



PROSPER
PORTLAND

Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Fund

Grant Application Info Session



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The History

- Reimagine Oregon began as an initiative created by Black-led organizations and individuals working to dismantle systematic racism in Oregon. Community leadership created a movement that resulted in the launch of the Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Investment Fund at Prosper Portland.
- This grant program aligns with the Advance Portland strategic vision to foster wealth creation within underserved communities by creating access to economic opportunity for business development and growth. The goal of both the initiative and the investment fund is provide economic opportunities to community disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition.



Advance Portland Strategic Vision

- ❖ **Objective:** Promote equitable wealth creation by supporting BIPOC-owned small businesses and entrepreneurs to start and grow businesses through partnerships, capital, and relevant support.
- ❖ **Objective:** Foster a vibrant Central City and neighborhood commercial districts with tailored strategies to reimagine and revitalize our commercial centers and corridors as vibrant nodes of employment, small business, entertainment, and cultural amenities.



Unique Aspects of the Program



History:

The connection to Reimagine Oregon leadership and its advocacy calling for economic opportunity, stemming from calls for action in 2020.



Flexibility:

The fund usage is flexible, allowing for a wide variety of innovative and community-oriented proposals in accordance with Portland City Code 06.07.145

“support for neighborhood small businesses, especially women-owned and minority-owned businesses, including but not limited to business incubator programs, management training, and job training opportunities; and providing economic opportunity and education to communities disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition.”



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Overview

Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Investment Fund Grant focuses on economic and business development for those disproportionately affected by the Cannabis Prohibition.

Open to both for-profit and non-profit entities, operating within the city of Portland, funds will be invested in critical efforts focused on economic opportunity that works towards dismantling systemic oppression and improving the quality of life for the Portland community.

Support to Businesses and Organizations



Ensure economic opportunities and capital are made increasingly available.

Reconstruct and revitalize the Portland economy.

Support entrepreneurs with scaling their businesses.

Create multi-generational wealth opportunities.

Meet business needs for capital and growth

Expand assistance to and resilience of businesses in need of economic support.

Increase access to business and property ownership, real-estate, financing, and partnerships with a focus on growing wealth more equitably via inclusive networks.



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Program Guidelines

Requirements for eligibility, priorities, and process

Eligibility



Who can apply:

- ❖ For Profit Businesses
- ❖ Nonprofits
- ❖ Nonprofit Organizations w/ a 501c3 Fiscal Sponsor
- ❖ Must have a business registration and business license tax for the city of Portland

Some ways the funds can be used (not limited to):

- ❖ Business or program expansion efforts
- ❖ Hiring staff, consultants, or vendor support
- ❖ Organizational capacity and working capital
- ❖ Products, equipment, services
- ❖ Technical assistance needs



Organizations:

- Businesses and organizations outside of the City of Portland
- Funds can NOT be used for:
 - Projects that involve direct political advocacy
 - Personal use

Priority Areas

*Funds are *flexible*, and creative and innovative proposals are encouraged. Three key focus areas (*though not limited to*), are:



Accelerate Business Growth & Entrepreneurship

\$5,000-\$300,000

Strengthen, grow, scale businesses.

Ex: Investment capital, business partnership and networking opportunities



Build Community Wealth & Economic Empowerment

\$5,000-\$300,000

Promote skills & assets for intergenerational and community wealth.

Ex. Financial inclusion and literacy, community-owned businesses (e.g., coops)



Create Anchor Projects that Enhance Community Engagement & Collaboration

\$50,000-\$700,000

Create places for community to increase economic opportunity.

Ex. Housing development, property acquisition, business hubs

Grant Summary

Funding Parameter:	Money Awarded:
FY '23-24	\$5 million in awards available
Annually Beyond FY '23-24	\$1.2 - \$1.5 million per FY
Grant Award Range	\$5,000-\$300,000 per proposal
Grant Award Range (Anchor Projects)	\$50,000-\$700,000 per proposal

Grants will be disbursed in partial payments or one lump sum payment upon grant agreement. Grants are NOT reimbursement based, yet subject to contract stipulations.



Evaluation Process



Evaluation Committee:

The committee comprised of community stakeholders and Prosper Portland staff, will make recommendations to Prosper Portland Executive director in preparation of the award of grants by the Prosper Portland Board of Commissioners.



Evaluation Criteria:

May include but not limited to:

- Impact to business growth and capacity to serve the community
- Impact to communities disproportionately impacted by the Cannabis Prohibition
- Having a well-defined plan for business or program outcomes
- Demonstration of financial feasibility and need for funding.



Reporting:

Recipients will be required to report on at least an annual basis through different options that could include but is not limited to:

- Surveys
- Video Testimonials
- Site Visits
- Presentations
- Written Testimonials

Reimagine Oregon Grant – Preparation Checklist

Required Documents

Successful grant awardees will have 14 days from the grant award notification date to provide the following required documentation.

