

**United Way of Buffalo & Erie County
2026 Request for Proposal
Frequently Asked Questions**

Below are the answers to the questions that have been submitted to programfunding@uwbec.org. This document will be updated at least twice a week, usually on Fridays, throughout the application period, with the most recent responses posted at the top. All questions must be received by **Monday, October 19, 2026, at 5:00 pm**, and the answers to all questions will be posted on our website by **Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 5:00 pm**.

10/01/26

In past censuses, each person who lists their ethnicity as Hispanic/Latino can also choose one or more other race(s) with which they identify, but the demographic table in the application asks us to report Hispanic/Latino as a race alongside white, Black, etc. If we have people who identified as both Hispanic/Latino and another race, how do we report this in your system?

In 2024, the US Census Bureau [announced](#) that they are changing the way they measure race and ethnicity in future surveys, including the Census. Moving forward, agencies are directed to no longer break Hispanic/Latino out as a separate ethnicity and to add Middle Eastern or North African as an additional racial category. You can read a summary of those changes [here](#) and [here](#). We are aligning our data collection in the application with this new standard but understand that it may not align with the way you have collected data in the past. There is no perfect way to align data collected using the older model with data collected using the newer model but we are asking that totals not exceed 100% for all respondents. It is generally recommended in this situation to count most respondents as Hispanic/Latino if they checked that ethnicity, even if they also checked a race (In [tests](#), about 75% of people who selected Hispanic/Latino as their ethnicity on the old form selected only that as their race on the new form). Use your best judgement, though, about how your clients and organization members would likely classify themselves on the new form – every organization differs, and we are just asking for your best estimate.

Are any of the Focus Areas prioritized for awarding?

No, we do not prioritize any of the Focus Areas in our awarding decisions.

10/16/26

**Question #21 asks: "Where do you hope your program will be at the conclusion of the grant?"
When is the end of the grant?**

At this point in time, all awards are for a single year. So, the end of the grant is one year after funding would start, i.e., June 30, 2028.

Within the Goals section, there are two charts that ask for milestones and a corresponding Weight (%). Could you provide some guidance on how the weight percentage should be determined?

As we test out this new feature in Submittable, we are asking applicants to simply list one milestone with a due date of 6/30/28 and assign a weight of 100%. Please see the webinar recording posted at uwbec.org/funding for more details. The goals and milestones questions are discussed starting around the 14:30 mark.

What should the deliverable dates and due dates be for the Goals and Milestones questions?

Please use the end date of the grant for these dates: June 30, 2028. All grants awarded in this cycle will run from July 1, 2027 through June 30, 2028. The date is correctly listed at the top of the question, but the box with instructions erroneously lists 2027 as the end year.