

**YOUTH CLIMATE
ACTION FUND**
Supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies

YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND

Supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies



MICROGRANTS PACKAGE

Key Dates:

February 7, 2025	Grant Application Open to Public
March 7, 2025	Application Submission Deadline (11:59 p.m. MDT)
March, 2025	Initial Screening; Scoring and Selections
April, 2025	Awards Announced; Agreements Issued; Program Begins
October 24, 2025	All projects must be complete
November 15, 2025	Microgrant report due to City of Boise

Synopsis of Grant Opportunity:

Last year, powered by Bloomberg Philanthropies in partnership with United Cities and Local Governments and the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University, the City of Boise launched an exciting new initiative to support youth-led climate action projects through the Youth Climate Action Fund (YCAF). With \$50,000 in funding, we supported 16 amazing climate action projects, all led by local youth committed to making a difference in our community. Thanks to the success of those projects and the incredible leadership of young people in our community, we've been selected for Round 2 of YCAF!

This time, we're thrilled to receive \$100,000 to support even more bold, innovative ideas from youth ages 15-24. Round 2 focuses on bigger goals, creative solutions, and making sure youth leadership is a lasting part of Boise's climate action. Whether you're passionate about hands-on projects, creative campaigns, or new ways to solve climate challenges, we're ready to collaborate with you to make a real impact.

We will be accepting applications and through a review committee process, will be choosing up to 17 microgrant projects to fund. Each project should be able to be achieved with a microgrant budget of \$5,000 per project by the end of October 2025 and each must align with one or more of our [City of Boise Climate Action Roadmap](#) priority areas.

Funding Available: \$85,000

Maximum Award: \$5,000

Estimated Number of Awards: 17 awards

Grant Period: April 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025

1. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligibility Criteria

- Project is primarily led and implemented by at least three (3) youth between the ages of 15 and 24 years old.
- Partner with eligible sponsor organization (City of Boise can help!).
- The application is aligned with the [City of Boise Climate Action Roadmap](#)
- The application is complete.

B. Eligible Activities and Expenses

Eligible expenses align with the eligibility criteria and include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Supplies for projects (shovels, paint, plants, etc.)
- Funds to enable youth to participate (bus fare, per diem for food, gift cards for participation, etc.); should not make up the majority of the microgrant funding request;
- Adult project sponsorship from local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), civic groups, neighborhood clubs, or school administrators.
- Awareness, education, research, co-development initiatives like youth-led climate surveys and research
- Launching climate mitigation and adaption initiatives like community gardens, tree plantings, urban farming, solid waste management, etc.
- Involvement in governance of local climate action plans, like youth-hosted climate town halls

C. Ineligible Activities and Expenses

Ineligible expenses or uses of funds include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Services covered by existing city initiatives,
- Rent or utilities,
- Nonprofit/NGO incorporation fees,
- Speaker honorariums and speaker fees,
- Scholarships,
- Direct support to individuals or families,
- Partisan political organizations, political campaigns, fundraisers, or projects,
- Capital campaigns, endowments, or endowed chairs,
- Events or fundraisers not related to youth climate action.
- Supporting abortion providers, Chinese government, or to boycott guns, oil or timber

D. Mandatory Criteria for Microgrant Projects

- All microgrants are aligned and explicitly linked with the city's climate priorities

or action plan.

- Each microgrant needs to go toward a unique project that's different from others
- All grants, even when the recipient is an adult-led organization, must be proposed by youth and selected through a transparent, public process.
- Each project must be led and implemented by youth aged 15-24.
- No more than three microgrants may be awarded to the same grantee organization.
- All of the city's microgrants cannot be directed to one single theme but must demonstrate diversity in local climate action.
- Your proposed budget must NOT include more than 50% of the total funding on equipment and infrastructure upgrades.
- All projects must be feasible and can be completed by October 31, 2025.
- Each microgrant must demonstrate high impact with innovative approaches and clear goals.
- All projects must complete applications and submit reporting documents.

