The Rockefeller Foundation | OpenAI Foundation

Cities Deliver: AI Solutions for Public Services
Eligibility Screening & Round 1 Proposal

Eligibility Screener

Person Submitting Application

1. **Fist and last name**
2. **Title**
3. **Work email**
4. **Are you submitting on behalf of an organization (not as an individual)?** Please confirm that you are submitting on behalf of an organization, not an individual, and that you are authorized to submit on your organization's behalf. Please also confirm that your organization can legally receive grant funds and participate fully in the Open Call under the laws of the jurisdiction(s) in which it operates.
   - ☐ Yes
   - ☐ No

Applicant Organization

1. **Organization legal name.**
2. **Country of registration.**
3. **Country / countries of operation (if different from country of registration).**
4. **Organization website.**
5. **Which category does your organization fall into? What is the legal status of your organization? NOTE: You will be required to submit documentation verifying your organization's legal status when you submit a Round 1 Proposal.**

   Category 1:
   - Organization with 501(c)(3) status or an equivalency determination, including university departments or labs, and fiscally sponsored organizations.

   Category 2:
   - Nonprofit organizations without 501(c)(3) status, equivalency determination or fiscal sponsor
   - Public benefit corporation
   - For-profit company

6. [If applicable]
   - Name of fiscal sponsor
   - Legal status of fiscal sponsor
7. **At the time of Round 1 Proposal submission, will you have a letter of intent signed by a relevant government official confirming that your government partner is committed to collaborating with you on this project?** *The letter must be signed by an official with authority over the relevant service area — for example, a Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chief Data Officer, Chief Technology Officer, or agency head. It must include the name of your organization, the name of the agency, and the name and contact information of the government official signing the letter. It must indicate that the agency supports your application to Cities Deliver and supports the AI solution if you receive funding through the open call.*
   - ☐ Yes
   - ☐ No
8. **Is your organization headquartered, registered, or operating in, or is your project located in, a country or territory subject to comprehensive sanctions administered by the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of**

Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)?

9. Is your organization, or any member of your leadership team, a party subject to OFAC's Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN) List or any other applicable sanctions or debarment list?
10. **Awardees are required to openly license and publish the software, models, and documentation developed with grant funds under an open-source license acceptable to RFCC, so that other organizations can adopt and adapt the work. This requirement does not extend to pre-existing intellectual property, third-party materials you cannot sublicense, personal or sensitive data, or materials whose release would create a security risk. Other exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis. Is your organization willing to meet this requirement?**
11. **Is your organization, or any member of your leadership team, The Rockefeller Foundation or OpenAI Foundation personnel, or a related party of such personnel?** *"Personnel" includes all trustees, directors, officers, and staff of either Foundation, as well as non-trustee members of the Investment Committee. "Related party" includes any living spouse, domestic partner, parent or stepparent, grandparent, sibling or half-sibling and their spouses, child, grandchild or great-grandchild and their spouses, or any other family member or individual with whom there is an intimate personal and/or economic relationship.*
12. **Does your organization, related entities, and/or controlling members have a current or potential business relationship with OpenAI Group PBC or any of its affiliates?**

    ☐ Yes
    ☐ No
    If yes please describe

13. **Organizations whose proposed project aims to influence the outcome of an election, and organizations led by an individual who is a candidate in a public election, are not eligible to participate.**

    ☐ I confirm that my proposed project is not related to voting and elections.
    ☐ I confirm that no member of the applicant organization's leadership team will be a candidate in a public election during the grant term.
    ☐ I confirm that our project does not aim to influence the outcome of an election on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate.

14. **Can your organization designate a project lead who is 18 years of age or older and able to participate in cohort convenings and learning sessions conducted in English?**

    ☐ Yes
    ☐ No

15. **All application materials must be submitted in English. Can your organization submit all materials in English?**

    ☐ Yes
    ☐ No

16. **Depending on your organization type, the following materials will be required.** Please confirm your organization will be able to provide them if asked.

    ☐ I confirm that by Round 1 Proposal submission I will provide documents verifying the legal status of my organization and a letter of intent (or equivalent) from my city government partner, as described in the table below.
    ☐ I confirm that by Round 2 Proposal submission I will be able to provide additional documents as described in the table below.

