



**SUSTAINABLE
COLUMBUS**
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND

Supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies



COLUMBUS YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Are you passionate about the environment? Do you want to see real change in your city? The City of Columbus is offering a **new opportunity for youth-led organizations** to make a meaningful impact on our communities and play a part in local government efforts to combat **climate change**.

With 84 percent of youth around the world reporting that they are worried climate change threatens people and the planet, Bloomberg Philanthropies launched the **Youth Climate Action Fund** to help empower the next generation of climate leaders. As a Bloomberg Sustainable City, Columbus has received a **total of \$50,000** to distribute as microgrants to youth-led organizations seeking to address climate change and its impacts on our community!

Vision:

Empower a new generation of climate leaders

Award Size:

Selected applicants will receive microgrants of **\$1,000 - \$5,000** to support youth-led climate action projects.

Eligibility:

Organizations led by **youth (ages 15 - 24)** in the Columbus area.

Projects that are **new** and that support the **Columbus Climate Action Plan**.

How to Apply:

Visit [Sustainable Columbus](https://www.columbus.gov/sustainable) to download an application. Submit by email by **August 16, 2024! Deadline extended!**

COLUMBUS YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND PROGRAM DETAILS

Microgrants of \$1,000 - \$5,000 are available to youth-led organizations to implement new projects related to one of the following program areas in our [Columbus Climate Action Plan](#):

- **Empowering the community the “Columbus Way”:** Builds or supports community collaboration, education, awareness, leadership related to climate action
- **Sustainable Neighborhoods and Environment:** Supports climate resilient neighborhoods or a healthy environment
- **Buildings and Energy:** Promotes renewable energy or energy efficiency in residential, commercial or community buildings
- **Transportation:** Supports mode shift to bikes, scooters and public transportation or promotes zero-emission vehicles
- **Waste Reduction:** Reduces waste generated or sent to the landfill

Note that projects can be focused on climate mitigation (reducing greenhouse gas emissions), climate adaptation (adjusting to or reducing the impacts of climate change), or climate engagement (getting people educated or involved).



EXAMPLE PROJECTS

- Climate education programs
- Climate surveys and research
- Public art and awareness campaigns
- Climate data monitoring
- Community gardens, tree plantings, and urban farming
- Recycling and waste reduction programs

***BE CREATIVE! WE'RE LOOKING
FOR YOUTH LEADERS WITH
NEW IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE!***



Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are organizations led by young people between the ages of **15 and 24** that either:

- Are incorporated as a non-profit organization, with a bank account to receive funds
OR
- Have an incorporated non-profit fiscal sponsor, with a bank account to receive funds

If you are in need of a fiscal sponsor, please go ahead and submit an application and we will attempt to find a match.

Program Requirements

- Projects must be **new**
- Youth (ages 15-24) must be involved in **project planning, proposal writing, and project execution**. However, your project/program itself can impact youth and adult residents of all ages.
- A complete **application** must be submitted by **August 16, 2024**.
- Projects must be **complete** and **all funds spent** by December 31, 2024

Applicants can submit more than one project proposal.

Eligible costs

Materials, supplies and services to implement the project; youth participation costs (e.g. bus fare, food); adult project sponsorship costs

Ineligible activities

Projects already ongoing; services covered by existing city initiatives; speaker honorariums; partisan political organizations, candidates, fundraisers, or projects; legislative advocacy or lobbying activities; projects that primarily serve religious organizations; indirect costs like rent or utilities.

Unsure if your program idea fits the requirements?

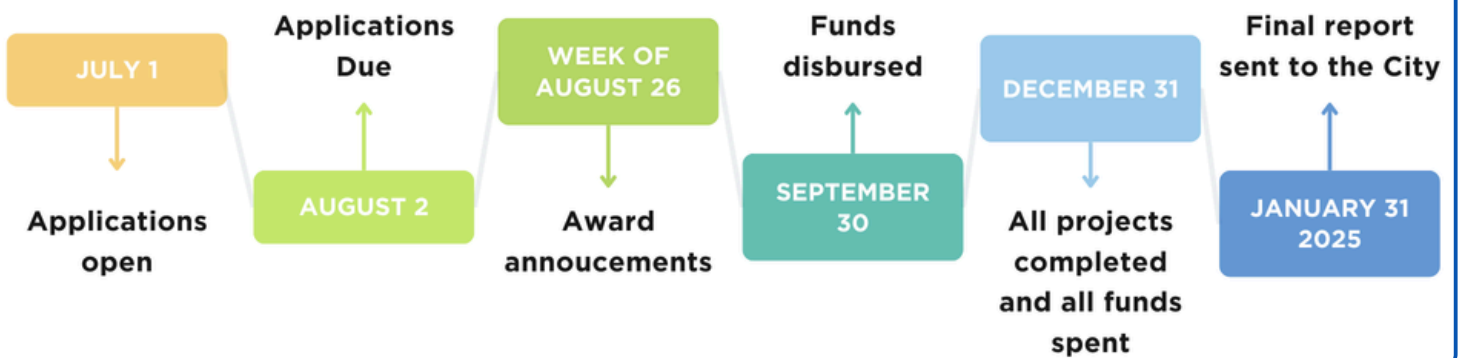
Email MLFord@columbus.gov for guidance!

Final report requirements

- Description of project activities and how funds were spent
- At least one output and one outcome
 - Example output: Numbers of trees planted
 - Example outcome: Neighborhood cooling from increased tree shade
- Documentation of expenditures



YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND MICROGRANT TIMELINE



Scoring Criteria

Projects that support the priority criteria below will be the strongest competitors. Keep these criteria in mind as you develop your project and your application.

Community impact and Climate Action Plan support	Demonstrates clear impacts and benefits to the targeted community in alignment with Columbus Action Plan priorities
Equity and environmental justice	Supports communities most impacted by climate change
Innovation and creativity	Provides creative and innovative solutions or approaches to current climate problems
Feasibility and project planning	Demonstrates a clear action plan, target outcomes and outputs, and how they will be achieved
Budget rationale	Clearly describes costs with well-justified and clear rationale

