

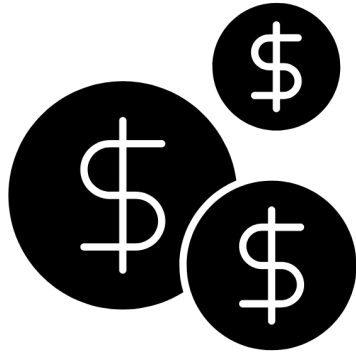
CYC

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What is the Youth Climate Action Fund?

The Youth Climate Action Fund provides **capital** and **capacity** to support young people ages 15–24 in designing and delivering solutions aligned with citywide priorities like creating public spaces, strengthening infrastructure, mitigating natural disasters, and building climate resiliency.



What type of project is eligible?

A microgrant project must:

- be **proposed, designed, and led** by at least two young people **aged 15–24**
- align with our city's **climate priorities**
- be completed by **April 15, 2027**
- operate within a budget of **\$1,000–\$5,000** using eligible expenses



Young residents plant a tree in the coastal city of Borongan, in the Philippines. (Photo credit: Reginald Lorico)

What types of projects could I do?

- **Climate education and awareness**, like courses, experiences, or the arts
- **Research and data collection**, like mapping environmental health
- **Resilience and adaptation**, such as addressing water quality or heatwaves
- **Green Infrastructure, reforestation, and environmental protection**, like creating parks, community gardens, or green roofs for community buildings
- **Sustainable agriculture and food systems**, like urban farms that would enrich community access to fresh food
- **Promotion and advancement of circular economy**, like sustainable fashion or rethinking the use of discarded materials
- **Sustainable waste management**, like sorting, collection, or cleaning
- **Sustainable transportation**, like encouraging walking, cycling, and using public transportation

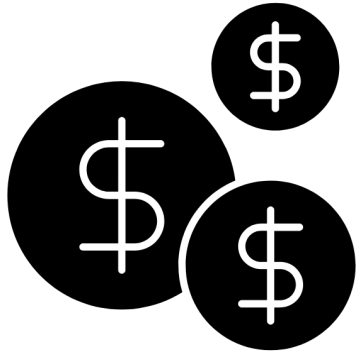
What are some specific examples of potential projects?



Members of a youth-led mutual aid organization prepare a community meal at a food justice distribution hub in Hudson Valley, New York. (Photo credit: Kites Nest)

- Build a neighborhood native tree & pollinator garden
- Create a composting program at a school
- Bike repair clinic and bike safety program
- Education around extreme heat or “heat safety kits”
- Partner with local artists to create murals to help educate around sustainability issues
- Install rain barrels at a community center

What do we mean by **capital**?



Winning projects are eligible to receive up to **\$5,000**.

As part of your application, you will have to develop a **budget**. We will hold a workshop later this summer to help learn how to develop a strong project budget. Funds can be used to cover expenses like:

- Equipment & Supplies
- Training costs
- Transportation
- Refreshments
- Promotional materials

What **can't** the funds be used for?

Funds **cannot** be used to pay for the following things:



- Speaker fees
- Scholarships
- Rent or utilities (unless you are renting a venue for a project related event)
- Direct support to individuals or families
- Political contributions
- Expenses related to lobbying or voter registration
- Subgranting to other individuals or organizations

What are our city's climate priorities?



The City's 2025 Sustainability & Climate Plan is 168 pages of community-driven recommendations for ways we can take climate action!

- How can we reduce our impact on the climate?
- How can we make it easier for everyone to prepare for bad weather?
- How can we get more people to care about the climate?

What do we mean by **capacity**?



Winning project leads are partnered with a **sponsor organization** to help execute the project.

- Fund Acceptance: They will act as your **fiscal agent**, accepting the money on your behalf.
- Paperwork: They will help you keep up with grant management tasks, including financial tracking and reporting.
- Mentorship: They will help you address challenges that come up along the way.
- Volunteers: Our program will help you recruit volunteers!

Can I choose my own sponsor organization?

- **Yes**, if you are already affiliated with an organization that is willing to sponsor you, please let us know so we can confirm their eligibility!
- **You do not have to have a sponsor organization identified in order to submit your project** - we can help match you to a sponsor if your project is selected.
- Applicants will have the opportunity to network with potential sponsors from our **pre-approved sponsor organizations** prior to the application deadline.
- While each sponsor organization can only sponsor up to three funded projects, but there is no limit on how many projects can be submitted in partnership with a sponsor organization.

What organizations are eligible to be sponsors?

Projects are led by young people, but funds must be disbursed to organizations. Eligible recipients include:

- Youth-led organizations (e.g. youth clubs or groups)
- Youth-serving organizations (adult-led organizations supporting young people)
- Sponsor organizations, such as city agencies, schools or other educational institutions, museums, or community organizations

Private companies, individuals or political parties or party-affiliated organizations are **not eligible**.

All organizations must:

- Be legally registered entities
- Be recognized as a non-profit or charitable organization under local laws (unless a public entity)
- Have a bank account in the organization's name

How many projects will be funded?

We anticipate funding at least 8 and up to 40 projects. The total number will depend upon the funding requested by the top scoring projects.

- If every project requests \$5,000 (the maximum amount), we can only fund 8 projects.
- If every project requested \$1,000, we could fund up to 40 projects.

Selected projects will cover a range of climate themes; funds will not be concentrated in a single theme or type of intervention.

What will be expected of funded project teams?

- Lead and complete their proposed project by April 15, 2027
- Work with their sponsor organization throughout the process
- Use grant funds responsibly and only for eligible expenses
- Check-in with the City on an occasional basis
- Track and report your projects expenses, outputs, and outcomes
- Help the City share the project with the community through photos, reports, or other program activities



A young person in Sobral, Brazil, uses a watering can made from recycled materials to tend her team's community garden. (Photo credit: Natalier Jr.)

Q & A

Appendix

What is the **City Youth Council**?

The St. Louis City Youth Council (CYC) is an advisory body of young residents ages 12-18 with a direct voice in shaping City policies and programs. The CYC will be part of the selection committee reviewing applications to the Youth Climate Action Fund and recommending recipients for funding to the City of St. Louis.



What does your project need to accomplish?

Example Project (what happens in the project)	Example Output (what are the project activities)	Example Outcome (what happens as a result of those activities)
Organize a series of city park clean-ups	Number of youth-led clean-up events	Number of bags of trash picked up
Start a newsletter on city meetings related to climate	Number of youth registered for the newsletter	Number of youth attending public city government meetings
Create and distribute home rain garden kits at school	Number of rain garden kits distributed	Number of rain gardens planted
Start a collaboration to turn food waste into fertilizer pellets	Number of fertilizer pellets created	Number of pounds of food waste repurposed