E. Service Area

All microgrant project proposals must have demonstrated impacts within the City of Boise. *The project team itself does not have to reside within the city of Boise.*

See map of Boise city limits here:

<https://boise.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/basic/index.html?appid=300d07645ff84c73b873f7bf6b5ae239>

2. SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. Application Package

This announcement contains all narrative instructions to complete this application and includes links to additional useful resources.

B. Form of Application Submission

- Applications must be submitted through our online form found [here](#) by **11:59 p.m. MDT on March 7th, 2025**

C. Submission Dates and Times

- **Application deadline: March 7th, 2025 by 11:59 p.m. MDT**
- Applications received after the deadline specified above, for any reason, will not be considered for funding.

Important Reminders:

- Application assistance will be available on a Zoom webinar, February 13th, 2025 4:00-4:40 [Register here](#). Additional questions can be sent to climateaction@cityofboise.org
- All proposed projects must be completed within the project period and applications will be scored according to the feasibility of their proposed timeline.
- Preference will be given to projects that demonstrate a significant impact on the Boise community and aligns with the [City of Boise's Climate Action Roadmap](#), specifically in the following areas:
 - Youth-led climate education programs
 - Youth-designed public art, and
 - Youth-led urban ecosystem restoration

Additional Resources:

- If you have questions about this Notice of Funding Opportunity or the Youth Climate Action Fund, please email climateaction@cityofboise.org
- Visit the City of [Boise's Climate Action Roadmap](#) to align your project with the priority areas listed therein.
- Visit [Bloomberg Philanthropies Youth Climate Action Fund](#) landing page to learn more about this international grant program
- [Map of Boise city limits](#)

Microgrant Reporting Requirements

Interim report requirements:

Each microgrant project selected for funding will provide a brief progress summary each month of the period of performance (April 2025 through October 2025). The purpose of this interim reporting is to help ensure your project is progressing and to determine what, if any barriers to success the city may be able to assist with. Be prepared to provide a summary of your expenditures and progress to date. Additional details regarding the interim report requirements will be provided in the award agreements but at a minimum will include:

- Actual expenditures to date
- Project progress (successes and barriers)

Final report requirements:

- Brief description of what activities were undertaken and how the funds were spent.
- Include at least one output and one outcome.
 - Example output: Numbers of trees planted or square feet of community gardens created.
 - Example outcome: Reducing the urban heat-island effect or reducing CO₂ emissions and food miles.
- Actual expenditures.
- Receipts or invoices for all eligible expenses for approved YCAF microgrant budgets.

Microgrant Evaluation Rubric (example)

Reviewer name:

Climate area of focus:

Date:

Total score :

Project title:

Criteria	Scoring Details	Maximum Points	Score
Relevance to Climate Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0–5 points: Does not address the city's climate priorities. • 6–10 points: Addresses climate priorities but lacks a clear focus. • 11–20 points: Directly addresses climate priorities with clear focus. 	25 points	
Eligibility		5 Points	
Project goals and objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0–5 points: Does not address the project goals and objectives. • 6–10 points: Addresses the project goals and objectives but lacks a clear focus. • 11–20 points: Directly addresses the project goals and objectives with a clear focus. 	20 points	

Criteria	Scoring Details	Maximum Points	Score
Innovation and creativity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0–5 points: Does not address innovation and creativity. • 6–10 points: Addresses innovation and creativity but lacks a clear focus. • 11–20 points: Directly addresses innovation and creativity with a clear focus. 	10 points	
Feasibility and project planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0–5 points: Does not address feasibility and project planning. • 6–10 points: Addresses feasibility and project planning but lacks a clear focus. • 11–20 points: Directly addresses feasibility and project planning with a clear focus. 	25 points	
Budget rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0–5 points: Does not address the budget rationale. • 6–10 points: Addresses the budget rationale but lacks a clear focus. • 11–20 points: Directly addresses the budget rationale with a clear focus. 	10 points	
Sustainability and impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0–5 points: Does not address sustainability and impact. • 6–10 points: Addresses sustainability and impact but lacks a clear focus. • 11–20 points: Directly addresses sustainability and impact with a clear focus. 	10 points	
		105 Points TOTAL	