



## 2019-20 SVP SEATTLE GRANT GUIDELINES

### K-12 Education

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Social Venture Partners Seattle envisions a community in which, regardless of income or race, all children receive an excellent education and all people live and work in a healthy environment.

To help us achieve this vision, we are inviting nonprofit organizations in King County to submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) for the 2019-20 grant cycle focused on the goal that **all students graduate high school on time, ready to be successful in college or a career.**

Addressing the [disparities](#) in our education system and developing a K-12 continuum that will support every student to thrive in their education, communities, and life is a key component in addressing inequities in our region. In order for young adults to be successful in a career and in our community, it is imperative that they receive a strong education – inside and outside of the classroom – from elementary through high school.

**In addition to programmatic impact, SVP evaluates organizations on three core criteria:**

1. Have a clear vision and need for an SVP capacity building partnership over multiple years.
2. Strive to advance racial equity through organizational leadership, programming and support of communities of color.
3. See their organization and their work as part of a larger network that is working to support all students and narrow inequities *and* effectively coordinates with collaborative and community-wide efforts.

SVP expects to award one capacity building grant, with a first-year investment of up to \$30,000. Our grants are unrestricted and may be used for any general operating purpose. We intend to enter into a multi-year funding and capacity-building relationship with an investee organization with up to four years of funding. *More details on SVP, our commitment to equity, our capacity building model and relationships with Investees is in our Background Information [document](#).*

### **2019-20 MULTI-YEAR CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT CYCLE: K-12 EDUCATION**

SVP recognizes that there are several strategies that have shown success at improving readiness for college and career. For our 2019-20 grant cycle, SVP will focus on programs and/or initiatives that address one or more of the following:

- **Work to support youth and young adults' transition to adulthood** by addressing systemic barriers to achievement, helping them graduate, preparing them for post-secondary education/training, supporting them in their college or career pursuit, and supporting re-engagement pathways for young adults to reconnect to education/training.
- **Help students meet or exceed on-grade academic indicators** (for example: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade reading, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, 8<sup>th</sup> grade science, STEM curriculum, etc.).
- **Support the social and emotional well-being** of students so that they build interpersonal skills, creativity and critical thinking in order to stay in school and succeed in life.
- **Help parents and families** stay informed, navigate the school system and advocate for their kids.
- **Support quality teaching** through professional development for both teachers and school leadership.

**Racial equity is an integral part of SVP's grantmaking.** We know that on average there are disparities in educational outcomes in our region that cut along racial lines, with students of color fairing worse than their white peers. As such, we seek to support organizations who recognize and address the disparities and disproportionality that exist in our communities, who focus their work on communities of color, and who work to undo systems of oppression.

## HOW TO APPLY

Please upload a **letter of inquiry (LOI) and fill out the online form on our [website](#)**. The letter of inquiry must not exceed **two pages** and should not include attachments. **To apply visit our [website](#) and fill out the online form and upload your LOI no later than 5PM on November 15, 2019.** (Please note: to submit the online form you **CAN NOT** save and return to the form. You **MUST** fill out the whole form in one session). SVP will acknowledge all letters of inquiry and invite a select number of applicants to submit full proposals and conduct a site visit. For your reference [here is what will be on the form](#) on the website.

Within the letter, please cover the following information:

**Organization Overview:** Provide a brief summary of your organization's mission and key programs.

**K-12 Education Programs & Outcomes:** Provide a summary of the goals and outcomes/impact you achieve through your key programs. If you run several programs that align with the goals of this grant cycle, please describe goals and outcomes for your largest two programs and explain how you gauge your impact and advance racial equity. Be sure to describe the following:

- What is the work and/or programs that you are focusing on; why is this work important and timely; who are you reaching through your work; and what need in the community are you meeting.
- How is your organization working to narrow racial disparities, and specific examples of this work.
  - What strategies do you use to ensure that your organization's work is reflective of and embedded in the communities that you serve (not only who you serve but also your staff and leadership of your organization)?
- How is your work connected to the larger educational landscape and other community efforts that are working to support all students and narrow racial inequities?

**Organizational & Capacity-Building Vision:** Think about your organization's vision for the next three to four years, describe and prioritize your near term (the next year) and long-term (3-4 years) organizational capacity building needs (not just programmatic needs). These needs can be around sound financial systems, effective board governance, up-to-date technology, and many other areas of interest. Please see the [Strengthening Nonprofits](#) section of our website for more examples.

- What does taking your work to the next level look like? How do you see your work evolving in the next 3-4 years?
- What will you need to strengthen or develop in the organization to achieve your programmatic goals?
- Where could you use SVP capacity building resources?

**LOI Submission:** Please fill out the [online form](#) and upload your LOI on our [website](#). You can download the [form questions here](#) for your reference.

## APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Organization's managing staff must be located in King County of Washington State and must impact communities in King County. Applicants must be classified as a 501(c)(3) public charity or fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3).

SVP will not consider grant requests from individuals, public schools, or school districts, religious organizations for sectarian purposes, pure sports teams, or any organization that discriminates on the basis of race, sexual orientation, gender, age, marital status, national origin, or physical ability. SVP will not make grants to support auctions or fundraising events, debt reduction, endowment funds or capital campaigns.

## KEY DATES

**Sept. 19 Oct. 11, 25 2019:** Perspective Grant Information Sessions – [Register here.](#)

**November 15, 2019 @ 5:00 PM:** Letters of Inquiry + Fact Sheet Due

**Mid to late Jan 2020:** Follow up phone calls (30-45min)

**Early Feb 2020:** Proposals Invited

**Mid-March 2020:** Proposal Financial Information Due

**Mid/Late March 2020:** Proposals Due

**Late March – Mid- April 2020:** Site Visits (2.5 hours) with Finalists

**Early/Mid May 2020:** Grant Decision Announced

We encourage you to visit our [website](#) for details on our programs and current funding relationships. The sections on [strengthening nonprofits](#) and [applying for a grant](#) will be particularly helpful.