Category 1: Organization with 501(c)(3) status or international equivalent as evidenced by an equivalency determination, including university departments or labs, and fiscally sponsored organizations. Category 2: Nonprofit organizations without 501(c)(3) status, equivalency determination or fiscal sponsor; public benefit corporation; for-profit company.	
Documents required at Round 1 Proposal	**Documents required at Round 2 Proposal**
All applications: Letter of intent from government partner (using our template), or equivalent. Category 1: IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter, equivalency determination or fiscal sponsorship agreement. Category 2: Certificate of incorporation.	All applicants: proposal, project budget, leadership and key personnel bios, cybersecurity form, official letter or MOU from city government partner, evidence for the track of your proposed AI solution. Category 1: Audited financial statements. Category 2: most recent financial statements, and confirmation that grant funds will be segregated.

Proposed Project

1. **Projects must serve a charitable or public benefit purpose, consistent with the initiative Terms & Conditions. Projects cannot have a primary purpose of generating profit or of providing a for-profit company with a service or benefit. Any commercial benefit must be incidental to the project's charitable outcome. Does your project have a clear public benefit or charitable purpose?**
   - ☐ Yes
   - ☐ No
2. **Is your project focused on service delivery at the city level?** *Projects operating at, or scaling to, a national level will not be considered at this time.*
   - ☐ Yes
   - ☐ No
3. **Does your project address one of the following focus areas: public health, economic mobility, environmental resilience, or civic engagement?**
   - ☐ Yes
   - ☐ No

Round 1 Proposal Application Questions

1. **Organization legal name**
2. **Organization headquarters address, including city, state/province, postal code, and country.**
3. **Fiscal sponsor name**
4. **Fiscal sponsor address, including city, state/province, postal code, and country.**
5. **Primary contact: Full name, title and email.**
6. **Project lead, if different from the primary contact**
   - **First name**
   - **Last name**
   - **Title**
   - **Work email**
7. **Organization social media and public presence. Enter LinkedIn, X, and/or any other relevant links. If not applicable, enter "N/A."**
8. **Year your organization was founded.**
9. **Current number of full-time staff**
10. **What is your organization's average annual operating budget over the last three years, in U.S. Dollars?**
    - ☐ Under $500,000
    - ☐ $500,000 - $1,999,999
    - ☐ $2,000,000 - $9,999,999
    - ☐ $10,000,000 or more
11. **Provide a high-level description of your organization, the expertise it brings to this project, and any relevant deployments and outcomes to date.**
12. **Based on the screening, your organization is registered as a:**
    - ☐ Nonprofits and universities: IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter or equivalency determination
    - ☐ Fiscally sponsored projects: Name and documentation of legal status of fiscal sponsor and recipient organization/project, fiscal sponsorship agreement.
    - ☐ Public benefit corporations: documentation of PBC designation or equivalent mission-locked corporate form, certificate of incorporation.
    - ☐ For-profit companies: certificate of incorporation.

For Join Applications [if applicable]

13. **For each organization in the joint project, not including primary applicant or government partner, provide:**
    - Organization name
    - Legal name if different
    - Country of registration

- Country / countries of operation (if different)
- Website
- Role in the project [50 words]

Government Partnership

14. **Which government entity or entities will you formally partner with on this project? Name the specific agency, department, or office.**
15. **Describe your existing partnership, if any, with this government entity or entities. Include how long you have worked together, what has been formalized to date (MOU, contract, data-sharing agreement, procurement vehicle), and what remains to be put in place for the purpose of achieving the goals of your proposed project.**
16. **Name, title, and email address of the government official who is the primary point of contact for this project. Describe their authority over the service area your project addresses.**
17. **Please upload a document that confirms initial commitment to this project from the government entity.**

