

2016 Social Innovation Fund Classic

Competition Overview

Social Innovation Fund (SIF) Classic grants are competitively awarded to eligible grantmaking institutions or partnerships that include grantmaking institutions to support the growth and evaluation of innovative programs that address one or more of the SIF's three issue areas: youth development, economic opportunity, and healthy futures. Applicants for funding must meet certain eligibility and compliance standards, and are subject to multiple rounds of review by both third party experts and CNCS staff members. Awardees are ultimately selected based on alignment with selection criteria, including application quality, balancing characteristics such as geographic or programmatic focuses underrepresented by the SIF portfolio, and availability of funds.

Each SIF recipient develops and manages a portfolio of subrecipient community-based organizations implementing innovative solutions to the nation's most pressing social problems. Every federal dollar that is awarded to recipients, as well as every federal dollar that recipients grant out to their portfolio of subrecipient community-based organizations, must be matched 1:1 in cash by either the grant recipient or third party funders.