

2014 Social Innovation Fund

Competition Overview

Social Innovation Fund (SIF) grants are competitively awarded to eligible grantmaking institutions to develop innovative programs that address one or more of the SIF's three focus 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 will ultimately be selected based on application quality, balancing characteristics such as a focus on a collective impact approach or Opportunity Youth, and availability of funds.

Each SIF awardee acts as an intermediary, developing and managing a portfolio of community-based organizations attempting to scale innovative solutions to the nation's most pressing social problems. Every federal dollar that is awarded to intermediaries, as well as every federal dollar that intermediaries grant out to their portfolio of community-based organizations, must be matched 1:1 by either the grant recipient or third party investors.