Project Overview

18. **Project title.** *Choose a title that easily identifies and distinguishes your project. [Up to 10 words]*
19. **City of focus.** *Enter city, state/province, and country. If your project spans multiple cities, list primary city first.*
20. **Select ONE region most directly impacted by your project:**
    - ☐ **Sub-Saharan Africa**
    - ☐ **Middle East and North Africa**
    - ☐ **Asia**
    - ☐ **Latin America and the Caribbean**
    - ☐ **Europe**
    - ☐ **North America**
    - ☐ **Oceania**
21. **Select the focus area that best aligns with your project.**
    - ☐ Public health — AI that extends the reach and readiness of public health systems, from frontline care and disease surveillance to population-scale prevention. Includes healthcare, disability services, and food and nutrition.
    - ☐ Economic mobility — Solutions that use AI to connect unemployed and underemployed residents to income, skills, and benefits. Includes AI-enabled benefits enrollment, career navigation and skills-based hiring, and employer-aligned training.
    - ☐ Environmental resilience — AI that helps cities forecast, withstand, and recover from environmental shocks, protecting both people and the infrastructure they depend on. Includes public safety and emergency services, energy and grid infrastructure, and land management in communities at risk.
    - ☐ Civic engagement — Governments using AI to reach residents proactively and respond faster, from two-way service channels to participatory decision-making. Includes digital access and connectivity, court services, and permitting and regulatory processes. Excludes projects related to voting or elections.
22. **What track is your AI solution in?** Apply for Scale stage funding if you have developed an AI solution, piloted it in a city context, gathered feedback that the solution works, and are ready to scale the AI solution in the current city or to new cities. Otherwise, apply for Seed stage funding, especially if you have not piloted your solution in a city context yet. Both tracks require a committed city partner at the time of the Round 1 Proposal.
    - ☐ Seed (500,000to<1 million): Projects at this stage are early concepts that seek funding for a first pilot in a city context. Grantees would be provided with funding to refine an idea with city partners, build and test a prototype with real users, and pilot the solution in a city setting. By the end of a Seed grant, grantees should know whether the solution works in practice, whether people use it, whether it shows enough early results to justify expanding it, and what would be required to sustain and scale it in a city context.
    - ☐ Scale ($1-2 million): Projects at this stage have already been piloted in a city, shown early results, and seek funding to scale up. Grantees would be provided with funding to expand the solution within their city, reach more residents, neighborhoods, or services, or extend the solution to another city. By the end of a Scale grant, the solution should reach more people and have a credible path to longer-term financial sustainability, e.g., through government funding.

23. **What is your estimated total budget for this project in US Dollars?**
24. **Please note: you will be asked to submit a detailed budget if you advance to the Round 2 Proposal stage.**
25. **Of this, how much are you seeking through this call for proposals?** If you are applying for the Seed track, your budget request must be at least $500,000 and less than $1 million. If you are applying for the Scale track, your budget request must be at least $1 million and no more than $2 million.
26. **If applicable, how much have you secured and/or requested from other funders?**

<u>Project Details - Purpose and Impact</u>

27. **Problem statement: What is the problem you are trying to solve?** *Describe the current socioeconomic condition of concern and related public service gap, who it affects, and the scale of the population currently underserved. Provide evidence of the problem you are addressing. This could be in the form of city data, reports, news coverage, etc. Describe what efforts have already been made by your organization or others to solve this problem and what constraints still exist.* [up to 250 words]
28. **Government and community interest in this work.** *In addition to government endorsement of your proposal, please provide compelling evidence that government prioritization of and interest in addressing this problem is broad and longstanding. This could include, for example, press releases or coverage, public statements, strategies from city officials or community groups, etc. If you have it, please also provide evidence that the city government is excited about AI innovation to improve public services. This could include, for example, public statements or examples from other city services. [200 words - Optional upload of up to three docs.]*
29. **Goal and outcomes:** *Summarize the intended impact of your project by completing the following sentences: "The overall goal of our work is that people _____. The project will contribute to this goal by _____. This will support _____[government agency] by _____. By the end of the 24-month grant term we will achieve _____ reaching _____ people."* [up to 100 words]

    For example:

    - *For seed grants: The overall goal of our work is that people experience lower incidence of dengue. The project will contribute to this goal by improving prediction of dengue outbreaks and recommending highly localized interventions to reduce incidence. This will help the Public Health Secretariat optimize the use of public resources while enabling faster and more effective responses in highly vulnerable neighborhoods. By the end of the 24-month grant term, we will work with the Secretariat to pilot the model, testing it in one neighborhood, reaching 10,000 people.*
    - *For scale grants: The overall goal of our work is that people experience lower incidence of dengue. The project will contribute to this goal by improving prediction of dengue outbreaks and recommending highly localized interventions to reduce incidence. This will help the Public Health Secretariate optimize the use of public resources while enabling faster and more effective responses in highly vulnerable neighborhoods. By the end of the 24-month grant term, we will work with the Secretariate to scale up the model to cover 15 neighborhoods, reaching a total of 3 million people.*

30. **Project Description:**

    Describe your proposed project, including the key activities you will carry out during the grant term (both AI-related and other activities). Explain how you expect these activities to contribute to solving the problem you described above, including expected improvements in public services and socioeconomic conditions.

