

# RISE TOGETHER FUND

a proteus fund initiative

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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## 2019 Rapid Response/Opportunity Fund Grantmaking Guidelines

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### Introduction

Through strategic grantmaking and programming, the RISE Together Fund (RTF) works to build the capacity of organizations representing Muslim, Arab and South Asian (MASA) communities to protect rights, advance policy reform, and shift the narrative around issues at the core of our democracy and society. By centering the MASA community at the core of our grantmaking, we recognize that these communities have been deeply affected by profiling, discrimination, and surveillance in the name of national security and play a critical role in the broader racial justice and immigrant rights movement. In recent years and months, these diverse, multi-ethnic, multi-issue partnerships have demonstrated the potential for success. For more information, please see [our website](#).

In our general docket grants, the RTF considers applicants for organizational capacity support, project support, and collaboration support. **This RFP is for our Rapid Response/Opportunity Fund which will consider support for time-limited, responsive, or proactive projects. We are especially interested in projects that take an intersectional approach. These grants generally range from \$1-6,000.** For more information on projects we supported in 2018, please see [our website](#).

### Deadline

Rolling grant requests are reviewed as they are invited and can be approved within 2-3 weeks.

## Where to Submit Your Application

Proposals must be submitted via the online application:

[https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID\\_5886?SA=SNA&FID=35026](https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID_5886?SA=SNA&FID=35026)

You can access your saved application via the account portal:

[https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID\\_5886?SA=AM](https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID_5886?SA=AM)

If you have any questions about the online application, please contact the Grants Manager at [grantsmanager@proteusfund.org](mailto:grantsmanager@proteusfund.org).

## Eligibility

Eligible grantees must have §501(c)(3) tax status, either as an independent organization or as a fiscally sponsored project. Funding opportunities are also available through our (c)(4) sister organization Proteus Action League. For more information please contact RTF Program Director Shireen Zaman at [szaman@proteusactionleague.org](mailto:szaman@proteusactionleague.org) and RTF Program Officer Sheila Bapat at [sbapat@proteusactionleague.org](mailto:sbapat@proteusactionleague.org)

This RFP will support only organizations that work on human rights and civil liberties *in the United States*.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the RTF Program Team to discuss proposals in advance of application. Please direct questions regarding the proposal to RTF Program Director Shireen Zaman at [szaman@proteusfund.org](mailto:szaman@proteusfund.org) and RTF Program Officer Sheila Bapat at [sbapat@proteusfund.org](mailto:sbapat@proteusfund.org).

## Proposal Guidelines

### Required Materials

The following components of a proposal must be submitted for a proposal to be considered for funding:

1. Basic Organizational Information (to be entered in online application)
2. Narrative Proposal – Please address each of the following questions and requests for documents in your proposal. We request that you limit the narrative portion of your proposal to two-four pages.

*Background (not required if you are a current RTF grantee)*

- a. Briefly describe your organization's background, mission, and values.
- b. Staff and Board Information – Provide brief biographical descriptions of the board and staff that will be involved in the proposed work and what their roles will be.

*Proposal*

- a. Please describe the circumstances the proposed project will address, including the role your organization has already played in response.
- b. Provide a description of the work for which your organization seeks funding from the RTF

and describe its ability to carry out this work.

- c. What are the expected outcomes of this project?
- d. Describe any partnership, allies, or intersectional work that will be leveraged or developed as a result of this project. Where applicable, please include a list of these organizations.

3. Financial Information

- a. Organizational Budget – Organizational line-item budget reflecting income and expenses for the fiscal year in which the majority of the work will be performed.
- b. Project Budget (if applying for project support) – Project line-item budget reflecting income and expenses for the actual grant term in which the proposed work would be performed.

NOTE FOR PROJECTS THAT INCLUDE LOBBYING: Your project budget must be “bifurcated” so that it clearly identifies expenses attributable to lobbying. If expense categories (for example, personnel expenses) include both lobbying and non-lobbying activities, they should be further broken down based on a reasonable allocation (if 50% of one person's time will be spent on lobbying, 50% of that person's compensation, benefits, and overhead should be listed as lobbying). Please contact RTF Program Director Shireen Zaman at [szaman@proteusfund.org](mailto:szaman@proteusfund.org) and RTF Program Officer Sheila Bapat at [sbapat@proteusfund.org](mailto:sbapat@proteusfund.org) should you have questions or would like an example of a bifurcated project budget.

- 4. IRS Tax Status Letter – *For organizations that have not previously received funding from RTF, or whose tax status has changed*, please include a copy of your organization's IRS determination letter indicating your status as a §501(c)(3) organization. If your project does not have its own §501(c)(3) status, but is a project of a sponsoring organization, you must include:
  - a. A letter from the sponsoring organization stating that it is assuming all fiscal, legal, and programmatic responsibility for your project
  - b. A copy of the sponsoring organization's §501(c)(3) determination letter
  - c. The sponsoring organization's budget