

Columbus Youth Climate Action Fund Application Form

This application is for youth-led initiatives that will address climate challenges in the City of Columbus. Applications are due by 5 pm on March 15, 2025 to be considered for the first round of awards on Earth Day. After March 15, applications will remain open and awards will continue on a rolling basis until funds run out.

To ensure availability of funds and sufficient time for project completion, applicants are encouraged to submit applications as early as possible. Applicants not selected for funding can receive feedback and re-submit their applications if funding is still available.

Grant projects should target completion by **October 31, 2025**, but extensions to the end of 2025 may be requested.

How to apply:

- Read the program guidance
- Download this PDF
- Answer the questions digitally on the PDF
- Send the completed PDF to ycaf@columbus.gov with the email subject line: **[Your Project Title] – YCAF Application**

Contact us with questions at ycaf@columbus.gov or 614-645-6992.

Section 1. About You

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Group/organization name | |
| Group/organization mission statement/purpose | |
| Group/organization website and/or social media handles (if applicable) | |
| Project name | |
| Total funds requested | |
| Youth project lead contact | Name: |
| | Age: |
| | Email: |
| | Phone Number: |
| Names and ages of two additional youth leads or participants | Name: |
| | Age: |
| | Name: |
| | Age: |

Funds must be disbursed to a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a bank account and ability to receive grant funds. Please choose one of the following –

- ☐ We are an incorporated 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a bank account in our name
- ☐ We are not a 501(c)(3) but we have an incorporated 501(c)(3) non-profit fiscal sponsor

If you need help finding a fiscal sponsor please contact us for guidance.

If you have a sponsor –

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Name of sponsoring organization | |
| Contact information | Name: |
| | Email: |
| | Phone Number: |

Section 2. About the Project

1. Our project proposal supports the following Columbus Climate Action Plan program area (select all that apply):

View the [Climate Action Plan](#) or visit the Sustainable Columbus [website](#) for more information!

- ☐ **Empowering the community the “Columbus Way”:** Builds or supports community collaboration, education, awareness, and/or leadership to climate action
- ☐ **Sustainable Neighborhoods and Environment:** Supports climate resilient neighborhoods or a healthy environment
- ☐ **Buildings and Energy:** Promotes renewable energy or energy efficiency in residential, commercial, or community buildings
- ☐ **Transportation:** Supports mode shift to bikes, scooters, and public transportation or promotes zero emission vehicles
- ☐ **Waste Reduction:** Reduces waste generated or sent to the landfill

Not sure if your project fits? Contact us!

2. **Project summary statement**

Provide a one-sentence description of your project.

3. **How does your project represent a new initiative for your organization?**

Projects must be new to be eligible. Max 100 words.

4. **Provide a description of your project.** *Include a description of the problem or issue you are addressing and how this project will make a positive impact. Make sure to include how the project supports the Columbus Climate Action Plan priorities selected in the first question. Max 200 words.*

5. **Create a timeline and outline the specific steps and activities that will be undertaken.** *Projects should target completion by 10/31/25 but may be extended to year-end with approval. Max 300 words.*

- 6. In what neighborhood or community is this project located, and how is the community impacted by climate change?** *Climate impacts may include heat, drought, flooding, and air pollution.*

Max 150 words.

- 7. Tell us about your team and team member roles.**

How will youth lead, implement, and/or be served by this project? Include information on your team's diversity of skills, strengths and perspectives. Max 200 words.

- 8. What challenges do you anticipate? How will you overcome them?**

Questions to consider: Are there any approvals your organization needs? What level of support will you need from mentors or volunteers? Max 200 words.

9. Do you need additional support to implement your project? If so, please describe.

Max 150 words.

10. Does your project require long-term maintenance beyond the term of the grant? If so, describe your plan to sustain the project.

Max 150 words.

11. Provide at least one output and one outcome of your project.

Outputs are quantifiable results of your project (e.g. number of trees planted). Outcomes are the impacts and effects of your activities (e.g. neighborhood cooling from increased tree shade). Max 100 words.

12. Is there anything else you want us to know about your project, organization, or team?

Max 150 words.

Optional Attachments:

- **Photos**
- **Letters of support**

Section 4. Declaration

By submitting this application, we agree to comply with the terms and conditions of the Youth Climate Action Fund and commit to using the microgrant funds transparently to advance our project's objectives.

Youth Project Lead Signature: _____ Date: _____

Fiscal Lead Contact Signature: _____ Date: _____

(if applicable)

A typed name and date will be sufficient for signature.

Important! Budget on next page must also be completed!

Section 3. Budget

13. TOTAL microgrant request:

14. Budget breakdown: *Applicants can receive between \$1,000 and \$5,000.*

| Purchase/Activity | Cost | How costs were determined |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------|
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