

2022 Grants Cycle

Please note applications are due by 5 pm CT, Friday, December 17, 2021.

Introduction

The Austin Community Foundation (ACF) believes that advancing the economic security of Latinos is essential to closing the opportunity gap and bridging the racial wealth divide in Central Texas. ACF is committed to data-informed grantmaking that supports the building blocks of economic security.

The Hispanic Impact Fund is a signature program of the Foundation. A report released by the Fund in 2021 illuminates the need for access to opportunity and economic stability for Latinos in Central Texas. The report, *[Building a Thriving Central Texas: Advancing Latino Futures](#)*, along with community-led strategy discussions, define the focus of the Hispanic Impact Fund.

In our fourth grant cycle, the Hispanic Impact Fund will award 28 unrestricted, general operating grants totaling \$365,000. Central Texas nonprofits are invited to submit an application in support of the work they are doing to advance Latino futures. The Fund will accept applications in the following impact areas:

- / **Early Childhood Education:** Kindergarten-readiness is essential for improving long-term academic outcomes for Latino children. The Fund will invest in organizations that provide access to affordable, high-quality Pre-K and early childhood education starting at age 3, building the pipeline from cradle to career for Latino families.
- / **Health & Wellness:** Access to affordable, preventative health care is a key factor in helping Latino families avoid unexpected health crises and resultant financial ruin. The Fund will invest in organizations that provide preventative, culturally competent health education and access to quality mental and physical health services.
- / **Job Skills & Entrepreneurship:** Many Latinos are confined to minimal incomes, accelerating the racial wealth divide. To combat this, the Fund will invest in organizations that train and equip Latinos with the skills needed to obtain high-demand, living-wage jobs with opportunities for advancement. The Fund will also invest in organizations that assist Latino entrepreneurs in gaining the knowledge and skills needed to expand their businesses.

- / **Leadership Development (pilot):** Latino leadership matters. Although Latinos in Central Texas represent a third of the population, they are not proportionately reflected in key leadership positions across all sectors. The Fund will invest in organizations advancing Latino leadership and creating pipelines of youth, emerging, and established Latino talent, which are critical to building a thriving Central Texas.

The Hispanic Impact Fund awards two levels of grants – **EMERGING** and **ESTABLISHED** – in each of its original three impact areas (early childhood education, health & wellness, and job skills & entrepreneurship).

- **Emerging Level:** For nonprofits whose annual budget is ≤\$500,000.
- **Established Level:** For nonprofits whose annual budget is greater than \$500,000.

Note: Applicants may only choose one grant level and one impact area for consideration in the review process. Applicants to the Leadership Development pilot will not select a grant level as part of their application.

We encourage all applicants to [review the scoring rubric](#) to understand the criteria for proposals.

Process & Timeline

Monday, November 29, 2021, by Noon CT	HIF application opens
Thursday, December 2, 2021, 12:30-1:30 pm CT	Application release webinar via Zoom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register here: https://bit.ly/HIFCoffeeChat2022
Friday, December 17, 2021, 5 pm CT	Application closes
Monday, February 7 – Thursday, February 17, 2022	Zoom learning sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> / 28 semifinalists will be invited to participate in 45-minute virtual learning sessions to further discuss their organization’s proposal. / After reviewing the applications and Zoom Learning Sessions, the Grants Committee will make one of two decisions for each semifinalist: award semifinalist funding or advance to investor voting.

	/ All 28 organizations that receive an invitation to participate in a Zoom Learning Session will be awarded a grant by the Fund in 2022.
Monday, March 7 – Monday, March 14, 2022	Hispanic Impact Fund investor voting
Thursday, March 17, 2022	Awards announced
Spring 2023	Final reports due electronically

Organizations that are recommended for semifinalist funding by the Grants Committee in one of the three original impact areas (Early Childhood Education, Health & Wellness, and Job Skills & Entrepreneurship), regardless of grant level, will be awarded \$5,000.

The remaining grant finalists, by grant level and impact area, will participate in investor voting, where the entire membership of the Hispanic Impact Fund will decide the remaining grant amounts. Investor voting will take place Monday, March 7, through Monday, March 14, 2022. Grantees will be publicly announced on Thursday, March 17, 2022.

All organizations recommended for funding by the Grants Committee in the new Leadership Development pilot will be awarded \$10,000 or \$15,000.

Awards by Impact Area

Early Childhood Education

- / Established: One \$40,000 multi-year finalist grant over two years (\$20,000 in 2022 and \$20,000 in 2023), one \$15,000 finalist grant, and two \$5,000 semifinalist grants
- / Emerging: One \$20,000 multi-year finalist grant over two years (\$10,000 in 2022 and \$10,000 in 2023), one \$10,000 finalist grant, and two \$5,000 semifinalist grants

Health & Wellness

- / Established: One \$40,000 multi-year finalist grant over two years (\$20,000 in 2022 and \$20,000 in 2023), one \$15,000 finalist grant, and two \$5,000 semifinalist grants
- / Emerging: One \$20,000 multi-year finalist grant over two years (\$10,000 in 2022 and \$10,000 in 2023), one \$10,000 finalist grant, and two \$5,000 semifinalist grants

Job Skills & Entrepreneurship

- / Established: One \$40,000 multi-year finalist grant over two years (\$20,000 in 2022 and \$20,000 in 2023), one \$15,000 finalist grant, and two \$5,000 semifinalist grants
- / Emerging: One \$20,000 multi-year finalist grant over two years (\$10,000 in 2022 and \$10,000 in 2023), one \$10,000 finalist grant, and two \$5,000 semifinalist grants

Leadership Development (pilot)

- / Two \$15,000 grants
- / Two \$10,000 grants

Who is Eligible?

