



I BE  BLACK GIRL

I Be Black Girl Gives
2022 Request for Proposals





I Be Black Girl (IBBG) is a reproductive justice organization that leads with boldness, innovation and inspiration, actively creating a radical, change-making culture that centers Black women, femmes and girls. Inspired by the work of bell hooks, Alice Walker, Audre Lorde and other Black feminists and womanists, our organization provides transformational change at the intersections of gender and race.

The term “I Be,” framed by author bell hooks in her book “Be Boy Buzz”, inspired I Be Black Girl’s founder to fill spaces with what it means to exist as a Black woman, femme or girl—where we are free to define and own that narrative.

MISSION

IBBG serves as a collective for Black women, femmes and girls to actualize their full potential to authentically be, through autonomy, abundance and liberation.

VISION

We know that we are the energy and essence and deserve a world where Black women, femmes and girls live in wholeness.

VALUES

Black-centric. Bold. Audacious.

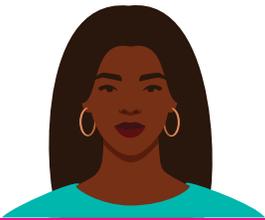
I Be Black Girl Gives (IBBGives) is a giving circle, and serves as a platform for Black women to give in a meaningful way. Voting members are Black women who invested \$150 or more in the previous year and collectively decide which projects are funded. IBBG allies and partners also contribute to the available grant funds.

IBBGives is pleased to issue our Year 4 Request for Proposals! In 2022, IBBGives will issue up to \$15,000 in grants and awards to projects that support Black women, femmes, and girls.

IBBGives adheres to the non-discrimination policy of our fiscal sponsor, the Women's Fund of Omaha which states that:

...does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, gender identity, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation, or economic status, in any of its grants, programs, activities and employment. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, grantees, clients, volunteers, subcontractors and partners.





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



APPLICATION QUESTIONS

What are the criteria for a successful grant application?

We prioritize projects that serve and are led by at least 75% Black women, femmes, and girls.

Based on research done by [Grantmakers for Girls of Color](#), we are interested in projects that reflect the following priorities and guiding principles:

- Increase support for basic necessities and critical supportive services
- Focus on innovative health and wellness support
- Focus on educational equity and opportunity
- Have ongoing engagement with girls and young women (youth-led initiatives)
- Emphasize resilience, not deficits
- Recognize historical, demographic and political context
- Are collective in nature and not competitive

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must be organizations/projects serving Black women, femmes, and girls in Omaha. Applicants do not have to be affiliated with a 501c3 nonprofit organization to apply for funding. Program budgets should not exceed \$50,000. For a list of previous grantees, [visit the IBBG website](#).

Organizations and those leading community projects of all sizes and capacities (especially small, grassroots efforts) are strongly encouraged to apply! If you have questions about eligibility, email jay@ibeblackgirl.org.

What can I do to prepare my application?

Applicants are highly encouraged to read Part 1 of IBBG's groundbreaking research, [The Essence of Us](#). The report is a strengths-based approach to understanding what Black women, femmes and girls in Omaha want and need to reach their full potential. Based on the report, IBBG will fund projects that:

- Focus outreach efforts on Black women, femmes, and girls with programming geared towards providing emotional support, enhancing cultural pride, and leadership development;
- Create opportunities for Black women and young people to engage in advocacy and organizing efforts;
- Are community-level initiatives designed to educate the broader population on the cultural gradience of Black women, femmes, and girls with the intent to reduce stigma and increase affirmation.



APPLICATION QUESTIONS CONT.

Any resources as I work on my application?

[Essence of Us](#) - this report details the needs of Black women, femmes, and girls in the Omaha metro and can be a guide as you prepare your application.

[Introduction to Proposal Writing](#) - A free, self-paced workshop that provides basic grant writing.

Where can I access the application?

[Applications will be submitted online and can be accessed here.](#) See pages 6 and 7 of this RFP for the application questions. You are encouraged to prepare your answers in a separate document prior to completing the online application.

When is the grant application due?

Applications are due by **August 26th at midnight CST.** No late applications will be accepted.

What is the limit for grant funding requests?

Grant requests should not exceed \$5,000. Incomplete applications or requests that do not meet the criteria outlined above will not be considered.

What is the grant timeline?

Online application open	<u>August 1</u>
Applications due	<u>August 26</u>
Grant review by IBBGives	<u>September 1st - 22nd</u>
Grant decisions + notifications	<u>Week of October 3</u>

ONLINE APPLICATION LINK - No late applications accepted!

When will grant notifications be made?

Results of the grant selections will be announced one month after applications are due.

What are the requirements after funding is granted?

If your request is funded, you will be required to submit a brief report once funds are expended or at the end of the grant term (whichever comes first.)

ORGANIZATION QUESTIONS

Does the organization need to be exclusively led by Black women or a majority?

No, funded projects must serve and be led by at least 75% Black women, femmes, and girls.

Do funded organizations need to be registered 501c3s?

There is no 501c3 registration requirement for funded organizations. IBBGives is focused on removing any barriers to the community work that is needed.

Can organizations apply for more than one year?

Yes, you can apply every year the Giving Circle is open, although there are no guarantees that projects will be funded each year.



PROJECT QUESTIONS

Are there any projects that will not be funded?

