

Date of Submission	Method of Submission	Name	Organization	Program Area or Admin	Question	Response
12/6/23	Procurement Email	Christina Miller	Seven Outsource	Administrative	Whether companies from Outside USA can apply for this? (like, from India or Canada)	Applicants that meet all minimum qualifications for this RFP, including those specific to the area(s) they are interested in, may apply. Please note that most programs in this RFP require an existing presence in the San Francisco Bay Area and/or history of providing services to local residents and businesses.
12/6/23	Procurement Email	Christina Miller	Seven Outsource	Administrative	Whether we need to come over there for meetings?	In-person meetings and service delivery are anticipated for all programs in this RFP.
12/6/23	Procurement Email	Christina Miller	Seven Outsource	Administrative	Can we perform the tasks (related to RFP) outside USA? (like, from India or Canada)	Services must be performed in the target service area, which is San Francisco, CA. Beneficiaries of these programs are local residents, businesses, visitors and other community stakeholders.
12/6/23	Procurement Email	Christina Miller	Seven Outsource	Administrative	Can we submit the proposals via email?	All proposals are required to be submitted via the online application form, found on the RFP 228 website: https://sf.gov/resource/2023/request-proposals-rfp-228
12/11/23	TA Conference	Ani Rivera	Galeria de la Raza	Area I - Mission District Commercial Beautification Program for Storefronts	Is there a specific number of beautification projects applicants should aim to complete 10, 15, or more?	Mural project costs should not exceed \$10k per project. If requesting full funding, a competitive proposal will impact at least 20 buildings.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Candy Marie Bickett	FACES SF	Area U - Small Business Grant Program for Accessible Barrier Removal	Can we submit a bid on behalf of Family Child Care Providers operating as 1099 contractors engaged with FACES SF as contract FCC providers?	To be clear, this Program Area requests proposals from organizations that will administer grants to eligible small businesses across the City. The selected organization(s) may not restrict to one sector, and may not apply with particular awardees in mind as the eligibility criteria and other program requirements are defined by the Office of Small Business.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Candy Marie Bickett	FACES SF	Area U - Small Business Grant Program for Accessible Barrier Removal	Regarding the caveat on subcontractors/subgrantees/subrecipients, could you provide more details on the legal requirements they need to comply with during the grant execution?	Legal entities that are identified as nonprofit subgrantees must be in good standing with the Secretary of State and the Office of Attorney General. Legal entities that are identified as for-profit subgrantees must be in good standing with the Secretary of State. To check your status with the Secretary of State, please visit https://bizfileonline.sos.ca.gov/search/business to search your entity and confirm you are in good standing
12/11/23	TA Conference	Candy Marie Bickett	FACES SF	Area U - Small Business Grant Program for Accessible Barrier Removal	Are there specific considerations for childcare providers who may not be registered as traditional small businesses but are licensed and operate as contractors?	Regarding childcare providers: homebased, licensed childcare providers can be eligible for the Accessible Barrier Removal grant.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Candy Marie Bickett	FACES SF	Area U - Small Business Grant Program for Accessible Barrier Removal	Can you offer guidance on how we can ensure compliance with legal requirements for our subcontractors/subgrantees/subrecipients, especially given our unique structure with Family Child Care Providers?	The direct grantee will be responsible for developing systems to ensure their subgrantees remain in compliance during the life of the project.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Candy Marie Bickett	FACES SF	Area U - Small Business Grant Program for Accessible Barrier Removal	How can we demonstrate the neighborhood connection and understanding of the needs and goals of the neighborhood when our proposed project involves dispersed individual contractors?	Presuming this is related to the evaluation criteria for Community Economic Development Programs, which states "Tier 2 Review – an additional review committee will review and score all proposals on a 50 point scale of how well each meets the district or neighborhood need, project feasibility, and fulfillment of key department priorities, as applicable." Please note that this program area is not subject to Tier 2 scoring and will therefore not be scored on this criteria.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Candy Marie Bickett	FACES SF	Area U - Small Business Grant Program for Accessible Barrier Removal	Are there specific considerations for innovative and creative solutions when the proposed project involves individual contractors rather than larger entities?	Presuming this is related to the evaluation criteria for Community Economic Development Programs, which states "Tier 2 Review – an additional review committee will review and score all proposals on a 50 point scale of how well each meets the district or neighborhood need, project feasibility, and fulfillment of key department priorities, as applicable." Please note that this program area is not subject to Tier 2 scoring and will therefore not be scored on this criteria.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Darice Jones	Hunters Point Family	Area P - Capacity for Latino-serving Community-Based Organization Collaboration, targeting the Latino Community	Is it preferred that an organization that serves people with high barriers that include African American, API, and Latino community members would collaborate with an organization that serves only Latino community members?	This program area is designed to support cross collaboration across Latino-serving organizations. That said, Latino-serving organizations that are part of this collaborative may not exclude clients from receiving services on the basis of race.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Dawn Noelle Smith Beutler	Unknown	Administrative	Does the First Source Hiring Program apply to non-profits?	Yes. It applies to all City contracts in excess of 50k (so, all contracts that cost \$50,000 + 1 penny).
