

2024 CHEJ Small Grants Program – Round 1 Applications Guidelines
For All Tiers 1

CHEJ’s Small Grants Program is for grassroots groups working on environmental health and justice issues CHEJ prioritizes community-based organizations aiming to have local, state, and regional impact as the core of the health and environmental justice movement. This small grants program is designed to reach people from low wealth communities and communities of color who are impacted by environmental harms.

CHEJ believes that no social change on behalf of the exploited comes without strong community-based organizations.

1. This grant program supports:
 - a. Projects that help groups move toward their goals by building leadership, increasing capacity, or providing training and education.
 - b. Grassroots community groups to build their capacity.
2. Grassroots communities of color, low wealth, rural and urban groups are encouraged to apply. Should you be a part of a coalition, each group within the coalition may apply as well as the coalition itself.
3. Projects that align with the Center for Health, Environment & Justice’s (CHEJ) programs have a better chance to succeed in securing funding.
4. CHEJ supports a wide range of issues; however, we have a limited amount of funds to support a specific focus. That doesn’t mean that your work outside the focus is less critical -- IT IS NOT. If you have questions about your project meeting the guidelines, please contact CHEJ at grants@chej.org before investing your valuable time in filling out the forms. We will give you an honest answer.
5. **Please carefully read the guidelines and areas of interest before you apply.**

Grant activities can include:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board development • Fundraising efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization’s membership outreach • Meetings to develop organizing and/or strategic plans, and events that are part of that plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training leaders to go door-to door for community organizing efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment and/or subscriptions for communications (i.e., Zoom subscriptions, internet access, laptops, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational activities directly connected to your stated strategic plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General in-person events

Projects CHEJ is *Not* Likely to Fund:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Film or documentary productions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community gardens
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National organizations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legal assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Market campaigns
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural environmental protections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food banks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organization outside of the United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National campaigns (however, local/statewide group-specific efforts may fit into a campaign)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmental testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Groups with an annual budget over one million dollars (\$1,000,000)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legislative lobbying	

Please Note: Although we believe that many field efforts are valuable in creating change, our resources are limited. Projects such as film production, community gardens, legal assistance, market campaigns, natural environment protection, and food banks are not likely to be supported. CHEJ’s program focus is on addressing environmental threats and associated public health harms.

CHEJ’s Small Grants program focuses on addressing environmental threats and associated public health harms. The grant applications are different for different sized organizations, **depending on their budgets.**

Applications can be submitted as a **Word Document or Google Doc.**

1. **Tier-1:** Small organizations and all-volunteer groups with **budgets under \$50,000** should **click here** or go to <http://chej.org/chej-small-grants-program/> for an application. Grants are available in this tier range from \$1,000 to \$5,000.
2. **Tier-2:** For organizations with **budgets no greater than \$250,000, click here** or go to <http://chej.org/chej-small-grants-program/> for an application. This tier of the program will provide support from \$5,000 to \$10,000.
3. **Tier-3:** Larger organizations with **budgets over \$250,000, but not exceeding 1 million (\$1,000,000)** should **click here** or go to <http://chej.org/chej-small-grants-program/> for an application. This tier of the program will support projects with grants from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

Please check our application form carefully and note the specifics on CHEJ’s guidelines. If you have questions, email to grants@chej.org .

Non-incorporated grassroots groups: Should your grassroots group not be incorporated and do not have a bank account, you will need to identify an organization that can accept the funds for your group or a Fiscal Sponsor. Consider organizations such as a faith-based organization or another non-profit who will serve as your “fiscal sponsor.”

The deadline for submitting your application is **February 2nd, 2024.** Applications must be submitted to CHEJ at grants@chej.org,

The Small grants training Zoom call will be on **January 19th, 2024, at 12:00 PM EST.** **You must register** to receive a recording of the training.

Thank you, CHEJ Small Grants Team!