



**Good Food Fund  
Grant Application Questions FINAL - English**

**Expression of Interest Form**

The Good Food Fund will provide support to food entrepreneurs in communities with inequitable access to food. The Good Food Fund was designed after intensive community engagement with the Food Equity Council and seeks to help expand, enhance, and restore the food industry using an equity and community-based approach. Allies for Community Business (A4CB), in partnership with Greenwood Archer Capital (GAC), has been selected to manage the fund by providing grants, low-interest loans, and free coaching to businesses across the food ecosystem (production, distribution, processing, retail) in communities with inequitable food access.

**Use this Expression of Interest form to provide basic details about your business. If you are selected to complete a full grant application, you will receive an invitation via email within two business days with further instructions.**

Please be prepared to answer all the questions below and upload the required documents before beginning. You will not be able to save a partial application and return to it later. After applying for a grant, if you wish to apply for a low-interest loan or free coaching from A4CB please do so at [a4cb.org](http://a4cb.org).

If you have any questions on this grant application, please contact A4CB at [help@a4cb.org](mailto:help@a4cb.org) or 872.710.0035.

1. Business Legal Name
2. Doing Business As (DBA)  
*Optional*
3. Business Owner's First Name
4. Business Owner's Last Name
5. Email Address  
*Please provide the email address you check most frequently*
6. Primary Telephone Number  
*Please provide the number you answer most frequently*
7. Employer Identification Number (EIN)



*If you do not have an EIN, provide your Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)*

8. Current Business Address: Number, Direction, Street, Unit
9. City
10. State
11. Zip Code
12. Grant amount requested  
*Must be between \$10,000 and \$100,000*
13. Food Industry Sector
  - Agriculture
  - Manufacturing
  - Processing
  - Marketing
  - Wholesale and distribution
  - Service
  - Retail
  - Research and development
  - Other (please specify)
14. Upload your current business license
15. I understand that this Expression of Interest is the first step in a two-step application process. I will only be considered for a Good Food Fund grant if I receive an email invitation and complete the full Application before April 26, 2024. I will check my email for further instructions within one week.

### **Full Application Form (by invitation only)**

The Good Food Fund will provide support to food entrepreneurs in communities with inequitable access to food. The Good Food Fund was designed after intensive community engagement with the Food Equity Council and seeks to help expand, enhance, and restore the food industry using an equity and community-based approach. Allies for Community Business (A4CB), in partnership with Greenwood Archer Capital (GAC), has been selected to manage the fund by providing grants, low-interest loans, and free coaching to businesses across the food ecosystem (production, distribution, processing, retail) in communities with inequitable food access.



Please be prepared to answer all the questions below and upload the required documents before beginning. You will not be able to save a partial application and return to it later.

After applying for a grant, we encourage you to sign up for free coaching from our new Food & Beverage Business Coach. To apply for a low-interest loan or free coaching, visit [a4cb.org](http://a4cb.org).

If you have any questions on this grant application, please contact A4CB at [help@a4cb.org](mailto:help@a4cb.org) or 872.710.0035.

### **Application Invitation**

1. Application code  
*Provide the application code from your invitation email*

### **Business Basics**

2. Business Legal Name
3. Doing Business As (DBA)  
*Optional*
4. Business Owner's First Name
5. Business Owner's Last Name
6. Are you the business owner for the business referenced in the previous question?
  - Yes
  - No
    - If not the owner, describe your relationship to this business
    - Non-owner Applicant's First Name
    - Non-owner Applicant's Last Name
    - Non-owner Applicant's Email
    - Non-owner Applicant's Phone
7. Business Website
8. Tax classification
  - Sole Proprietorship
  - Partnership
  - C Corporation
  - S Corporation



- Limited Liability Company (LLC)
- Worker-owned Cooperative

9. North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 6-digit code from your tax return

*For corporations: You can locate your six-digit NAICS code on your federal tax return Form 1120, Page 4, Schedule K, Line 2a - Business activity code no.*

*For partnerships: You can locate your six-digit NAICS code on your federal tax return Form 1065, Page 1, Section C - Business Code Number*

*For sole proprietors/single member limited liability companies: You can locate your six-digit NAICS code on your federal tax return Form 1040, Schedule C, Section B - Enter code from instruction*