12/11/23	TA Conference	Dawn Noelle Smith Beutler	Unknown	Area P - Capacity for Latino-serving Community-Based Organization Collaboration, targeting the Latino Community	What is the timeline for implementation? I see April 1, 2024 as the start date. These are funds for one year, eligible for renewal if funds are available? (Am I understanding this right?) Short term work plan: April 1, 2024-April 1, 2025 or for less time?	This area is designed to support partnerships, coordination and engagement of the collaborative, in addition to producing a one year work plan for the collaborative as well as how data will be collected from collaborative organizations to highlight community challenges, opportunities and progress made as a collective to further the needs of this population. A sample of eligible activities that may be covered are included on page 78 of the RFP.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Karin Flood	The Flood Building	Area A - Union Square Market Hall	This would likely be a collaboration between a property owner, a developer and a market organizer. Who is the ideal applicant of these entities considering the requirements and criteria of the grant.	We are seeking an operator for the market hall, but any combination of owner/operator/developer is welcome to apply as a team that includes the potential operator. If someone other than the property owner applies, they will need a Letter of Intent with the property owner.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Karin Flood	The Flood Building	Area B - Union Square Tenant Attraction	Who is the ideal applicant here - would this be a broker or team of brokers with experience in retail, food, hospitality for example or a local neighborhood non-profit. I am not clear on what the funds would go toward even after your description of the process. Also if a broker how they would meet the requirements of a diverse board. Where could this come in? Please explain. Thank you.	We are looking for someone who will actually take on the task of finding the tenant(s), so it could be another community organization, or it could be somebody who has engaged with with brokers and landlords in Union Square. The reference to the diverse board is as to how they create the selection panel. We're looking for the awardee to create a selection panel, with support from the City, that can ultimately decide on the tenants and then ultimately to pass through funding to the selected tenant(s) which can go towards startup costs for the actual tenant(s) who move in.

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12/11/23	Procurement Email	Michelle Wong	Queer Art Fair	Administrative	We are a for-profit organization applying for the program, Sunset Outdoor Street Food Night Market Project , which says it's looking for for-profit or non-profit companies. Looking at the application, there seems to only be fields for non-profits, as there are required fields such as "Board Members". Can you offer some assistance on how to send in our application for this program?	Please make sure you are not applying to an area that restricts competition to nonprofit entities. For questions that you are unable to answer due to your for-profit status (e.g. your Board), you may list "Not Applicable - For-profit entity" as your response. This will be taken into consideration by the review panel for all areas that allow for-profit entities to compete. Further, in submitting your budget, please do provide a detailed cost reimbursement budget on the required template, even if your firm prefers to ultimately bill based on a loaded hourly rate. If awarded a grant under this RFP, your grant boilerplate, found in Appendix C, will be amended in accordance with your entity type (e.g. you will not be subject to Chapter 12L of the administrative code). Finally, certain financial or other proprietary information submitted as part of your proposal will be redacted prior to providing it as a response to any public information requests.
12/11/23	TA Conference	Tom Martorelli	Unknown	Administrative	If an organization wants to provide staff for a collaboration of nonprofit organizations (including those that received mini-grant funds) to address a program area, is it possible for those workers to be hired by any organization in the collaboration, or must they be employees of the nonprofit that is applying for funding?	There are probably two options here: the first would be to include your organization as party to the proposal and assign qualified staff to work on your behalf. Another would be to have qualified individuals serve as 1099 contractors to another organization. In the second example, you would just need to make sure to deconflict their work hours with time they are working with your organization.
