



American Philosophical Association

Request for Proposals: Diversity & Inclusiveness in Philosophy

Direct all inquiries related to this RFP to grants@apaonline.org.

Purpose

The American Philosophical Association, in keeping with its mission and goals and the association's longstanding commitment to addressing philosophy's serious lack of demographic diversity, will make available up to \$20,000 in fiscal year 2027 to fund one or two projects aiming to increase the presence and participation of women, racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, people of low socioeconomic status, and other underrepresented groups at all levels of philosophy. The APA board of officers strongly prefers proposals that convincingly demonstrate their potential to decisively impact diversity and inclusion within philosophy.

As the APA operates primarily in the US and Canada, programs must have a clear application to diversity in a US/Canada context. The board wishes to express its particular interest in supporting programs that explicitly address more than one type of diversity (e.g., gender *and* race/ethnicity). The board will give preference to projects based at under-resourced institutions.

Funding Guidelines

All APA members are invited to submit proposals.

The APA strongly prefers proposals totaling approximately \$10,000 or \$20,000, as the board of the association anticipates funding either one \$20,000 project or two \$10,000 projects. The board encourages applicants who submit proposals for \$20,000 projects to include an alternate project description and budget at the \$10,000 level.

The board of officers will review proposals and make funding decisions in November 2026. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions in December 2026. Proposed projects should commence no earlier than January 1, 2027. The APA will disburse grant funds by June 30, 2027.

The board evaluates proposals in terms of the following criteria:

- Overall quality of the proposal, as measured by philosophical quality, methodology, potential impact on diversity and inclusion, and feasibility.
- Competitive proposals must convincingly demonstrate that the project has the potential to decisively impact diversity and inclusion within philosophy.

- Projects that promise to have an impact on diversity and inclusion beyond the host institution(s) are strongly preferred.
- Programs must have a clear application to diversity in a US/Canada context. Programs with little or no potential to impact diversity and inclusion within a US/Canada context are not normally funded.
- Proposals are closely and rigorously evaluated for the specificity and feasibility of stated goals and timelines.
- Competitive proposals will contain detailed budgets that fully explain and justify all expenditures.
- Competitive proposals will explain in detail what, if any, initial groundwork has already been laid to ensure that the proposed project can be successfully completed, if funded. Such groundwork might include, among other things, securing commitments from relevant persons and/or venues.
- Project includes an appropriate accessibility plan (see [disability accommodations guidelines](#)).

Application Instructions

Submit proposals via the [online grant submission form](#) no later than **June 30, 2026**. Proposals must include the following:

- Project title and abstract — *150 words maximum.*
- Project coordinator(s) and contact information — *All project coordinators must be APA members.*
- Project description — *Describe the project in detail and explain how the project will impact diversity and inclusion within philosophy.*
- Project goals and timeline — *Goals and timeline should be specific and complete.*
- Detailed project budget and narrative explanation of the rationale for all budgeted expenses — *Use the supplied budget template.*
- Total amount requested from the APA — *Approximately \$10,000 or \$20,000.*
- Total amount requested and received from other funding sources.
- Evidence that the project coordinators are actively seeking alternate sources for future funding — *Not applicable to one-off projects.*
- Accessibility plan (see [disability accommodations guidelines](#)).
- Detailed evaluation plan — *Articulate specific benchmarks for assessing project success and the methodology project coordinator(s) will use to determine whether the project met those benchmarks.*

Reporting Requirements

Grantees are required to submit a report for the November 2027 meeting of the APA board of officers (submission deadline: September 30, 2027). If the project has been completed at that time, this report must include a detailed budget explaining how the APA funds were spent and an evaluation, in keeping with the proposal's evaluation plan, of the extent to which the project achieved its goals. If the project has not yet been completed by fall 2027, grantees must submit a progress report at that time, with a final report as described above at the conclusion of the project, no later than the November 2028 board meeting.

Repeat Funding

The APA strongly prefers to provide seed funding to new projects, but proposals for renewed funding of projects previously funded by the APA will also be accepted. Proposals for renewed funding must convincingly demonstrate that the program is (a) achieving the goals set out in previous funding requests, and (b) on a path to financial sustainability independent of support from the APA.