- 1100 Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
  - 1111 Oilseed and Grain Farming
  - 1112 Vegetable and Melon Farming
  - 1113 Fruit and Tree Nut Farming
  - 1121 Cattle Ranching and Farming
  - 1122 Hog and Pig Farming
  - 1123 Poultry and Egg Production
  - 1124 Sheep and Goat Farming
  - 1125 Aquaculture
  - 1129 Other Animal Production
  - 1141 Fishing
  - 1142 Hunting and Trapping
  - 1150 Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry
  - 1151 Support Activities for Crop Production
  - 1152 Support Activities for Animal Production
- 3110 Food Manufacturing
  - 3112 Grain and Oilseed Milling
  - 3113 Sugar and Confectionery Product Manufacturing
  - 3114 Fruit and Vegetable Preserving and Specialty Food Manufacturing
  - 3115 Dairy Product Manufacturing
  - 3116 Animal Slaughtering and Processing
  - 3117 Seafood Product Preparation and Packaging
  - 3118 Bakeries and Tortilla Manufacturing
  - 3119 Other Food Manufacturing
  - 3121 Beverage Manufacturing
- 4244 Grocery and Related Product Merchant Wholesalers
- 4245 Farm Product Raw Material Merchant Wholesalers
- 4248 Beer, Wine, and Distilled Alcoholic Beverage Merchant Wholesalers
- 4450 Food and Beverage Retailers
  - 4451 Grocery and Convenience Retailers
  - 4452 Specialty Food Retailers



- 4453 Beer, Wine, and Liquor Retailers
- 7220 Food Services and Drinking Places
- 7223 Special Food Services
- 7224 Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)
- 7225 Restaurants and Other Eating Places
- *Other [if other, add a box to enter the code]*

10. Number of full-time employees

11. Number of part-time or seasonal employees

12. What was your business's gross revenue (gross receipts) in 2022?

*For corporations: You can locate your gross receipts on your federal tax return Form 1120, Page 1, Line 1a*

*For partnerships: You can locate your gross receipts on your federal tax return Form 1065, Page 1, Line 1a*

*For sole proprietors/single member limited liability companies: You can locate your gross receipts on your federal tax return Form 1040, Schedule C, Line 1*

13. Last four digits of your business bank account number

## **Grant Request**

14. Grant amount requested

*The amount requested must be between \$10,000 and \$100,000, and may not exceed 40% of prior year gross revenue entered in question 12 above*

15. How do you plan to use the grant funds?

*Enter the dollar amount you plan to spend in each category*

- Labor  
*Hiring additional employees, adding hours for existing employees, paying higher wages to existing employees, offering additional benefits, or improving working conditions*
- New construction, expansion, or capital improvements  
*Creating, improving, or expanding your physical business location*
- Supplies  
*Items that will be consumed or used to produce your products*
- Transportation / Distribution



*Renting or paying the downpayment on a delivery vehicle, paying for transportation of your product, or other distribution costs*

- Working capital  
*Any expenses not included in another category*

16. List any individual items from the budget categories above that you expect will cost more than \$4,999

*Include the item name and the estimated cost. Applies to all categories except labor.*

### **Business Impact**

17. Do you live in the community where your business is located?

- Yes
  - If Yes: For how many years have you lived in the community where your business is located?
- No

18. For how many years has your business operated in the community where your business is located?

19. What is the average hourly wage you pay your workers?

20. Which best describes your business?

- I own my business without a parent company
- I have a parent company based in Chicago
- I own a franchise
- I have a parent company based outside of Chicago

### **Business Owner Background**

*The following questions will be used for research purposes only and will not affect your eligibility for this grant.*

21. Race

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Other Race
- Unknown / Prefer not to answer



22. Ethnicity

- Hispanic, Latino(a)/Latine
- Not Hispanic, Latino(a)/Latine
- Other Ethnicity
- Unknown / Prefer not to answer

23. Gender

- Woman
- Man
- Transgender
- Non-binary/non-conforming
- Prefer not to answer

24. Are you a veteran?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

25. Do you identify as a person with a disability?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

**Document Upload**

- Business owner's valid form of photo identification  
*Driver's license, State ID, Chicago CityKey, passport, permanent resident card, or consular ID*
- All pages of your business's 2022 federal tax return  
*Form 1040 with Schedule C, Form 1065, or Form 1120*
- All pages of your most recent business bank account statement from 2024
- Property deed or lease  
*Only if applying to fund new construction, expansion, or capital improvements*

**Attestations**

*Check each box to confirm that the statement is true*



- All information provided on this application is accurate.
- I run a for-profit business that has secured all necessary licenses to operate in Chicago and Illinois.
- My business is in Good Standing (“Active”) with the Secretary of State (*N/A to sole proprietors*)
- If selected for a grant, I consent to have the City of Chicago and A4CB promote my business as part of this grant program.
- I understand that City of Chicago and A4CB do not discriminate against applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or identity, marital status, or age (provided that the applicant has the capacity to enter into a binding contract). I authorize the City of Chicago and A4CB to investigate and verify the above information. The release of all information by City of Chicago and A4CB in any manner is hereby authorized whether such information is of record or not and I hereby release all persons, agencies, firms, companies, etc., from any damages resulting from such information.

## Experience

1. How did you hear about this opportunity?
  - Word of mouth
  - Email
  - Social Media
  - City of Chicago website
  - Newsletter from the Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP)
  - Community Organization
  - Other
2. How would you rate your experience in applying for this grant?  
*Answer 1 if you found it very difficult and answer 5 if you found it very easy*
3. How can we improve this grant application process?  
*50 words*