked by August 1.

If your organization receives an invitation to submit a full application, full applications must be postmarked by October 1.

How many copies should I submit?

Please submit 8 stapled copies of your letter of inquiry or grant application.

Can I use the Minnesota Common Grant Application?

PFund accepts the MN Common Grant Application cover page only. Please complete PFund's budget form and type your narrative on 8 ½ x 11 white paper or organizational letter head.

How are funding decisions made?

Letters of inquiry are reviewed by a committee of PFund staff and board members.

In reviewing full grant proposals PFund relies on a volunteer community grant review panel representative of our diverse LGBT and allied communities. The panel and decision process are facilitated by our staff program officer.

When will I hear back about PFund's decisions?

All organizations submitting a letter of inquiry will be notified by August 15 of PFund's decisions.

For organizations invited to submit full proposals, final decisions will be announced by November 30.

Does my organization have to be a 501(c)3 to receive funding?

PFund funds 501(c)3 AND (c)4 organizations as well as groups with fiscal agents with 501(c)3 or 4 status.

What is the average grant size?

Recent grants range from \$2,000 - \$7,500 with an average grant of \$5,000.

Do I have to use your budget form or can I use a different one?

Please use the budget form available on the PFund website as this helps with consistency for volunteer reviewers.

How many organizations are funded each year?

18 – 20 proposals are funded each year. PFund receive approximately 100 letters of inquiry and will invite no more than 40 organizations to submit full proposals.

In what geographic region does PFund make grants?

PFund makes grants in the 5-state Upper Midwest region: Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Populations served must be in PFund's region.

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Can I submit additional materials with my LOI or grant application?

Do not submit supplemental material with your letter of inquiry. If invited to submit a full proposal you may include additional materials (i.e. organization brochure etc.).

How many letters of inquiry may one organization submit?

Each organization may submit no more than 2 letters of inquiry each year.

Can individuals apply for a grant from PFund?

No. PFund does not provide grants to individuals. PFund funding is for not for profit 501(c)3 or (c)4 organizations. PFund has a separate scholarship process for LGBT student leaders from or attending school in Minnesota.

For more information visit: <http://pfundonline.org/scholarships.html>

Will you help my organization prepare its grant application or letter of inquiry?

Yes. PFund program officer or volunteers are available to assist organizations as they write letters of inquiry and proposals. If you require assistance please contact Kayva Yang at 612-870-1806 or kyang@PFundOnline.org.

Can I get feedback if my organization is not funded?

Yes. If your organization desires further feedback on application decisions please contact Kayva Yang at 612-870-1806 or kyang@PFundOnline.org.

Can my organization apply for general operating funds?

Organizations with an annual budget of less than \$500,000 and a mission focused on serving LGBT people and issues may apply for general operating funds. An organization with a mission not focused on LGBT people and issues or an organization with an annual budget exceeding \$500,000 may only apply for project-specific support. Such organizations are limited to receiving annual support for the same project for no more than three (3) consecutive years. (This is not multi-year project funding; new grant applications must be made annually).

If my organization is not awarded a grant, can it apply again?

Certainly, if your organization or project meets PFund's criteria. Please contact Kayva at 612-870-1806 or kyang@PFundOnline.org to discuss ways in which you can strengthen your application or letter of inquiry in the future.

How many years in a row can an organization receive funding?

An organization with a mission not focused on serving LGBT people and issues or an organization with an annual budget exceeding \$500,000 may only apply for project-specific support. Such organizations are limited to receiving annual support for the same project for no more than three (3) consecutive years. (This is not multi-year project funding; new grant applications must be made annually). There is no limit on consecutive years of funding for organizations with a LGBT-specific mission and annual budget less than \$500,000.

Does PFund make grants to non-LGBT organizations?

Yes. If a non-LGBT organization has a LGBT program/project, PFund will consider that program/project. Organizations with a non-LGBT specific mission may only apply for project support.

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Do I have to submit a letter of inquiry?

Yes. All organizations seeking a grant from PFund must submit a letter of inquiry postmarked by August 1.

Do you fund our type of project?

PFund's grantmaking is aimed at advancing social justice for LGBT communities. This includes organizations whose missions are LGBT-specific and non-LGBT specific. PFund's grantmaking works to support social and systemic change. Grants are made in a broad range of areas including education, advocacy, health and wellness and the arts. Please contact Kayva at 612-870-1806 or kyang@PFundOnline.org if you have questions regarding your proposed project.

How does PFund define social justice?

Work aimed at social justice seeks to create social, institutional and systemic change by addressing root causes of injustice; oppression based on race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, socioeconomic status and all forms of oppression. PFund believes LGBT communities work toward social justice by achieving equal rights through advocacy and civic engagement; ensuring access, safety and security in schools, health providers and housing; creating power through community as a result of organizing, events and the arts.

PFund's vision for social justice in LGBT communities:

LGBT people's human rights and dignity are unquestioned and they are free from discrimination.

LGBT people experience the world as a place of safety and our media, policy makers, families and popular culture reject any form of violence against them.

LGBT people are celebrated, visible, and find power in working together to advance equality and justice.

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