

Funding Opportunity

The Northwest Climate Resilience Collaborative Community Grants Program

Request for Letters of Interest

The Northwest Climate Resilience Collaborative is accepting applications for funding of climate resilience projects through its Community Grants Program. The Resilience Collaborative seeks to fund justice-focused, environmental and climate projects that advance community-centered resilience priorities. **The Collaborative is particularly interested in supporting frontline communities and tribes or nonprofits and community organizations that serve frontline communities and tribes. Awardees must be based in Washington, Idaho or Oregon.**

The Resilience Collaborative understands frontline communities as those who are disproportionately impacted by climate change. These are the populations who face historic and current inequities, often experience the earliest and most acute impacts of climate change, and have limited resources and/or capacity to adapt. These groups are often communities of color, Indigenous, low-income, or those whose lives and livelihoods depend on climate-sensitive natural resources.

Resilience Collaborative Mission Statement

The mission of the Northwest Climate Resilience Collaborative is to assist Tribes and frontline communities in improving their resilience to climate change while addressing the legacy of systemic inequity that continues to influence their lives and livelihoods.

Resilience Collaborative Vision Statement

The Northwest Climate Resilience Collaborative envisions a world in which the values and needs of Tribes and frontline communities play a central role in integrated research, engagement and capacity building efforts of the climate resilience community of practice regionally (throughout Washington, Oregon and Idaho) and nationally.

Funding source

Funding for the Community Grants Program is provided by NOAA and [EarthLab](#) at the University of Washington.

Important dates

Funding opportunity open	December 2022
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Informational webinar	January 20, 2023 noon PST (more information will be available in early January)
Open office hours for questions (online)	January 24 3-4:30 p.m. and February 16, noon-1:30 p.m. (more information will be available in early January)
LOI due date	February 28, 2023
Invitation to submit full proposals	March 31, 2023 (No later than)
Open office hours for questions (online)	April 2023
Proposal due date	May 31, 2023
Notification of awardees	July 31, 2023 (No later than)
Funds made available to awardees	August 2023 (No later than)

For questions email: resiliencecollab@uw.edu

Goals of the Resilience Collaborative Community Grants Program

1. Support frontline-community initiatives and projects to advance community-based climate resilience.
2. Enhance the capacity of frontline communities and organizations in their climate resilience and adaptation work.
3. Establish connections, relationships, and mutual learning between the Resilience Collaborative and frontline communities.
4. Scale up local solutions and lessons learned to decision makers at a state, regional, or federal level or to other resourcing entities.
5. Scale local solutions out to similar communities facing similar challenges.

Project duration

Projects can last between 12 to 15 months.

Who is Eligible?

Nonprofits, community organizations, and Tribes in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon that serve frontline communities are eligible to apply.

Amount Available

Total funding available is \$173,000. We anticipate providing between four to eight awards ranging from \$5,000 up to \$50,000 for one year. We intend to fund projects at three tiers. Roughly as follows:

- Level 1: \$5,000 to \$10,000
- Level 2: \$15,000 to \$30,000
- Level 3: \$35,000 to \$50,000

Not all awards will be funded at the highest level or highest dollar amount. If your project is selected, the Resilience Collaborative may negotiate with you a different funding level than your original request.

Option to partner with an Resilience Collaborative team member

If you're interested in partnering with a Resilience Collaborative team member, in your LOI please state what you envision the role of the Resilience Collaborative team member will be. Please note that grant funding will go to awardees to advance their projects. Grant funds are not meant to support the Collaborative's role in the project (e.g., Resilience Collaborative staff time or salary support).

Potential project topics include (but are not limited to)

- Capacity building, community outreach, or community education and learning
- Developing a community-centered resilience plan
- Implementing a community-centered resilience strategy or action
- Evaluating/assessing the effectiveness of a resilience (or adaptation) strategy or action
- Building or expanding networks and relationships among communities, NGOs, government agencies, and academic institutions
- Developing Indigenous climate knowledge
- Documenting climate and environmental impacts at the community level in creative ways; examples include storytelling, oral histories, and community mapping
- Expanding community-based methods of scientific understanding of environmental or climate challenges
- Building knowledge of a climate or environmental challenge
- **Climate resilience project topics not included in this list are welcome!**

Requirements

Awardees must:

- Be a Non-governmental organization, community-based organization, frontline community organization, or Tribe.
- Be based in Washington, Idaho, or Oregon.