12/13/23	Procurement Email	Terri Le	MEDA	Area S - Small Business Incubation Program Grants	Will the established mini-grants for this program have to be open to graduates from other incubator programs or just graduates from our incubator program?	This program would only be open to graduates of the applicant's incubator program, not for graduates from other incubator programs outside of the organization providing the mini grant program. Please ensure that your existing incubation program meets the criteria beginning on page 89 of the RFP.
12/14/23	Email to Diana/Rafa	Derrick Figueras	API Legal Outreach	Area F - Japantown Public Safety Interventions	Can you confirm that the funding amount for Program Area F is \$300k for 15 months?	Correct - The allocation for Area F is \$300k for 15 months. This is one time funding.
12/15/23	Procurement Email	Laurence Jones	Children's Council of San Francisco	Area S - Small Business Incubation Program Grants	Children's Council primarily supports Home-Based Childcare Business, which may not always have a first floor storefront. We were curious to whether Home Based Childcare businesses would still qualify for grantees being served under Program Area S.	This area specifically requires that incubated businesses will be established in storefronts. Home-based businesses would not qualify. Typically, storefronts are located in commercial areas and are accessible to the public. If a childcare business will be graduating from a training program and will move into a new commercial storefront, it would be eligible.
12/18/23	Procurement Email	Graham Todd	Litquake Foundation	Area O - Geary Arts Venue Marketing and Activations	Is there a preference between a series of smaller-scale events running over a longer period of time vs. a larger-scale event with a shorter event window?	Preferred events are curated over the span of the grant cycle, creating on-going foot traffic and small business patronage. With that said, all proposals will be considered regardless of event scale or frequency. Budget requests should be submitted commensurate with the scale of programming proposed.
12/18/23	Procurement Email	Graham Todd	Litquake Foundation	Area O - Geary Arts Venue Marketing and Activations	Are the hotels in the area viable venue options? Or are smaller businesses preferred? Do bars qualify as public space?	Ideally these events take place in the public realm where there are small businesses and theaters nearby. As noted in the RFP, "Activations" means implementing programming in public and quasi-public spaces (i.e. storefront businesses) so as to create a critical mass of activity and foot traffic.
12/18/23	Procurement Email	Graham Todd	Litquake Foundation	Area O - Geary Arts Venue Marketing and Activations	Does Union Square (park) qualify as within the desired service area? Does Grace Cathedral (California Street)?	Union Square does qualify. Grace Cathedral does not qualify.
12/18/23	Procurement Email	Matthew Graves	MOHCD	Unknown	Can the funds be used for build-out of new tenant retail spaces? We have developers that struggle to attract new retail tenants because our funds cannot cover the cost of build-out. If these funds can fund that build-out, it would be a huge help getting non-profits into retail spaces at Affordable Housing sites.	OEWD contacted this person to request clarification on which program area(s) they are asking about and received no response. As such, we are unable to answer this question.
12/18/23	Sent to Procurement email, not received; forwarded timestamped message to Marissa	Susan Walsh	Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance	Administrative	We are applying for RFP #228-O: Geary Arts Venue Marketing and Activations. If we want to apply as a non-profit does that mean that our Fiscal Sponsor, the Study Center, has to apply as the Primary applicant or can we apply as the primary listing the Study Center as the Fiscal Sponsor.	The agency that will hold the contractual and financial relationship with the City needs to be the primary applicant. If your fiscal sponsor typically holds that role for you, you would use them as the primary applicant.
12/18/23	Sent to Procurement email, not received; forwarded	Susan Walsh	Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance	Administrative	If we so choose can we apply simply as a for profit organization since we are not ourselves yet a 501(c)(3), and thus as the primary. If we do so can we indicate that we do have a fiscal sponsor?	As noted in the RFP, Program Area O is open to both nonprofit and for-profit applicants. If you typically have a fiscal sponsor administering contracts for you, it may be to your benefit to have them apply as the Primary Applicant. You may also choose to apply and hold the grant directly, if you have the experience and capacity to administer grants.
12/18/23	Sent to Procurement email, not received; forwarded timestamped message to Marissa	Susan Walsh	Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance	Administrative	Is there an advantage of applying through our Fiscal Sponsor and if we so do are considered a sub-grantee?	The only advantage I can think of is that we would consider the fiscal sponsor's financial health and fiscal capacity instead of your own. Without knowing the circumstances of your organization, I can't opine as to whether you would be in a better position to apply under a fiscal. If you apply with them as the primary applicant, you would indeed be a subgrantee.

