



Fall 2024 Capacity Building Grants Cycle **Frequently Asked Questions**

My organization is not a 501c3, can we apply?

Organizations without 501c3 non-profit status may apply through a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization serving as a fiscal sponsor, provided that the fiscal sponsor organization meets all eligibility requirements listed in the RFP.

My organization became a member of SRE Network this summer. Can we still apply?

Your organization must be a member of SRE for at least six months before you are eligible to apply for a Fall Capacity Building Grant. If your organization joined less than six months prior to when this grants cycle officially begins (January 1, 2025), you will need to wait until the next grant cycle (spring 2025) to apply for funding.

Can I apply for more than one grant per cycle?

Applicants may submit only one application grant per open cycle.

I have a currently active SRE grant and would like to apply for funding through this new grant cycle. Is this allowed?

- Recipients of the Fall 2023 cycle who received one-year grant awards are eligible to apply.
- Recipients of the Fall 2023 cycle who received 18-month or two year grant awards are not eligible to apply
- Recipients of Spring 2024 renewal grants are eligible to apply, however funding is limited and the grants committee will be encouraged to consider diversifying the grant portfolio as one of its considerations.

All applicants are required to have a meeting prior to submitting an application. What do I need to bring to my meeting with the Senior Program Officer?

You are welcome to bring whatever you have - a draft LOI to review, an idea that needs flushing out, questions or concerns about the process. Please note that while staff is able to discuss drafts and review ideas or documents, all applications are subject to review by the Grants Review Committee. **These meetings are mandatory, and can be set up via email to andrea@srenetwork.org.**

How does SRE define “internal capacity building”?

SRE refers to internal capacity-building grants as money intended to help organizations build their internal s,r,e capacity. Grants may be to support broader culture change efforts like training

and education, planning or implementing tactical safety, respect, and equity efforts (e.g. pay equity, policy review).

How do I submit my application in the grants portal?

You must submit your application by clicking [this link](#) to create a login for your organization, completing the form and submitting all documents directly into the portal. You are able to save your progress and return to it as well! We are hoping this new portal will streamline the experience, and add a layer of data security to the process.

Who do I contact if I'm having technical difficulties with the portal?

For technical assistance, please contact Julian Felvincii at julian@srenetwork.org

What is involved in the process? Can I get a better sense of the timeline?

SRE is committed to developing an equitable grants process. All applications are subject to evaluation through our Grants Review Committee, and a due diligence process through our fiscal sponsor, New Venture Fund. As such, if you are moved forward in the process, there are a total of three rounds of inquiry and evaluation which will require your input including an interview after the high holidays in early November 2024, and a final round document review in December 2024. SRE Network anticipates all grant periods to begin January 1, 2025, with a grant disbursement at that time.

Why are grantees required to commit time to a community of practice?

SRE hopes to utilize this community of practice to 1) provide consistent opportunities for leaders to gather with a community of their peers to share best practices, navigate challenges together, learn from each other, and hold each other accountable for implementing next steps in their SRE journeys; 2) Foster trust/vulnerability and build relationships over time in order to create support network of peers for leaders to turn to both during the meetings and offline between sessions; and 3) Inform SRE Network of the needs and work of the leaders participating in the community of practice.

Our organization is committed to this work and needs to find a third party expert, do you have any suggestions?

SRE is proud to offer this list of [trainers](#) and consultants that we have worked with in the past. While this list is not exhaustive, we think it's a great place to start. Applying organizations **do not** need to use one of these partners in order to be eligible for funding.

Are we required to use an outside trainer or expert?

No, this is not required.