

Design For All 2026 – Questions & Answers

Do you prefer to work with building renovations or ground-up projects?

The program can support either renovation or ground-up projects. The seed funding is intended to assist with early-stage efforts—such as assessing project feasibility or developing materials to support subsequent fundraising—and is not intended to cover full architectural or design fees. Previously awarded partners have consisted of both ground-up and renovation projects.

Would any financial contribution be required on our end?

The award is for \$20,000 in pro-bono design and consultation services. No financial contribution is required of the selected partner.

Are landscaping design services, or other services, included?

Landscape design services are not included as part of this initiative; however, we can provide referrals to qualified landscape architects, or other disciplines, as needed for the project.

When selecting projects, does the firm weigh larger community context and organizational longevity in the decision making process? For example, are proposals that would impact the character of a neighborhood, create an open space for the surrounding community, or create revenue generation opportunities for the organization itself weighted differently?

Projects are evaluated based on overall need and potential impact. Considerations include factors such as the number of community members served, the project's visibility, and its capacity to support ongoing community engagement. This award is not intended to support commercial ventures. Rather, it is designed to advance the mission and vision of Texas nonprofit organizations and to help strengthen those organizations that serve and improve their communities.

We have a small budget for our project's build out. Does that prevent us from applying?

All project budgets and sizes will be considered.

Does our organization need to have a site secured before applying?

No. While having a site identified can be helpful, it is not required. The Design For All program can support site evaluation, early planning, and broader feasibility discussions for organizations that are still exploring their options.

How long does the Design For All engagement typically last?

Engagements typically span several months, depending on project scope and organizational readiness. The schedule will be mutually agreed upon and structured to align with the project's goals and capacity.

What is expected of the selected organization during the engagement?

Selected partners should be prepared to actively participate in meetings, provide timely feedback, and engage relevant stakeholders. A primary point of contact is encouraged to help ensure clear communication and progress throughout the process.