



Pathways to Progress

2017 Youth Workforce Fund

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Pathways to Progress?

The Citi Foundation launched [Pathways to Progress](#) in 2014 with a \$50 million, three-year commitment that helped more than 100,000 young people, ages 16-24, across 10 cities in the United States to become career-ready. In February 2017, the Citi Foundation announced a global expansion of the Pathways to Progress initiative led by a \$100 million commitment to connect an additional 500,000 young people, ages 16-24, to training and jobs over the next three years. The expansion also includes a commitment to enable 10,000 Citi employees to volunteer as mentors, coaches and role models to help young people and support their career progress.

In conjunction with the expanded Pathways to Progress investment, the Citi Foundation released the results of a survey of young people across the globe. [The study](#), conducted by Ipsos, found that despite political, economic, and social upheaval, young people around the world are optimistic about their career prospects, but face the reality of limited skills and opportunities that can propel them to achieve their desired career aspirations. Furthermore, youth felt strongly that apprenticeships and internships are critical for career success.

As a result, the Pathways to Progress 2017 Youth Workforce Fund seeks to make strategic investments in non-profit organizations across fifteen markets in the United States that are connecting young adults to workplace skills and employment opportunities.

2. What is the Youth Workforce Fund?

The Citi Foundation's Youth Workforce Fund is an open and competitive fund that will provide grants to non-profit organizations working to help low-income young adults, ages 16 – 24, obtain workplace skills and connect them to employment opportunities including, but not limited to, full-time jobs, apprenticeships and internships in fifteen markets across the United States.

3. What are the fifteen markets?

The fifteen markets are Buffalo, NY; Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Delaware; Florence, KY; Jacksonville, FL; Los Angeles, CA; Miami, FL; Newark, NJ; New York City, NY; San Francisco, CA; Sioux Falls, SD; Tampa, FL; Tucson, AZ; and Washington, D.C.



Specifically, the Youth Workforce Fund seeks to invest in programming that is addressing the needs of the following counties:

Market	County
Buffalo, NY	Erie, Niagara
Chicago, IL	Cook
Dallas, TX	Collin; Dallas; Denton; Tarrant
Delaware	New Castle
Florence, KY	Boone County, KY; Campbell County, KY; Kenton County, KY; Hamilton County, OH
Jacksonville, FL	Duval
Los Angeles, CA	Los Angeles
Miami, FL	Miami-Dade; Broward
Newark, NJ	Essex
New York City, NY	Bronx; Kings; New York; Queens; Richmond
San Francisco, CA	Alameda; San Francisco; Santa Clara
Sioux Falls, SD	Lincoln; McCook; Minnehaha; Turner
Tampa, FL	Hillsborough
Tucson, AZ	Pima
Washington, D.C.	Alexandria City, VA; Arlington, VA; Fairfax, VA; District of Columbia, Prince George's County, MD

4. Who can apply for the grants?

Non-profit organizations in the fifteen markets that meet the eligibility criteria are welcome to apply.

5. What will the grantees receive?

Grantees will receive:

- One-year grants of up to \$250,000
- Access to a learning community to share best practices and network with other Youth Workforce Fund grantees
- Access to Citi volunteers

6. What are the eligibility criteria?

- Applicants need to be non-profit organizations with a 501(C)(3) designation from the I.R.S. and operational for more than 2 years.
- Serve low- and moderate-income youth directly in the following markets: Buffalo, NY; Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Delaware; Florence, KY; Jacksonville, FL; Los Angeles, CA; Miami, FL; Newark, NJ; New York City, NY; San Francisco, CA; Sioux Falls, SD; Tampa, FL; Tucson, AZ; and Washington, D.C.



- Focus on programming that engages youth ages 16-24 and reaches a minimum of 150 low- and moderate-income youth during a one-year grant term.
- Implement strategies to help youth obtain workplace skills (hard and soft skills) **and** connect them directly to employment opportunities including, but not limited to, full-time jobs, internships and apprenticeships.

7. Should an organization that is working in multiple markets within the Fund’s target geographies submit separate proposals for each market or one proposal covering multiple markets?

We are seeking to invest in local non-profit organizations within our targeted markets. Thus, we recommend that one application be submitted per market being served. If your organization is serving multiple markets you could consider submitting multiple applications, as appropriate.

8. Can a national organization apply on behalf of a local affiliate organization?

Yes. However, each application submitted should focus on a single market and local effort.

9. Can an organization that is close to, but not in, the eligible markets be considered if it meets all other criteria?

No, only those applicants addressing the community needs in the markets and counties identified above will be considered for funding.

10. What will not be supported by the Youth Workforce Fund?

The Fund will not support:

- Scholarships or tuition-related costs
- Primary education and related programs
- Arts education programs
- Tertiary (graduate) training, including MBA leadership courses
- Organizations operating for less than two years

11. What is the application process?

The application process will be conducted in two rounds:

Round 1: Request for Ideas (RFI)

Applicants should submit their ideas through the online application portal by June 27, 2017.

Round 2: Final Application

Applicants will be notified by late July 2017 if they have been selected to advance to the final application round. The Citi Foundation and America’s Promise reserve



the right to ask clarifying questions or request additional information from finalists.

12. How much are the grants?

The Fund will award one-year implementation grants of up to \$250,000.

13. What is the grant term?

The grant term is August, 2017 – July, 2018.

14. Will technical assistance be offered to review the RFI process?

We will host webinars to review the RFI and to answer questions from potential applicants about this funding opportunity. For further information on how to register to attend an informational webinar please [click here](#).

Dates	Time
Thursday, June 1, 2017	4:00 PM ET
Tuesday, June 6, 2017	4:00 PM ET
Friday, June 9, 2017	4:00 PM ET

15. What is the timeline for Round 1?

Activity	Date
Round 1: Request for Ideas	May, 2017
1 st Informational Webinar	June 1, 2017
2 nd Informational Webinar	June 6, 2017
3 rd Informational Webinar	June 9, 2017
Round 1: Deadline	June 27, 2017
Round 1: Notifications	July, 2017

16. If our organization previously received a grant from the Citi Foundation are we eligible to apply for the Youth Workforce Fund?

Yes. All community organizations that have previously received a grant from the Citi Foundation, including those that have been awarded funding through the Youth Opportunity Fund, are eligible to apply to the 2017 Youth Workforce Fund.

17. How do you define low-income?

Applicants will be required to verify that youth served are low-and moderate-income (LMI), defined as annual family income that is less than 80% of the [Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council](#) (FFIEC)-estimated Median Family Income (MFI). If applicable, the Free and Reduced Lunch (FARL) program can be used as a proxy for income status determination.



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18. Who do I contact for more information?

Please visit [website](#) for more information about the Pathways to Progress Youth Workforce Fund. If you have any questions, please contact opportunity@americaspromise.org.