    Please note, all projects must have a charitable purpose, intended to have a benefit for underserved, poor, or distressed communities or intended to promote social welfare. Please make your charitable purpose clear in your project description. A project cannot have a primary purpose of generating profit or benefiting a for-profit company, and any commercial benefit must be incidental to the project's charitable outcome. For examples of charitable outcomes affiliated with AI-powered solutions at the city level, see work that The Rockefeller Foundation has already supported in the cities of Cali, Cape Town, and Rio de Janeiro. [up to 300 words]

31. **Context:** We are particularly excited to support organizations that have deep contextual experience with the communities they aim to benefit, an understanding of how change happens in city government, and how to navigate the complexities of deploying solutions in a public sector context. P*lease provide an assessment of your organization on these dimensions, including examples of how your organization demonstrates this contextual knowledge.* [up to 150 words]

Project Details - Purpose and Impact

32. **Please describe how your AI solution works, in 2-3 sentences.** *Name its inputs and output, and why that step needs generative AI. Include the model or product if known.* [up to 100 words]
33. **Walk through one actual use, from start to finish.**

    In a few sentences, cover: who/what initiates tool use information supplied and its source what the model produces how the output is checked what happens next.

    For example: Accessing social services: "A resident asks for food assistance and shares their circumstances and documents. Using the city's program guidance, the model explains how to apply, drafts the application, and flags missing information. A caseworker and the resident check and submit it; the program team determines eligibility and arranges support." [up to 150 words]
34. **AI Solution: How will you use AI to help address this problem?** Please refer to the FAQs for more information about the kinds of AI solutions we are looking to support.

    Explain why AI is important in this case. What will it allow you to do that you could not do without it? Describe the frontier AI component of your solution and how it works alongside other tools or methods you use. Please go into detail on the technical approach, including the models and tools you will use and the infrastructure the solution will run on. [up to 200 words]
35. **Language for AI Model.**

    If your AI solution includes a language component, what languages will the model work with? If this is not a language for which model performance is well understood, how will you assess model and product performance with this language? [up to 100 words]
36. **Evidence: Describe your AI solution's current development and the evidence you have.**
37. **Start by stating where your solution is today. Then summarize your evidence, matched to your track. Share any technical evaluation work you have done in as much detail as possible.**
    - **Seed: Tell us whether your solution is a concept, a prototype, or in an early pilot. Summarize anything you have built or tested, such as early model evaluations, prototype testing wit***h users, or lessons from related work. Describe your pilot plan: what you will test, with whom, and how you will know whether it worked. What decision about expanding the solution will you be ready to make by the end of the 24-month grant term, and what evidence will you use to make it?*
    - *Scale: Tell us where your solution has been piloted, for how long, and with how many users. Summarize the evidence from that pilot, such as user feedback, usage data, before-and-after comparisons of service delivery, operational metrics, or independent reviews. Describe how you are evaluating model capabilities to ensure that the model performs well prior to deployment. Formal impact evaluations such as randomized controlled trials are welcome but not required. Explain what you learned from the pilot and what you will change as you expand.* [up to 400 words]
38. **Please upload a video of your tech solution.**

Video content guidance: In the video, describe your AI solution and show us what exists today. Tell us which features have been tested and which you plan to test.

- Seed: Show your solution at its current stage. If you have a prototype or pilot, demo it. If your solution is still a concept, walk us through your design using mockups, wireframes, or a description of how a user would interact with it.
- Scale: Demo the solution as it is used in the city where it was piloted, and show what will change as you expand.

Video requirements:

- Use Loom (preferred) or Zoom to record your video (Getting Started with Loom)
- Provide a link (preferred) or upload the file
- Make sure the person making the presentation is visible in the video.
- No more than 5 minutes
- Set sharing to ensure we can access your video

39. **Data and Data Governance:**
    - *Please describe what external data your AI solution requires, and how you will access it. Please indicate what data remains to be obtained and how you will obtain it [100 words]*
    - *Describe what rules govern data access and use, how the AI solution uses that data, and how you will*

store that data and delete it if necessary. Please indicate if your AI solution will work with any sensitive personal data and, if so, how you will protect that data. [up to 100 words]

