

Every Voice, Every Vote 2024 grant guidelines

OVERVIEW

In 2022, The Lenfest Institute for Journalism launched **Every Voice, Every Vote (EVEV)**, the largest grant-funded, citywide, collaborative community and journalism project of its kind in the United States. Through the EVEV initiative, a coalition of community groups and media organizations formed and played a critical role in the elevation of Philadelphia's diverse voices, informing voters, and promoting civic action around the 2023 City of Philadelphia elections.

EVEV brought newsrooms, community organizations, and Philadelphia residents together to address our city's most pressing needs. Our goal was to ensure that the issues that matter most to all of Philadelphia's communities were front and center in newsrooms, public debate, and candidate platforms.

As we move into the next phase of this work, The Lenfest Institute for Journalism's **EVEV** initiative will evolve into a sustained, coordinated, citywide effort to improve and broaden civic information and journalism about city government activities and their impact on people's lives.

Our mission is to inspire Philadelphia residents to play an active role in strengthening local government accountability and boosting civic engagement. Through the continued work of our coalition of community and media partners, we will invest in efforts that keep Philadelphians informed about city government and provide consistent access to credible and trusted information that catalyzes civic engagement.

Eligible organizations will be able to apply for grant funding ranging from \$10,000 to \$150,000. The grant term will run from May 2024 through November 2025.

Media Partners

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Philadelphia-based media outlets of all kinds— community-based media, ethnic media, neighborhood-specific media, legacy and traditional media, public media, producing print, digital, radio, and television content – are encouraged to apply for community-centered journalism projects related to civic life in Philadelphia.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Preference will be given to projects that incorporate one or more of the following funding priorities:

- [Solutions](#), [service](#), data, [engaged](#), and government accountability journalism
- Civic literacy products (policy guides, government explainers, etc.)
- Collaborative community engagement activities with Community Partners
- Translation services
- Projects focusing on one or more of the following issue areas:
 - Public safety
 - Education
 - Economic opportunities
 - Affordable housing
 - Homelessness
 - Sustainability

TYPES OF GRANTS

Funds may be used to develop and/or implement a specific set of programmatic activities. Projects may include but are not limited to:

- Solutions journalism focused on key issues important to Philadelphia communities.
- Service journalism about how Philadelphia's government works and ways citizens can engage in civic life.
- Data journalism that illustrates the scope and depth of key issues and tracks the progress of government action on those issues.
- Engaged journalism that builds strong relationships between newsrooms and communities and provides a platform for communities to share their stories about key issues and local government.
- Translation services or multi-lingual products, services, or activities.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Funded projects must be fact-based and non-partisan. Funding cannot be used for opinion pieces.
- Content produced through the funded project must be made available to audiences free of charge (outside of paywalls).
- Content produced through the funded project must be made available for republishing on the aggregate project site.
- Content produced through the funded project must include project branding and acknowledgment when it appears on the outlet's own channels.
- Content produced through the funded project must disclose support from project supporters.

Community Partners

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Organizations must be located within Philadelphia County and/or primarily serve Philadelphia residents.
- Must be a 501(c)3 nonprofit or fiscally sponsored organization whose mission, programs, or services are designed to address the needs of underrepresented communities in Philadelphia defined by geography, identities, or issues.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Preference will be given to projects that incorporate one or more of the following funding priorities:

- Projects/events/activities focused on the following:
 - Civic education/literacy: Local government structure
 - Engaging residents in conversation/discussion on local government issues, policies, and solutions
 - Community insight/evaluation of city government initiatives, efforts, and policies
- Civic resources and information
- Projects focusing on one or more of the following issue areas:
 - Public safety
 - Education
 - Economic opportunities
 - Affordable housing
 - Homelessness
 - Sustainability

TYPES OF GRANTS

Funds may be used to develop and/or implement a specific set of programmatic activities. Projects may include but are not limited to:

- Education on how the city government is structured to address these issues. This might involve explaining the roles of different branches of government (executive, legislative, etc.), relevant departments, and agencies responsible for tackling these priorities.
- Partner with local government agencies to share information about city plans, initiatives, and opportunities for residents to get involved. This could include presentations from city officials, Q&A sessions, or updates on ongoing projects.

- Create opportunities for residents to share their experiences, concerns, and ideas for improving the city.
- Foster connections among residents, media, and community organizations. Encourage collaboration and networking to strengthen community bonds and collective action.
- Translation services or multi-lingual products, services, or activities.

How to apply

If you have not previously applied for a grant from The Lenfest Institute via Fluxx, please [click here](#) and create an account. An administrator will validate your account via email and send you a link to create your password for your grantee account. After your password is set and your account is created, you will be brought to the grantee portal.