

## FAQ'S FOR THE 2016-2017 MINORITY COMMUNITY ORGANIZING & PARTNERSHIPS GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

### **1) Can a State Affiliate apply for the grant?**

Yes. A State Affiliate can apply for a grant on behalf of multiple local affiliates, but there must be a clear budget and set of desired outcomes for each affiliate who will receive funding using any of the project funds.

### **2) Does a Local Affiliate need to notify the state of its intent to apply for an MCOP grant prior to submission?**

Yes. All applications must be submitted with the full knowledge of the State Affiliate President.

### **3) What is the range of potential grant awards?**

Each grant application can be awarded up to \$50,000.

### **4) Is the award amount of funding for one year only?**

Yes. However, prior year award recipients may submit a proposal for funding in this cycle. However, the proposal must demonstrate how the State/Local Affiliate will continue the work. Emphasis on affiliate's plan to continue the proposed body of work will be a major factor in consideration of funding projects. All grant applications whether there is a request to continue funding or there is a request for funding of new work, each application will be reviewed with the same high standards.

### **5) Are there models of community engagement that might provide guidance for applications that seek to raise student achievement?**

Yes. Models of community engagement that may provide further guidance to applicants regarding for examples of family, school and community partnerships can be referenced in the National Education Association's Family-School-Community Partnerships 2.0: Collaborative Strategies to Advance Student Learning Guide at <http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/Family-School-Community-Partnerships-2.0.pdf>. The guide profiles work done in local communities across the country by NEA Affiliate Members and Leaders who have worked closely with parents, families, and community members to close achievement gaps, improve low-performing schools, and transform relationships between schools and their communities.

### **6) Can a Local Affiliate ask for a list of NEA members who have demonstrated activism or who have been trained through one of NEA's leadership development programs?**

Yes. Your State Affiliate may have a list of NEA members who have demonstrated activism or who have completed one of NEA's leadership development programs. MCOP can alternatively provide lists of members who have completed NEA's Women's Leadership Training Program; Minority Leaders Training Program; National Training Program on Safety, Bias and GLBT Issues from our database.

**7) Can this grant be used to help pay for a conference?**

Ideally, these grant awards will be used to support new member recruitment and retention, new teacher projects, actual issue organizing campaigns or efforts that are ongoing throughout the year to engage NEA Members and minority communities and/or partners. Priority will be given to those applications that reflect more than a single event, but rather a plan of continuous engagement.

**8) How can I assess the organizational strength of my partners?**

There are 10 elements of organizational effectiveness that are good indicators of a partner's ability to carry out their own mission and translate the capacity to a partnership. The elements are: membership, leadership, staff, message, finances, reputation, relationships, programs, technology, and planning.

**9) Who is the lead affiliate?**

The affiliate submitting the grant application is the presumed lead affiliate, and the contact person listed will be the primary point of contact for all activity related to the application.

Lead affiliate responsibilities include but are not limited to: receiving grant funding, submitting reports, gathering sign-in sheets and related materials/photos, and maintaining regular contact with NEA's MCOP departmental liaison.

If there are multiple affiliates applying for funding in one application, please list the lead affiliate in the appropriate part of the application.

If you are with a state affiliate submitting an application on behalf of one of the state's local affiliates and the local affiliate will be responsible for the activities described above, please input the local affiliate contact information.