The Hispanic Impact Fund geographically limits its grants to nonprofit agencies working within the Greater Austin Area, defined to include the following counties: Travis, Burnet, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, and Williamson.

Agencies submitting an application must be tax-exempt under Sections 501(c)3 or 170(b)(1)(a)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code and/or be a unit of government.

Agencies can only submit an application after operating in good standing for 24 months. Good operational standing means the agency is current with all state and federal filings.

In general, the Fund does not award grants for:

- / Endowment funds
- / Fundraising activities or events
- / Individuals
- / Political lobbying or legislative activities
- / Religious organizations for religious purposes
- / Scholarships
- / Umbrella funding organizations that intend to distribute funds at their own discretion

Reporting

Organizations that receive a grant will complete a brief final report at the end of their grant period. The report will ask grantees to detail the use of their grant funds with a narrative account of how the funds impacted the lives of Latino families and individuals served by the

organization. You are encouraged to collect stories, quotes, and photographs to help communicate the impact of your grant as you complete your final report.

Application - Contact Information

Organization Executive

1. First Name, Last Name
2. Title
3. Phone
4. Email

Additional Organizational Contact (optional)

1. First Name, Last Name
2. Title
3. Phone
4. Email

Organization Information

1. Organization Name
2. Mailing Address
3. City, State, Zip
4. Phone
5. Website
6. Tax ID

Application - Background & Eligibility

Organizational Background

1. Incorporation Date
2. Mission (**Limit to 50 words**)
3. Organization History & Services (**Limit to 300 words**)
4. Annual Budget

Eligibility Verification

1. Based on the eligibility criteria outlined above, does your organization fit the Hispanic Impact Fund's eligibility requirements?
 - o Yes

- No
- Unsure

Application - Diversity & Representation Data

1. Is your organization led by an individual who identifies as Hispanic or Latino?
(Executive Director or CEO)
 - Yes
 - No
2. Percentage of executive staff who identify as Hispanic or Latino?
3. Percentage of staff who identify as Hispanic or Latino
4. Percentage of board members who identify as Hispanic or Latino?
5. Percentage of clients who identify as Hispanic or Latino?

Application - Request Information

The four impact areas explored in the 2021 Hispanic Impact Fund Report, [*Building a Thriving Central Texas: Advancing Latino Futures*](#), will inform the review of all applications. Please use the drop-down menu to indicate the impact area your organization most directly addresses.

1. Hispanic Impact Area (drop-down: pick 1 out of the following)
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Health & Wellness
 - Job Skills & Entrepreneurship
 - Leadership Development

We offer two grant levels in our three original impact areas—one for established nonprofits and one for emerging nonprofits. Please read the description of these two grant levels in the **introduction** before making your selection. *(Not applicable For Leadership Development applicants)*

2. Grant Level (drop-down: pick 1 out of the following)
 - Established
 - Emerging

3. Requested amount (state the specific amount requested from the Hispanic Impact Fund)
4. Funding start date (specify the date when funding from the Foundation would be needed)
5. Funding end date (specify a date for the anticipated use of all requested funds)

6. How many unique individuals does your organization plan to serve during the funding period?

Application - Grant Narrative

1. **Impact Areas:** Discuss how your organization aligns with the impact area for which you are applying: Early Childhood Education, Health & Wellness, Job Skills & Entrepreneurship, or Leadership Development. (Limit to 250 words)
2. **Statement of Need:** Describe the target population you are serving and the needs you are addressing in the community. (Limit to 250 words)
3. **Goals & Outcomes:** Describe how the requested funds will further your work related to your selected impact area. Detail projected goals and outcomes for your organization in 2022. (Limit to 300 words).
4. **Evaluation Criteria:** What objective criteria for your stated goals & outcomes will indicate the success of your organization in 2022? How will you know if the criteria are met? (Limit to 250 words)
5. **Key Community Partners:** List and describe the organizational and community partnerships leveraged to support your mission in the community. (Limit to 250 words)

Application - Assurances Checklist

I certify that the organization submitting this proposal meets the following criteria or can provide a reasonable alternative method to meet standards.

1. The size of the board is sufficient to carry out current and long-range plans.
 - Yes
 - No
2. The board meets regularly, has an active committee structure, terms, and recruits new members periodically.
 - Yes
 - No
3. The board participates in fundraising or revenue-generating activities on behalf of the organization.
 - Yes
 - No
4. The board has a strategic plan, monitors performance and programs, and updates the plan as necessary.

- Yes
 - No
5. The board is representative of the community served.
- Yes
 - No
6. Staff and general volunteers are representative of the communities served.
- Yes
 - No
7. The organization has written personnel, operating, and financial management policies.
- Yes
 - No
8. The organization has sufficient capital to maintain operations over the course of the grant term.
- Yes
 - No
9. The organization has internal controls in place to manage expenditures of these grant funds and is able to maintain appropriate financial records.
- Yes
 - No
10. The organization has a system for measuring outputs, outcomes, and client demographics of those served with Hispanic Impact Fund funding.
- Yes
 - No
11. If you selected no for any of the statements above, please provide comments and alternative methods for meeting the criteria in the space below. (Limit to 250 words)

Application - Attachments

1. IRS determination letter
2. Organization's current operating budget (no template, can be organization's own working document)