Projects that will not be funded:

- Projects that solely benefit an individual (i.e., tuition, participation fees)
- For-profit businesses or endeavors
- Religious organizations
- Programs that require adherence to or acceptance of a particular religious belief
- Programs that require participation in a religious service or activity
- Fundraising events
- Organizations that discriminate based on any individual traits
- Pass through funds or regranteeing of these funds
- Organization level operating grants

Will community-focused projects be considered?

Yes, the giving circle grants are for programs and projects that have a social impact/ community intention for Black women, femmes and girls.

Can an organization submit more than one project?

Yes, organizations can submit more than one project. However, we will fund only one project from the same organization. Consider submitting the project that best aligns with the IBBG mission and vision instead.

What are the qualities of funded projects?

Funding is solely based on the voting members who review eligible applications and decide on the projects they would like to support for the year. Successful applicants highlight the following:

- Clear statement of the need being addressed
- Clear statement of how the project will address the need
- The impact of the project on the community with numbers
- Milestones that will be pursued in the funding year

A list of previously funded projects can be found on Page 8.

Is there a deadline for project completion?

The grant term is November 1, 2022 - October 31, 2023. Projects do not have to run the full grant term but must be completed before the end of the grant term.

SELECTION QUESTIONS

How are funding decisions made?

Funding decisions will be made and communicated by the week of October 3. IBBGives voting members will rank the applications and the collective ranking will determine which grants receive funding.

Eligible applications will be available to voting members who review the applications and then vote. The projects with the highest votes are funded.

How do I become a voting member?

IBBGives voting members are black women, femmes, and girls who invest \$150 or more in IBBGives between January and December. See the link for more information.

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS

I have a business opportunity, is there any funding available?

While IBBGives is focused on community-based social projects, The Catalyst is a part of our portfolio that is focused on supporting Black women, femmes, and girls as they realize their entrepreneurial and business goals.

If I have questions, who do I reach out to?

For application-related questions, please email jay@ibeblackgirl.org - we'll do our best to respond within three business days.



GRANT APPLICATION QUESTIONS

REMINDER: All applications must be submitted online.

The questions are below, and you're encouraged to prepare your answers prior to completing the online application.

Applications are due by August 26 at midnight CST.

General Information:

- Name of Organization
- Name of Project
- Primary point of contact + contact info
- Website and/or social media links with more information about the program/project
- If your organization is affiliated with a 501c3, please enter your tax ID number.
- Amount Requested - Maximum request is \$5,000 (only ask for what you need!)

Program Overview:

Most answers are limited to 300 words or less. As you fill out the application, there is a word count under each answer box for ease.

- Is this a new or existing program? If existing, when did the program start?
- You are taking an elevator to the 5th floor of a building and someone asks you about this project. How would you describe your project to an interested party on elevator ride in a minute or less? (200 words or less!)
- Describe the problem you are trying to solve or need you are trying to address. Why is this issue important?
- **Project Description:** The project description should include:
 - Goals and objectives
 - Detailed description of the activities that will be funded
 - Project deliverables
 - Project location
 - Participant fee (if applicable)
- How many people will be served by this program/project? What percentage of program participants will be black women and/or girls?
- What other people/programs/organizations will you collaborate with for this project and how?
- One-page timeline of the proposed project/program (**November 1, 2022 - October 31, 2023.**) Projects/programs do not have to run the full grant term but must happen within those dates. You will be able to upload a file in any format for this question.



Budget:

- **Project Budget:** This should be a line-item budget detailing the expenses and sources of revenue (i.e. other ways your project is funded.) The amount you are requesting from IBBGives should be reflected in the budget as a source of revenue. You will be able to upload a file in any format for this question.
- If the program budget exceeds the amount requested, how will the program be funded?

Leadership:

- We prioritize projects and programs that are led by Black women. Who will lead this project? Tell us a little about them and their background.
- Copy of Board of Directors list (or those that are leading the project). You will be able to upload a file in any format for this question.

Impact:

- How will you know if your project is successful? What impact are you trying to have on the community? How will you measure it?
- If this is an existing program, please share your previous successes and any data you have.

Additional information:

- What else would you like to share as we consider this request?
- **Optional Attachments:** You can attach up to three documents of your choice. This could include recent publications, news articles, letters of support, client testimonials and other relevant materials about your organization.



IBBGIVES PREVIOUS GRANTEES

Year 1 (2019-2020)

- [Curls on the Block](#)
- [Empower Me - Alyssa's Piano Studio](#)
- [Ladies in Information Technology \(LIIT\)](#)
- [Peace of Mine Self Care Retreat](#)
- [My Sister's Keeper](#)
- [The Keys Foundation/Confidently Me Mentoring Program](#)

Year 2 (2020-2021)

- [I Heartbeat Dance](#)
- [Ladies in Information Technology \(LIIT\)](#)
- [Metro Omaha Women's Business Center](#)
- [Wonderfully Made](#)
- Collision
- Smart Girls Travel Foundation
- [The Keys Foundation](#)

Year 3 (2021-2022)

- [Art Bus](#)
- [Touch of Gold](#)
- [Room for Roots - Priscilla's Way](#)
- [Omaha Black Doula Association](#)
- [Ladies in Information Technology \(LIIT\)](#)
- [Wonderfully Made](#)

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