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12/18/23	Sent to Procurement email, not received; forwarded timestamped message to Marissa	Susan Walsh	Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance	Administrative	If we apply through our Fiscal Sponsor what part of the application is about them or about us? We are going to run the program, they are just going to take care of the financial part of the responsibilities.	<i>The application begins with Section 1, by asking questions that the entity holding the contract will have to complete. If you state that you are operating under a fiscal sponsor on page 5 of the online application, the form will open up an additional set of questions for you to answer about your own organization. Most of the questions starting in Section 2 (Project Description) and Section 3 (Performance Measurement and Reporting) would be best answered by the entity delivering the services (you). In Section IV, if your fiscal sponsor will be holding the contractual obligation, we would need information about their fiscal operations. In any case, your fiscal should be involved in developing the application content as they will need to sign off on the accuracy of the information in order to submit the application on your behalf.</i>
12/18/23	Sent to Procurement email, not received; forwarded timestamped message to	Susan Walsh	Lower Nob Hill Neighborhood Alliance	Administrative	What we are not completely clear on is if we go through our fiscal sponsor in the application process are they responsible for running the project or are we?	<i>The entity in contract with the city holds the obligation for ensuring the grant deliverables are completed. Typically, the program lead works directly with the city on the programmatic elements and fiscal sponsors work with the city on signing the agreement, submitting accurate and timely invoices, conducting fiscal audits, etc – that said, fiscal sponsors have varying degrees of involvement on the program end. I do not know the nature of your relationship with your fiscal sponsor so I cannot opine as to how involved they will want to be with the project.</i>
12/19/23	Procurement Email	Desi Danganan	Kultivate Labs	Area S - Small Business Incubation Program Grants	For Program Area S, there is a requirement of "Nonprofit organizations eligible to apply must have a minimum of 3 years remaining on their existing lease or own a physical facility for purposes of incubating entrepreneurs and small businesses." My question is, does OEWD expect the small businesses incubated must take Technical Assistance workshops from this facility and/or conduct business from this facility (ie a food hall).	<i>The potentially awarded businesses incubated do not need to be receiving the workshops at the nonprofit's leased/owned facility that supports incubation. However, in order to qualify they must be part of the business incubation program with the nonprofit and have incubated at a minimum between 6-12 months.</i> <i>However, the nonprofit's incubation program must provide both the TA and a facility that serves to incubate the business.</i> <i>The nonprofit should have a site that they manage for small business incubation, where businesses run their operations out of that facility. This must be part of the nonprofit's program.</i>
12/19/23	Procurement Email	Desi Danganan	Kultivate Labs	Area S - Small Business Incubation Program Grants	For Program Area S, is there a preferred area in the City that small businesses should be located to be incubated? IE SOMA businesses vs Mission businesses.	<i>There is no preferred area for incubation of small businesses.</i>
12/19/23	Procurement Email	Desi Danganan	Kultivate Labs	Area S - Small Business Incubation Program Grants	For Program Area S, is there an ideal number of small businesses that should be incubated?	<i>While we don't have an ideal number of businesses that should be incubated, the incubation program should include the following:</i> <i>Highly competitive applicants will have more than five-year experience implementing small business incubation programs.</i> <i>no less than 80% of funds must be in direct grants to small businesses through a minigrant program.</i>
12/19/23	Procurement Email	Desi Danganan	Kultivate Labs	Area S - Small Business Incubation Program Grants	For Program Area S, is there a prefer of the type of business to be incubated. For example, Food vs Health & Wellness?	<i>Preferred type of business is one that will operate in a previously vacant commercial storefront open to the public whose revenue model can be sustained.</i>
12/19/23	Procurement Email	Jessica Mataka	SFHDC	Area S - Small Business Incubation Program Grants	I understand the intention of the funding area is to support businesses in opening new storefronts. Is there a possibility of businesses utilizing the mini grant funds to purchase a food truck with a documented agreement to vend at a specific location(s)? Or would it be possible for our organization to use a portion of the grant funds (beyond the 80% reserved for mini grants) to purchase a food truck that can be used as a business incubator truck?	<i>It would be possible to use a portion of the grant funds (beyond the 80% reserved for mini grants) to award additional business grants.</i>