Note: These funds are intended to support community-centered projects and organizations that may face challenges accessing grant opportunities. For local government agencies or others who are interested in applying, we strongly encourage you to coordinate with the frontline community/organization you'd like to partner with. City, county, and other levels of government are not eligible unless you can clearly articulate a direct partnership with one or more frontline communities.

Application process

Step one: Submit a Letter of Interest

Prepare and submit your Letter of Interest using [this form](#).

Below are the questions you'll be asked in the form.

1. Name of organization.
2. Main contact person.
3. Email address.
4. Briefly describe your organization or group, its goals or mission, and the community, population, or group it serves.
5. What need or problem do you seek to address with funding from the Resilience Collaborative?
6. How does your proposal address the stated need or problem?
7. OPTIONAL: If you'd like to partner with a team member from the Resilience Collaborative please briefly describe who you'd like to partner with and their role in your project.
8. What is the approximate dollar amount of your project? Please select the most accurate funding level your project likely falls into. **Your response to this prompt will not lock you into a particular dollar amount if invited to submit a full proposal.**
 - a. Level 1: \$5,000 to \$10,000
 - b. Level 2: \$15,000 to \$30,000
 - c. Level 3: \$35,000 to \$50,000

If you intend to partner with a Tribe, you will be prompted to respond to the following questions, in 100 words or less:

1. Please explain the partnership.
2. What processes will you observe to ensure you are partnering in ways that respect tribal sovereignty (including data sovereignty) and the principles of free, prior, and informed consent?

Letters of Interest must be submitted by 6 p.m. on February 28, 2023. The LOI review team will review all submitted LOIs and select the most competitive. The Resilience Collaborative will send invitations to those selected to submit a full proposal by no later than March 31, 2023.

Step two: Prepare a full proposal

If invited to submit a full proposal, applicants will be asked to prepare an application of between two to four pages. To provide an understanding of what the full proposal will consist of, please see the full proposal outline, below. The full proposal requirements will depend on the amount of your funding request. Finalized and complete details on the full proposal application will be provided by no later than February, 2023.

Full proposal outline

- 1. Organization background**
 - a. Describe your organization and its mission.
- 2. Project description**
 - a. What need or problem are you addressing with your proposal?
 - b. How does your proposal address the stated need or problem?
 - c. Briefly describe the activities involved to complete the project.
- 3. Project outcomes**
 - a. Describe the desired outcomes of your project.
 - b. How will you know the project is successful?
 - c. How would you like to share the outcomes of your project?
- 4. Budget**
 - a. Budget narrative

One of the goals of the Resilience Collaborative is to learn from frontline communities and organizations how they approach climate resilience. If awarded, we'd like to share the outcomes and successes of your project. To this end, we'd like to collaborate with awardees to understand impacts of the project. The Resilience Collaborative will work with each awardee to determine how best to share project outcomes and determine what kind of medium is best to share those outcomes.

Contact

Questions about the application process? Reach out to Zackery Thill, program integration specialist, at resiliencecollab@uw.edu. There will also be opportunities to ask questions during our informational webinar on Friday, January 20, 2023 and during open office hours Tuesday, January 24, 3-4:30 p.m. and Thursday, February 16, noon-1:30 p.m. More information about the webinar and office hours will be available in early January.

About the Resilience Collaborative and CAP/RISA program

The Northwest Climate Resilience Collaborative, housed at the University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group, spans ten partner organizations across Washington, Oregon, Idaho and western Montana. The Resilience Collaborative is one of 11 NOAA-funded participatory research programs designed to support frontline communities. [Click here to learn more about the NOAA-CAP/RISA network.](#)

Notes

The University, in partnership with the Resilience Collaborative leadership team, reserves the right to determine the number of awards, amount of awards, and projects selected for award at its discretion. The number of awards and the amount of the awards depends on the number of applicants.