

THE INNOVATION MISSION

Fighting poverty with big ideas.

FULL APPLICATION PREVIEW

The online application process will be open Friday, June 2, through Monday, July 17, 2017.

Applicants are encouraged to begin considering their responses to the below application questions now.

Project Summary

Please describe in 750 words or less:

- a. The problem facing residents in the City of Cleveland living in poverty that you propose to address
- b. The innovative approach you propose to use to address the problem
- c. Why you are the right person to bring this idea to fruition

Problem

Project proposals will be grounded in a strong understanding of a problem facing residents in the City of Cleveland living in poverty. Please provide data whenever possible as evidence of the problem and its significance.

- a. What is the problem/need facing residents in the City of Cleveland living in poverty that you propose to address? (350 words)
- b. What is the target population affected by this problem? (150 words)
- c. Why is the problem significant to this population and the Cleveland community? (250 words)
- d. What is currently being done to address the problem in Cleveland or a similar problem in other communities? (250 words)
- e. What challenges exist in addressing the problem and what opportunities for progress do you see? (250 words)

Innovative Approach

Projects will propose a new approach, or a new way of thinking about an existing approach, to solve the stated problem.

- a. What is your innovative approach to address the stated problem? (200 words)
- b. Why does it represent a new way to address a difficult problem? Why is it an improvement on current practices? (200 words)

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- c. How will this approach affect the target population if implemented and how would you measure its impact? (200 words)
- d. Why do you believe the innovation can be implemented successfully considering factors such as time, complexity, and resources? (200 words)

Applicant Qualifications

The fellowship seeks applicants with a track record of success and expertise in their field who are passionate about addressing a problem facing the materially poor in the City of Cleveland.

- a. What is it about your capabilities—background, experience, professional accomplishments, networks, and personal characteristics— that make you the right person to move the idea forward and bring it to fruition? (300 words)
- b. Why are you passionate about this issue and wish to champion it? (300 words)
- c. Please describe your knowledge of and connections with the field in which the innovation must operate. (200 words)
- d. In your career, have you previously developed and implemented a new idea? If so, please describe. (200 words)

Anticipated Activities

- a. What steps might you take during the fellowship to prepare your approach for implementation? (250 words)
- b. How might you deploy the \$15,000 available to fellows to develop your approach? Please note opportunities you would pursue to advance your fellowship work (uses might include site visits, conferences, focus groups, and expert consultation.) (250 words)

Commitment

- a. Are you able to make the time commitment to carry out this project and its objectives? Yes or No?
- b. Please provide a contact and e-mail address for your supervisor or board chair. He/she will be e-mailed a description of the program and its time commitment and asked to confirm support of your participation in this program.

Letters of Recommendation (2)

Please provide contact information for two individuals who can speak to your ability to succeed in this fellowship. These individuals will be e-mailed specific questions to respond to in a letter that they will upload to the on-line application system.

Letters of recommendation should be written by someone who can speak to your personal and professional qualifications. Letters of recommendation will not be accepted from family members.