12/19/23	Procurement Email	Scott Mosier	Tartine Bakery	Unknown	I was wondering if there is still time to apply or if you had any advise on the process to apply / if Tartine would be a good fit for the program.	<i>The proposal submission deadline is January 17, 2024 by 5:00P.M. Our team would be happy to support you with any questions you have about the application process, and you may submit specific questions in writing to owd.procurement@sfgov.org if you would like help determining if your proposed program is a fit for the service area(s) you are interested in. You may also attend one of our drop-in Technical Assistance sessions, which are offered online (via Zoom). The drop-in Technical Assistance sessions are listed on the RFP 228 website at: https://www.sf.gov/resource/2023/request-proposals-rfp-228</i>
12/21/23	Email to Sarah	Karin Flood	The Flood Building	Area B - Union Square Tenant Attraction	Could a café apply for these funds and have a realistic chance of being considered? We could be in a position to sign an MOU by January 17 but it may be tight with the holidays.	<i>The RFP is expressly looking for a multi tenant operator so any applicant that is not proposing a multi tenant space would likely not meet the desired intent of the RFP. That being said, OEWD does have a Storefront Opportunities Grant that may be another interesting opportunity for businesses looking to open in SF to explore.</i>
12/21/23	Procurement Email	Tammy	Unknown	Area A - Union Square Market Hall and Area B - Union Square Tenant Attraction	Who at "the city" determined that funds should go to a "marketplace" and to a brokerage firm and to Big Belly trash cans? I would appreciate a specific name and contact information.	<i>City grant funds must be awarded according to a fair and open competitive process, with very limited exceptions. The funds included in the 21 program areas within RFP #228 come from a variety of City and non-City sources, and scopes of work are drafted, reviewed and approved by multiple parties prior to release to ensure they meet the standards of providing fair and open competition to eligible applicants.</i>

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12/21/23	Procurement Email	Tammy	Unknown	Area A - Union Square Market Hall and Area B - Union Square Tenant Attraction	<p>Is this RFP in lieu of the \$2 million Mayor Breed and the Board of Supervisors promised to the Powell Street property owners? I suspect the answer is yes, but would appreciate confirmation since this money is not being directed where it was originally intended.</p>	<p><i>In a press release in the Spring, there was \$2M noted for a "public-private approach to filling vacant storefronts on Powell Street".</i></p> <p><i>That press release misstated the amount (which ended up being \$1.8M). There was also an unexpected budget deficit requiring midyear cuts. This reduced this allocation by an additional \$500k. So, the total allocation landed at \$1.3M.</i></p> <p><i>The press release stated that this funding intended to "... incentivize and jumpstart up to 10 new tenancies in storefronts along Powell Street. They could be used to help subsidize costly tenant improvements or provide direct subsidy to other aspects of a new business' start-up costs."</i></p> <p><i>Once OEWD received the money in our budget, we worked to develop a procurement (RFP #228, Program Areas A and B) that would support the intended goals of the funding. This process involved researching the size of individual vacancies (primarily very large spaces), the current cost of tenant improvements (quite high), and the city's goals to attract a diversity of businesses to support our economic recovery. Based on all of this information, a team of staff developed the two program areas in RFP #228, determining that together they would help to achieve the primary goals for this funding and the city's economic recovery.</i></p> <p><i>If OEWD receives competitive proposals under RFP #228 for one or both of these program areas, we may be able to award more than the \$1M in this RFP (up to the \$1.3M allocation), or we may elect to use the remaining \$300k to support existing economic recovery interventions.</i></p>
12/29/23	Procurement Email	Kelly Mitchell	The Good Rural	Area T - Small Business Relief Grant Administration and Area U - Small Business Grant Program for Accessible Barrier Removal	<p>"As this is a cost-reimbursement grant, qualified applicants must have the financial capacity to cover fund disbursements totaling on average \$50,000 per month."</p> <p>Our question is this: Will the grant provide for an up-front advance to establish funds for disbursement, in order to begin the facilitation of funds.</p>	<p><i>OEWD may be able to negotiate an advance if it makes sense for the program. However, while we may be able to do an advance, applicants to these program areas would need to demonstrate that they meet the minimum qualifications stated in the RFP in order to qualify. Advances are not guaranteed.</i></p>