

*Below are questions and answers from the 2024 Starter Fund info sessions, this document will be updated after each session. Questions are anonymized and slightly edited for clarity. If you have any questions about the Food Equity Fund Grant, please send an email to* *foodequityfund@seattle.gov* *or call us at (206) 727-FOOD (3663).*

Last updated: 4/22/2024

# What is a fiscal sponsor?

A fiscal sponsor is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that agrees to act as the trustee of your project’s funds and assumes financial responsibilities related to recordkeeping and the distribution of funds. If you are not a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, you are required to have a fiscal sponsor for your contract with the City of Seattle. For groups that must hire a fiscal sponsor, a fee of 5% to 10% of the total grant award is often charged. This fee may be included in your proposal budget. If you need support in finding a fiscal sponsor, please reach out to us at foodequityfund@seattle.gov

# Can we include physical improvements to a private property where we store food in a pantry?

Capital project or physical improvements on a private residence (ie. Someone's home) are **not allowed.** However, if your community organization operates on private property like a church or community center that is accessible to the public, this is eligible **and** you must include permission from the property owner in your application. Please see page 6 of our [Guidelines](https://www.seattle.gov/documents/Departments/Neighborhoods/NMF/Food%20Equity%20Fund/2024%20FEE%20Starter%20Fund%20Guidelines.pdf) for all details.

# Should we submit an application ASAP (as soon as possible)?

We encourage you to submit your application as soon as you are ready. If approved, we expect your organization to be ready to be under contract with the City within 4 weeks of a notice of decision.

At any time, you can reach out to us at foodequityfund@seattle.gov to find out how much funding is available.

# Where are the recordings?

Recording are on the Food Equity Fund’s [website](https://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/community-grants/food-equity-fund#starterfund).