

# 2021 Capacity-Building Fund

## Frequently Asked Questions

**1. When are applications due?**

Applications are due on March 12, 2021 at 11:59 pm. Late applications will not be accepted.

**2. When will applicants hear if an application has been successful? When will funds be received?**

All applicants will be contacted by the end of April 2021. Successful applicants will receive funds shortly after.

**3. Is there a time limit on when funds can be used?**

Initiatives must be completed, and funds expended, by December 31, 2021.

**4. Who is eligible to apply for Capacity Building funds?**

The Capacity-Building Fund is implemented via two focus areas, each with its own eligibility:

Emerging Social Issues

Non-profit organizations registered under the Societies Act or the Companies Act in Alberta, or the Federal Not-for-profit Corporations Act, and operating within Calgary's city limits are eligible to apply.

Organizational Effectiveness

Only organizations that are currently supported through the following funding programs administered by The City of Calgary are eligible: Family & Community Support Services; Crime Prevention Investment Plan; Community Action on Mental Health and Addiction.

**5. How much is available for Capacity Building initiatives in 2021?**

City Council has approved up to \$750,000 for Capacity Building initiatives in 2021.

**6. Is there a minimum or maximum amount for each initiative?**

No, there is no minimum or maximum amount for each initiative. However, the requested amount should be proportionate to the type of proposed activities, and/or to the current City investment in the organization.

**7. How do organizations apply?**

Applications must be submitted through the Funding Information Management System (FIMS). Once you are logged into FIMS, you will see the application form under the 'Available Funding' section.

**8. Can organizations submit more than one application?**

No, only one application may be submitted per organization.

**9. Is there an opportunity for long-term funding?**

No, Capacity Building funds are a one-time source of funding, with a requirement that funds be expended by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

**10. What is the difference between the 2020 Anti-Racism Capacity Building Fund and the 2021 Capacity Building Fund?**

The Anti-Racism Capacity-Building Fund was a fund to support collaborative, community-based initiatives that build the capacity of organizations to facilitate policy and systems change to undo systemic racism.

The Capacity Building Fund has a broader scope that seeks to address a number of different emerging social issues, which could include initiatives related to anti-racism.

**11. Are initiatives related to anti-racism eligible for Capacity Building Funds?**

Initiatives that focus on anti-racism either as an emerging issue or an organizational issue to address, may be eligible provided the organization and initiative align to the criteria of the fund.

**12. What is the difference between the 2020 Emergency Resiliency Fund the 2021 Capacity-Building Fund?**

The Emergency Resiliency Fund was a one-time fund designed for programs and services of Calgary non-profit social service organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Capacity Building Fund is available to eligible non-profit organizations for one-time initiatives to strengthen their organizational effectiveness, increase their programs' impact, and address emerging issues and trends that are impacting Calgarians. Funds are not intended to respond to increased demand, or to provide relief to programs.

**13. What is the difference between the Civil Society Fund and the 2021 Capacity -Building Fund?**

The Civil Society Fund (CSF) was offered earlier this year by the Government of Alberta to support transformational change, improving how civil society organizations function and building their capacity to work together to address pressing social challenges.

The Capacity Building Fund is focused on responding to emerging social issues and organizational effectiveness. There is not a requirement that initiatives funded through this fund must produce transformational change, but such initiatives may be eligible if they align with the fund's criteria.

**14. Can organizations apply for funding through the Civil Society Fund and the Capacity Building Fund for the same initiative?**

Yes, organizations can apply through both funds for the same initiative. As part of the Capacity Building Fund application process, you will be asked to identify if you submitted a proposal to the CSF. Receiving funding through the CSF does not disqualify you from accessing funding through the Capacity Building Fund. However, The City will not fund initiatives that have been fully supported by the CSF.

**15. Are initiatives related to responding to or recovering from COVID-19 eligible for Capacity Building Funding?**

No, initiatives related to emergency or COVID-19 response are not eligible through the Capacity Building Fund.

**16. Can organizations provide letters of reference or additional attachments with our application?**

No. Letters of reference or additional attachments are not part of the application and should not be submitted. Organizations will be contacted if additional information is required.

**17. Who reviews the Capacity Building applications?**

All applications will be reviewed by multiple members of the Prevention Social Services team, with final decisions made by the Calgary Neighbourhoods management team.

**18. Are there any reporting requirements?**

Yes, all organizations that receive Capacity Building funds will be required to complete an initiative end report on how funds were spent and any results achieved. The final report is due 30-days from initiative end date.

**19. How are successfully funded organizations held accountable?**

Organizations currently funded through The City will have Capacity Building funds added to their existing contracts and can account for funds received as part of their annual program audit.

New organizations will be required to sign a contract, and will be required to provide an audit for any initiatives that are funded for \$25,000 or more.

**20. If an organization is not successful with a funding application, is there an opportunity to meet afterwards to discuss why the application was not successful and what could be done differently in the future?**

Yes, members of the Prevention Social Services team would be happy to meet with applicants after funding allocations have been made. Requests should be sent via email at [fundingproposals@calgary.ca](mailto:fundingproposals@calgary.ca) with questions or to setup a virtual meeting.