

NONPROFIT INNOVATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. Are housing projects allowable under this program?

A: Generally, no. This program is designed to assist nonprofits with necessary infrastructure to increase services to Iowans.

However, if a nonprofit project includes a residential component tied directly to supportive services, that project may be eligible for assistance. IEDA and IFA offer other programs to assist with housing needs in Iowa communities. More information on these programs can be found at iowaeda.com and iowafinance.com.

2. Are childcare facilities projects allowable under this program?

A: At this time, childcare facilities projects are not allowable under the program. The state of Iowa offers other programs to assist with childcare projects. More information on those programs can be found here: [Child Care Task force | Future Ready Iowa](#) (Under “Child Care Resources” and “Additional Resources.”)

3. How do I know if a nonprofit is eligible to apply?

A: Nonprofits must be 501(c)3 organizations under IRS regulations. These are often referred to as charitable organizations and are eligible to receive tax deductible contributions. More information on 501(c)3 designation and instructions on how to apply for such status can be found at [Exemption Requirements - 501\(c\)\(3\) Organizations | Internal Revenue Service \(irs.gov\)](#).

4. What if my organization has applied for 501(c)3 status but has not yet been approved by the IRS?

A: The state recognizes there may be a backlog at the federal level with requests for 501(c)3 designation. IEDA will consider applications from nonprofits that have applied to the IRS for 501(c)3 designation prior to June 27, 2022, the date that the application for this program will be available.

5. My organization is part of a statewide association of related nonprofits. Can a statewide association apply on behalf of eligible nonprofits?

A: IEDA will consider applications from a statewide association on behalf of eligible nonprofits that are members of the statewide association. If awarded funds, the statewide association, as the applicant, would enter into a contract with IEDA and would be responsible for post award activities (any reporting, submitting claims for reimbursement, etc.) Each proposed project under such an application will need to meet the program requirements, including the minimum \$500,000 request per project.

6. Can program funds be used to refinance existing debt?

A: No. Program funds are focused on new innovative, infrastructure projects that will increase services to Iowans.

7. How can my organization demonstrate financial hardship?

A: IEDA recognizes the unique circumstances associated with each proposed project; Information provided by one applicant to demonstrate a financial hardship may not mirror information provided by another applicant. The application for funding will include a narrative asking applicants to address why program funds are needed to complete the project. This question will provide an opportunity for applicants to describe the need for funds. Applicants may also wish to provide data points that demonstrate a decrease in funding/ donations, new and/ or increased costs that may impact funds available for the proposed project and other extenuating circumstances that have created a need for funding above the level of funding already secured.

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8. Can other American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds be used in conjunction with Nonprofit Innovation Infrastructure funding?

A: Yes. Applicants may utilize other ARP funds for proposed projects.

9. Our organization is a 501(c)4 organization. Are we eligible to apply?

A: At this time, only 501(c)3 organizations are eligible to apply for funding under this program.

10. The program guidance states that applicants must have gross receipts of less than \$25 million. What are gross receipts for purposes of this program?

A: Gross receipts would include all operating and non operating revenue before deductions for expenses.

11. Does my organization need to show that matching funds are in place at the time of application? We have applied for other grant funds and are not sure if those will be awarded.

A: Yes. The expectation is that project funds are committed to the project at the time of application. Due to the time constraint associated with spending these funds, projects should be ready to proceed at the time of application.

12. Is deferred maintenance allowable under this program? For example, if a facility is currently in-service but requires significant upgrades (roof replacement, bathroom remodel) to continue serving individuals, is that allowable?

A: Projects under this program must be able to demonstrate how the project will increase services to lowans. A project including only deferred maintenance may find difficulty in meeting this requirement.

13. Are projects that will be owned by a city eligible for funding? A: Projects must be owned and operated by an eligible nonprofit organization to be eligible for funding under this program.