

Program-specific questions: New Visions for Public Schools

There is no limit on pages or attachments for this section; we encourage you to send as much information as you have available. Please be sure that each the filename of each attachment includes a clear **identifier** (a name or number) so that you can refer to the attachment unambiguously, elsewhere in your application.

Please send all materials electronically to grants@clearfund.org if possible. If necessary, you can also mail materials to The Clear Fund at 272 9 St #1 / Brooklyn, NY 11215, but we prefer electronic submissions and have no need of hard copies.

I. General questions.

- A. What does your status as a PSO allow you to do that you could not otherwise?
- B. Do you have any plans to create more schools in New York? If so, please be specific about where and when you plan to create new schools.
- C. Please provide a breakdown of your expenses across your different programs: school creation and support, Scaffolded Apprenticeship Model, Practitioner Networks, Fund for Teachers, College Bound, Libraries for the 21st Century, and KnowledgeBase.
- D. What would an increase in donations (from individuals – beyond any funds received from us) allow your organization to do that it could not otherwise?

II. Lessons learned. Three of your programs – the Scaffolded Apprenticeship Model, Practitioner Networks, and much of the New Century II Initiative – appear to be focused on helping educators to identify problems and develop, execute, and test solutions using a data-driven approach. In order to get a sense for the likely impact of these programs, we need a sense for what sorts of problems are being addressed and what changes in practices are taking place due to data-driven examinations of these problems.

Please provide as many examples as possible of *specific* solutions to specific problems that have been implemented with the help of your programs. In each case, we are looking for:

- A. A description of the problem addressed.
- B. An account of what action plan was developed to address the problem, and what pre-existing evidence and reasoning indicated that this action plan was the best course of action.
- C. Any available data on the impact of the action plan taken.

We are most interested in large-scale action plans that affected large numbers of people, but are interested in as many examples as possible of policies – at low or high levels – that were settled on, implemented, and evaluated after implementation, with your program's help.

III. Fund for Teachers program.

- A. Please detail the structures you are developing to support teachers through your Fund of Teachers program.

B. Please give an account of *which* teachers will be benefiting from these structures. Are you serving particular school districts, or selecting individual teachers? If the latter, what are your process and criteria for selection?

C. Please provide any available evidence and reasoning for the likely effectiveness of this program, particularly with regard to its likely effect on academic outcomes for students (attendance rates, test scores, graduation rates, college matriculation rates, college performance, etc.)

IV. College Bound program.

A. What schools are you currently working with as part of your College Bound program? What schools do you have upcoming plans to add?

B. Please detail the support you are providing to schools as part of your College Bound program. In particular, we would appreciate if you could be specific about the similarities and differences between this program and the federally funded Talent Search program described at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/triotalent/index.html>.

C. Please provide any available evidence and reasoning for the effectiveness of your College Bound program, particularly with regard to the past effects of this program and comparable programs on:

1. Proportion of students who apply for financial aid.
2. Proportion of students who attend 2- and 4-year colleges.

V. Libraries for the 21st Century program.

A. Please detail the past activities and future plans of your Libraries for the 21st Century program. Which schools' libraries have you invested in? Which schools' libraries do you plan on investing in?

B. Please provide any available evidence and reasoning for the likely effectiveness of this program, particularly with regard to its likely effect on academic outcomes for students (attendance rates, test scores, graduation rates, college matriculation rates, college performance, etc.)

VI. KnowledgeBase program.

A. Is your online Knowledge Base open to the public? If not, why not? If so, how can we view it?

B. If your online Knowledge Base is not open to the public, please provide as many examples as possible (screenshots would be ideal) of the information it makes available on best practices and the evidence for their effectiveness.

C. Do you monitor use of your Knowledge Base program? If so, please provide as much evidence as possible for:

1. The extent to which educators utilize your Knowledge Base program.
2. The extent to which educators' practices are different than they would be without your Knowledge Base program.



Grant Application - Round 2

General information about your organization

Please send all materials electronically to grants@clearfund.org if possible. If necessary, you can also mail materials to The Clear Fund at 272 9 St #1 / Brooklyn, NY 11215.

I. General information. Please provide the following information in a single file, electronic if possible, with a filename that includes your EIN and "CAUSE 4 ROUND 2 – GENERAL INFORMATION":

- A. Mission statement.
- B. Number of paid full-time staff, number of paid part-time staff, number of volunteers.
- C. Your organization's relationships — both formal and informal — with other organizations working to meet the same needs or providing similar services. Please explain how you differ from these other agencies.

II. Attachments. Please provide each of the following; please make sure that each attachment is clearly labeled with your name and EIN.

- A. Most recent financial statement, audited if available.
- B. Organization-wide operating expense budgets for the current and most recent fiscal year.
- C. List of foundation and corporate supporters and all other sources of income, with amounts, for your current and most recent fiscal year.
- D. List of your Board of Directors, with their affiliations.
- E. Copy of your most recent IRS letter indicating your agency's tax exempt status, or, if not available, an explanation.
- F. One-paragraph resumes of key staff, including qualifications.
- G. Most recent annual report, if available.

III. Confidentiality. Please be specific about any part of this application that you would like to remain confidential. We believe transparency and public accountability are extremely important, and in general we have a preference to recommend and fund charities that are committed to sharing the details of their work as much as possible. However, this commitment is only one factor in our decision-making process, and we will respect any requests you make regarding confidentiality.