



United Way of Buffalo & Erie County 2022-2024 Funding Cycle

September 23, 2021

United Way
of Buffalo & Erie County
uwbec.org



Who am I?

- Dr. Christy Panagakis, Director of Research and Evaluation
- She/her/hers
- programfunding@uwbec.org

Overview

- Introductions
- Important information
- Previously submitted questions
- New questions

Who are we?

- UWBEC mission: We bring people, organizations and resources together to create systemic community change.
- UWBEC vision: We envision an equitable, thriving and united community achieved through collaborative leadership.

Who are we? (continued)

- The world is different since we released our last RFP in 2018
- We are still learning and growing, right alongside you
- All of our work includes an increased focus on acknowledging and addressing systemic inequities

Where to find funding information

- All information can be found at **uwbec.org/funding**
- Including:
 - RFP
 - Recording of this info session
 - Regularly updated FAQ
 - Online application

Important dates

- **Applications are due by Friday, October 29 at 4pm**
- Preliminary funding decisions announced: March 2022
- Funding starts: July 1, 2022

Notable changes from last cycle

- Seven focus areas: early learning and development; school-age learning; employment and workforce development; financial capability and asset building; healthy birth outcomes; childhood obesity; trauma-informed care
- All focus areas are open for applications
- Increased focus on acknowledging and addressing systemic inequities
- 5,000 character limit on narrative questions - you are *not* expected to use the full space every time
- Scoring rubric is included in the application - no back and forth with reviewers

Questions!

Previously submitted questions

A note: We've gotten some very detailed questions about the focus areas. We want to use today for questions that are relevant to the largest number of people - please watch the FAQ page at uwbec.org/funding for more specific answers about the focus areas.

Previously submitted questions

Q: How do I know if my program is eligible to apply? And, how do I know if my program is a good fit for UWBECE funding?

A: Eligibility criteria can be found on page 3 of the RFP.

Fit is a bit trickier to determine. Look closely at the **goal**, **strategies**, and **outcome measures** for each focus area - the strongest fit is if you know your program compellingly and comprehensively speaks to each of those criteria.

Previously submitted questions

**Q: How many strategies should I choose in my application?
Is it better if I include more than one?**

A: Use the scoring rubric as a guide as you craft your application. It's exactly the same rubric as what the reviewers will use when they are scoring.

But, like before, focus on telling the most compelling and comprehensive story you can. More is not necessarily better.

Previously submitted questions

Q: Does the program or the organization need to be operational since September 1, 2019?

A: The **program needs to be operational since September 1, 2019.**

Previously submitted questions

Q: Will UWBECE fund more than one program per organization within the same focus area?

A: Yes! We are willing to fund multiple programs from one organization within a focus area.

Previously submitted questions

Q: Can an organization submit more than one application for funding?

A: Yes! We accept multiple applications per organization. However, we **do not accept more than one application **per program**.**

Previously submitted questions

Q: My program serves multiple focus areas. Should I combine them all into one application or submit separate applications?

A: Because we do not accept more than one application per program, you will want to apply in the one focus area where you feel your program is the strongest. While you need to choose strategies and outcome measures in that one focus area, you are welcome to reference your work in the other areas in your application.

Previously submitted questions

Q: Can you reference multiple programs in one application?

A: While it's okay to mention other programs within your organization, you will want to focus your application largely on the single program for which you're applying.

Previously submitted questions

Q: Does the \$30,000 minimum request apply to one year of funding or the entire two-year funding cycle?

A: The minimum funding request is with respect to one year of funding. When you answer Q18 (total amount requested) please tell us the amount you are requesting for one year.

Previously submitted questions

Q: Every narrative question says 5,000 characters. Am I expected to use all of them?

A: No, we don't expect you to use the whole space for every question. We standardized the amount of space available to make it easier for you as you're building your answers. Please only use as much space as your answer needs; **longer answers are not always better answers.**

Previously submitted questions

Q: Question 29 asks about partnering with UWBECE grants or initiatives. What does that mean?

A: We mean specific programmatic initiatives that are spearheaded by UWBECE, such as Breastfeeding Friendly Continuum, CATCH (Coordinated Approach to Child Health), Doula Task Force, Emergency Food and Shelter Program, Full Service Community Schools, Girls in Sports, GO Buffalo Mom, IMPLICIT Interconception Care, Siemer Family Stability Program, United Way Works, and VITA sites.

This **does not include** work with our funded partner agencies or partnering on UWBECE volunteer engagement opportunities such as Day of Caring or Business Meets Community.

Previously submitted questions

Q: Looking at questions 38 through 42, should we answer about our program or our organization?

A: Questions 38, 39, and 40 should be answered about the program for which you're applying. In contrast, questions 41 and 42 are about your organization itself.

Questions?

- Today, try to focus on questions relevant to this larger group
- For more specific questions, please email programfunding@uwbec.org
- Come up with a question after this session? Email programfunding@uwbec.org
- Keep watching FAQ document at uwbec.org/funding for an updated list of questions

THANK YOU

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