40. **Evaluation: How will you evaluate whether your AI solution is working as intended?** *Describe how you will assess model performance (for example, accuracy, reliability, or the quality of outputs against a defined standard), product performance (for example, adoption, usability, task completion, or time saved), and feedback from residents and government staff who use the solution. Name your key metrics, the thresholds that will tell you the solution is ready for its next stage, and how often you will measure. Explain who will conduct the evaluation and how results will feed back into improving the solution. For Seed, focus on what the model must achieve before real users rely on it. For Scale, focus on how you will check that performance holds up as you expand.* [up to 250 words]
41. **Risk mitigation: What risks do you anticipate and how will you mitigate them?** *Please identify any risks specific to using AI applications for this project, with this population, and in this context. At a minimum, please address risks related to bias, security and privacy, and how you will monitor for accuracy and failure modes in a live public service context. Please review the FAQs for what we mean by responsible AI.* [up to 250 words]

Project Details - Purpose and Impact

42. **Sustainability:** A focus on sustainability includes helping build city government capabilities to test and deploy AI solutions, integrating with city systems rather than building in parallel, and understanding how the costs of solutions will be covered, if successful, after the grant term. Please describe how you are planning for sustainability in your project. If you are applying in the Scale track, make sure to address these questions explicitly:
    - *How much will your AI solution cost to operate after the grant period? Please consider staff expenses, technology and API expenses, and data expenses. Who will fund this operating cost after the grant period? (E.g., has the city appropriated funding for this AI solution in its budget, does the AI solution generate fees to offset its operating costs, etc.)*
    - *Who will maintain the system and keep it running technically after funding ends?*
    - If you are applying to the Seed track, please describe what it would take to scale your solution in a city context, including estimated costs, capacity and systems. [up to 250 words]
43. **Ownership and long-term access: Who will own or control what is developed with grant funds, and how will it remain available?** *Describe who will own or control the models, tools, and data developed with grant funds, and how the solution will remain available to your city partner and other public-sector users after the grant ends (for example, through open-source release or free or at-cost licensing). Name any technology vendors, model providers, or data providers involved, and describe any rights they will have to grant-funded outputs or to government and community data. For-profit applicants should also describe their business model and how the grant will support long-term charitable impact rather than commercial development.* [up to 200 words]

Commitments (required)

44. **Do you consent to RF Catalytic Capital using AI to augment human capacity to review proposal and interview content?** *We may use AI tools to summarize applications, check objective eligibility criteria, and otherwise assist our reviewers. These tools support human reviewers and do not replace human assessment. All assessments and selection decisions are made by people.*
    - ☐ Yes
    - ☐ No
45. **Can your organization commit to sending at least one project representative to an in-person convening of awardees and partners? (Reasonable travel costs covered in grant budget.)**
    - ☐ Yes
    - ☐ No
    - ☐ Unsure
46. **Can your organization commit to participating in monthly virtual learning network sessions with the awardee cohort, conducted in English?**
    - ☐ Yes
    - ☐ No
47. **Partners are expected to participate in public communications about the initiative, including press, case studies, and social channels coordinated across The Rockefeller Foundation and the OpenAI Foundation. Can your organization commit to this?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Other

48. **How did your organization learn about the Global Open Call?** *We may use AI tools to summarize applications, check objective eligibility criteria, and otherwise assist our reviewers. These tools support human reviewers and do not replace human assessment. All assessments and selection decisions are made by people.*
    - ☐ Rockefeller Foundation website or newsletter
    - ☐ OpenAI Foundation website or newsletter
    - ☐ Referral from a current funder
        - Name of funder organization:
    - ☐ Referral from a government partner
    - ☐ Press coverage
    - ☐ Social media
    - ☐ Other (please describe)
49. **If we are unable to provide support but believe your project is promising, may we share your application materials with other funders who may be interested.**
    - ☐ Yes, you may share our application materials with other funders.
    - ☐ No, please do not share our application materials.
50. **In the course of reviewing your proposal, we may call on experts external to The Rockefeller Foundation, OpenAI Foundation, and RF Catalytic Capital to provide specialized sector or technical expertise.** In such cases, we will ensure that reviewers do not disclose information about your application to anyone outside of the three participating organizations.
    - ☐ Acknowledge
51. **Confirm that you are authorized to submit this Round 1 Proposal on behalf of your organization, and that the information provided is accurate to the best of your knowledge.**
52. **Disclosure: Please include a brief note in your application describing which AI tools you used and for what purpose in developing your application (e.g., "used Claude to edit the narrative and summarize supporting data").** *If any part of your video is artificially generated or manipulated, including a synthetic voice or avatar, say so and do not remove any marking the tool applies; where applicable law requires transparency measures for AI-generated content, meeting them is your responsibility. Please see FAQs or what we expect you to disclose.* [up to 50 words]