



A Better Chicago – Chicago Design Challenge Application

Instructions

To be considered for a Chicago Design Challenge grant, please respond to the questions listed below. We encourage applicants to utilize existing content from other proposals or materials. When crafting answers from scratch, we encourage you to keep it brief. Short answer responses are limited to 4000 characters (but you may use less).

Primary Applicant Contact Information

If you are a regional or national organization, please provide your local leadership information.

- Organization name:
- Organization address:
- Leader (executive director or equivalent) name:
- Leader title:
- Leader email: Application contact person (if different):
- Application contact email (if different):
- Application contact phone:
- Do you wish to opt of A Better Chicago email communications?

Primary Applicant Organization Background

The following questions pertain to your organization’s steady-state programming. If this proposal represents a collaboration, please complete the fields below for the primary applicant. You will have the opportunity to provide this information for collaborators on the next page(s).

- Year founded
- Organization Type:
 - 501c3 Non-profit (not a school)
 - School
 - For-Profit
 - OtherIf other, please specify
- Mission statement
- Focus area(s) (select all that apply):
 - Early childhood education
 - PK-12 education
 - Post-secondary (including college access/success)

- Career and/or workforce
- Social-emotional learning
- Trauma-informed mental health services
- Basic needs (e.g., youth homelessness, food security)
- Other
 - Please specify “Basic Needs” or “Other” selection, if relevant
- Geography served (select all that apply):
 - Chicago (Cook county)
 - Collar counties
 - Illinois: outside Chicago Metro
 - Outside Illinois
 - Please provide additional detail on geographies served (e.g., if Chicago, specific neighborhoods; if outside IL, which metros)
- Provide a brief overview of your organization including its current scope, program model description and intended impact(s).
- Please confirm that you will be able to provide the following if invited to advance in A Better Chicago’s selection process OR explain why not:
 - As relevant, 501c3 determination letter of your organization
 - Financials: Most recent audited financial statements
 - Financials: Current year budget and actuals
 - Hi-resolution logo
- Does this proposal reflect a collaborative effort across multiple organizations? You will be asked to provide contact and background information for all partners involved.
 - Yes, additional organizations are involved beyond the primary applicant
 - No, this application is being submitted solely on behalf of the primary applicant

Collaborator/Partner Information

Please provide contact and background information for additional collaborators/partners. You are viewing this page because you indicated the initiative involves additional partners beyond those provided thus far. If this was a mistake, you may return to the prior section and adjust your answer to proceed with the application.

Contact information: If you are a regional or national organization, please provide your local leadership information.

- Organization name:
- Organization address:
- Leader (executive director or equivalent) name:
- Leader title:
- Leader email:
- Application contact person (if different):
- Application contact email (if different):
- Application contact phone:
- Do you wish to opt out of A Better Chicago email communications?

Organization background

Background information should reflect steady-state programming.

- Year founded
- Organization Type:
 - 501c3 Non-profit (not a school)
 - School
 - For-Profit
 - OtherIf other, please specify
- Mission statement
- Focus area(s) (select all that apply):
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- Provide a brief overview of your organization including its current scope, program model description, and intended impact(s). Please confirm that you will be able to provide the following if invited to advance in A Better Chicago’s selection process OR explain why not:
 - As relevant, 501c3 determination letter of your organization
 - Financials: Most recent audited financial statements
 - Financials: Current year budget and actuals
 - Hi-resolution logo
- Are there additional organizations involved in this collaboration?
 - Yes, additional organizations are involved (beyond those already provided)
 - No, take me to the next section

Chicago Design Challenge Innovation Details

The following questions pertain to your proposed innovation for the Chicago Design Challenge.

Theory of Action

- In 200 characters, provide a brief description of your theory of action. In other words, the problem or opportunity, your approach, and what you aim to achieve. The following questions in this section will allow you to elaborate in more detail.
- Explain the challenge or opportunity that your program will work to address.
- What programming or services do you aim to provide to meet this challenge or opportunity? If relevant, how does this differ from or expand upon your typical programming or services?
- What is the intended impact(s) of this work? In other words, if successful, what outcomes will be achieved because of it?
- Who are you seeking to support through these efforts? As relevant, please share demographic characteristics (e.g., age, race), socio-economic status, the geography you seek to serve, and any program eligibility criteria.

Operations and Infrastructure

- What is your estimated budget for this effort? In other words, please share the estimated cost over and above expenses incurred through your typical programming required to launch and execute this innovation.
- Please describe your organization's relevant data capabilities, including data access and infrastructure already in place, as well as known gaps you would be eager to build out as part of the design challenge.
- Please share how you are building your program using an anti-racist lens.

Scale and Potential Reach

- A core goal of the Chicago Design Challenge is to implement high-impact innovations at scale. Is your organization's leadership willing to consider pathways to system-level program adoption in which you may not be the sole service provider?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Not sure
 If "No" or "Not sure", please explain.
- If applicable, please share your vision for scale and/or questions you have about the opportunity to scale your innovation as part of the Chicago Design Challenge.
- If awarded funding, how many students do you anticipate serving in Fall 2021 through your proposed work?

Additional questions

- If A Better Chicago shares information received through this process with other funders, would you like us to include your application?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Not sure (Please explain in comment box below)
- How did you hear about us?
 - A Better Chicago communications
 - A Better Chicago Emergency Relief Fund
 - Grantee/former grantee
 - Other organization or funder
 - Social media
 - News outlet (i.e, television, radio, print, online)

- Other

Brief description of how you learned about A Better Chicago.

- Optional: Please share any additional questions you may have about the Chicago Design Challenge.