All successful grant awardees will need to provide the following:

- W-9 and ACH form for grant payment
- Business Registry Number with the Oregon Secretary of State
- Grantees with one or more employees must include Worker's Compensation Insurance, unless exempt under ORS 656.027.
- Latest Commercial General Liability Insurance or equivalent coverage

For-Profit Businesses will need to provide:

- City of Portland business registration

Reimagine Oregon Grant – Key Dates

MARCH 15TH

Applications open on Prosper Portland website

MARCH 15TH

First info session

MARCH 20TH

Second info session

APRIL 12TH

Applications close at 5 PM PST

MAY/JUNE 2024

Recipients will be notified by May/June 2024



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Website & Application Guide

Website Page

Website: <https://prosperportland.us/reimagine>

Website and application available in Spanish and Somali

Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Investment Fund Grant

Spring 2024

Contact: ReimagineOregon@ProsperPortland.us

ENGLISH

ESPAÑOL

AF-SOOMAALIGA



Important Dates and Application Info

Find Important Information under "Important Dates"

- Link to the application:
 - <https://form.jotform.com/240187551833054>
- Sample PDF of the application
- Info Session Links
- Virtual Office Hour Registration
- Budget Template

Prosper Portland is proud to announce the launch of the Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Investment Fund in accordance with City Code allowing funding “support for neighborhood small businesses, especially women-owned and minority-owned businesses, including but not limited to business incubator programs, management training and job training opportunities, providing economic opportunity and education to communities disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition.” (Portland City Code 06.07.145)

Focused on economic and business development for those disproportionately affected by the cannabis prohibition, this fund offers grants to both for-profit and nonprofit entities, as well as social service organizations with a 501(c)3 as a fiscal sponsor, that operate within the City of Portland. Fund use is flexible to allow for innovative proposals for growth and capacity-building initiatives which may include:

- Ensuring that economic opportunities and capital are made increasingly available.
- Reconstructing and revitalizing the Portland economy.
- Supporting entrepreneurs with scaling their businesses.
- Creating multi-generational wealth opportunities.
- Meeting business needs for capital and growth.
- Expanding assistance to and resilience of businesses in need of economic support.
- Increasing access to business and property ownership, real-estate, financing, and partnerships with a focus on growing wealth more equitably via inclusive networks.

Important Dates

► Fri, March 15
Grant application opens

APPLY NOW

Application Preview:
[For-Profit Business \(PDF\)](#)
[Nonprofit \(PDF\)](#)

► Fri, March 15, 12-1 pm ([Register](#))
Wed, March 20, 5-6 pm ([Register](#))
Informational sessions (via Zoom)

► Fri, April 12 at 5 pm
Application closes

► May - June 2024
Grantees announced and funds disbursed

► Virtual Office Hours
Every Friday at 2pm ([Join here](#))

Resources

📄 [Budget Template](#)

Other Application Information

On the webpage you can find:

(From Top to Bottom)

- Program History and Context
- Eligibility Guidelines
- Funding Categories
- Selection Process
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Sign Up for Email List

Frequently Asked Questions

- + [Where do the funds come from?](#)
- + [Why does this funding only apply to entities operating within the city of Portland?](#)
- + [May I submit multiple applications to this funding round?](#)
- + [I've received public funding before from Prosper Portland. Am I eligible for this funding round?](#)
- + [How can I prepare a strong proposal?](#)
- + [Why focus on economic and business development?](#)
- + [Why are the funds "flexible?"](#)
- + [How does the Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Investment Fund differ from the Reimagine Oregon movement?](#)
- + [What aspects of Reimagine Oregon are engaged with the Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Investment Fund?](#)
- + [If I receive funding, what reporting obligations do I have to Prosper Portland?](#)
- + [If I am selected, how will the money be dispersed?](#)
- + [Is there a deadline to spend the money?](#)
- + [What happens if I am not selected?](#)

The Application

Three Sections:

- **Organizational Information**
Eligibility and organization logistics
- **Proposal Information**
Describe your project
- **Reporting, Documents, and Additional Comments**
Share your goals and how you will measure success

Questions will differ based on the type of organization (for-profit, non-profit, organization with fiscal sponsor).

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Building an Equitable Economy

English (US)

Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Investment Fund

Grant Program Application

APPLICATION DIRECTIONS:

This year, the Reimagine Oregon Economic Opportunity Investment Fund Grant Program will have one cycle, beginning on March 15. All applications must be submitted by Monday, April 12 at 5 pm PST. Incomplete applications may not be considered. Award recipients will be notified in May or June 2024.

There will be information sessions on:

Fri, March 15, 2024 from 12-1 pm
Wed, March 20, 2024 from 5-6 pm

Virtual Open Office Hours are also available every Friday at 2 PM (including March 15) until the application closes. To attend the information sessions or office hours, please visit <https://prosperportland.us/reimagine>. Email ReimagineOregon@prosperportland.us with any questions for the application.

What would success look like to you? *

At the end of this year, what would you want to achieve with this investment? How would you like this to impact your organization or community? Where do you see your organization in the future?
0/250

In what ways would you prefer to share the impact or efficacy of your proposal? *

- Annual Survey
- Video Response
- Site Visit
- PowerPoint
- Emailed Questions
- Impact Report
- Other

Organizational Information

Proposal Information

Reporting, Documents, and Additional Comments

Have Questions?



Website

<https://prosperportland.us/reimagine>

Refer to the Frequently Asked Questions section for the most common questions



Office Hours

Every Friday at 2 PM on Zoom until the grant closes (including Friday, April 12th)

Link can be found on the "Important Dates" section on the website



Email

Email ReimagineOregon@prosperportland.us for any other questions

Please try to attend office hours before asking for personal meetings

Attending an info session or booking a meeting with the team is completely optional and will not impact your application.



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Advancing opportunities
for prosperity

Reimagine Oregon