

Advocacy Advance Capacity Building Grants

Purpose: Capacity Building Grants support the development and professionalization of state and local advocacy organizations to increase rates of biking and walking. These matching grants, funded by Planet Bike, will be used for organizational development, hiring staff, building membership, and for other organizational tools to foster a sustainable advocacy organization.

Guidelines: An organization may apply for a Capacity Building Grant if it:

1. Is a member organization of the Alliance for Biking & Walking and the League of American Bicyclists
2. Is incorporated as, or fiscally sponsored, by a 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or the Canadian Revenue Agency
3. Demonstrates a proven track record and achievable work plan
4. Proposes two to three clear, winnable campaigns
5. Can further leverage matching funds through donations, new membership dues, foundation support, and sponsorships

Additional Criteria: In addition, we recommend but don't require that the campaign proposal:

6. Will build the capacity of your organization with increased or dedicated staffing
7. Has a complimentary campaign to leverage public funding for biking and walking
8. Enlists the involvement of stakeholders and/or policy makers
9. Builds the organization's infrastructure and compliments current programs
10. Builds the organization's political power
11. Will leverage positive media and promotion of the organization, biking and walking

Grant Amount and Matching Guidelines: Capacity Building grants are one-year grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$15,000. They will be matched dollar for dollar to new funds raised within one year of receipt of the grant. The Alliance's ability to award grants is dependent upon receipt of the support pledged for this program.

Deadlines: The inquiry proposal deadline is April 25th, 2011. Organizations invited to submit a final proposal will be notified by May 18th and final proposals will be due June 20th.

Proposal: Complete and submit the initial inquiry form. A full proposal will be required from the final candidates.

Reporting and Training: Capacity Building Grant recipients will be required to submit formal progress reports 6 months and 12 months after being awarded the grant. Regular financial reports will be required to track matching funds received. Your organization may also be asked to host workshops or trainings as negotiated with the Advocacy Advance staff to share your strategies and successes with other bicycle and pedestrian advocates.

Contact :For more information about the Advocacy Advance Grant programs, visit our website (www.AdvocacyAdvance.org) or contact Brighid O'Keane at Brighid@PeoplePoweredMovement.org or 202-621-5442.