



The Climate Initiative

TCI Youth Action Grants Application Rubric

TCI believes that youth – the generation most at risk from climate change – are particularly well suited to solve the climate crisis. Youth have a unique ability to influence their peers and communities to generate climate concern and action. TCI understands that young people have a valuable perspective and interest in preserving our environment. We recognize their work in this regard and want to continue ensuring they have the necessary tools to continue taking climate action. Youth, including TCI’s youth focus age range of 13-23, have the power to shift politics, stimulate solutions, and ultimately be agents of change to solve the climate challenge.

Youth Action Project grants are eligible for youth organizations and individuals. The goal of such projects is to encourage youth to take action within their communities to better mitigate climate challenges, foster climate change discussion, and education, and provide young people with the necessary resources to fill the gaps of climate adaptation in their communities. Action projects should be youth-led and community-based, and empower youth ages 13-23 to develop climate solutions.

Our approach is unique among existing efforts: we are a non-partisan, solutions-based organization pushing for local, tangible solutions to a global challenge. Our mission is to empower youth voices for climate action. TCI is excited to partner with youth climate leaders across the country to support them in their desire to take action.

TCI reviews grants on a rolling basis and will notify applicants of a funding decision within 14 business days of application. If accepted for an Action Project Grant, applicants will receive a contract to sign with all expectations outlined including joining TCI’s Mobilize platform, submitting a Story of Change, and progress reports on their project.

Applications will be evaluated based on their ability to reach youth, scalability, and overall alignment with the TCI theory of change.

Rubric to Distinguish Applicants

- Youth-led
- Community-based
- Relates to TCI's mission and goals
- Relates to Learning Lab materials
- What is the scalability of the project?
- How many people does the project reach?

	Exceptional 5	Very Good 4	Average 2-3	Needs Improvement 1	Score
Project Description	The applicant provides a cohesive outline of the proposed project; the vision is clear & manageable; includes a detailed budget; it is creative & original	The project is described well, but some details are not as cohesive; includes an incomplete budget there are creative & original aspects included in the description	The description only provides a general idea of the project; few innovative aspects are provided	The project description is difficult to understand; there are few original aspects; it does not seem manageable	
Significance	It is clear how the project will align with TCI's goals and mission; the project is centered on youth action and climate resiliency; the project is scalable & has clear benefits for the community	It will align with most of TCI's goals and mission; it is centered on youth action & climate change advocacy; the project could be scalable with some benefit to the community	The project aligns with some of TCI's goals and mission; it is youth related with themes of climate resiliency; the project offers some benefits to the community	The project does not align with TCI's goals or mission; it is not youth centered or related to climate action; the project offers little benefit to the community	
Contributions to Youth Climate Work	The project supports youth leadership in climate advocacy; it is youth-led & encourages community collaboration	The project has elements to support youth leadership in climate advocacy; it is youth-based & encourages work within the community	The project has some elements to support youth involvement in climate advocacy; it encourages youth participation & community engagement	The project does not support youth leadership or participation in climate advocacy; it does not encourage youth participation or community engagement	
Goals	The project outlines a clear set of objectives, action steps, and measurable components for success	The project outlines coherent objectives, action steps, and some measurable components of success	The project presents some cohesive objectives, actions steps, and measurable components of success	The project does not offer objectives, actions steps, or measurable components of success	
Timeline	The applicant will provide a realistic projected timeline for the project start to finish; applicants agree to complete materials by the end date (including stories of change & surveys)	The applicant provided a partial project timeline that seems realistic; applicants agree to complete materials by the end date (including stories of change & surveys)	The applicant provided and incomplete timeline and/or it may need to be adjusted to reach the end in a realistic period of time; applicants agree to complete materials by the end date (including stories of change & surveys)	The applicant did not provide a timeline for their project; applicants do not agree to complete materials by the end date (including stories of change & surveys)	

Questions? Email us!

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