The City of Edmonton's Anti-Racism Grant Program supports the Anti-Racism Strategy and the Anti-Black Racism Strategy, which are intended to address forms of racism. This will be accomplished through investing in efforts that address racially motivated hate, build community capacity and cultural understanding, promote awareness, training and education or involve research, monitoring and evaluation on diversity, anti-racism and/or discrimination in Edmonton.

Anti-racism is defined as, "*the active, ongoing strategy and process that seeks to identify and eliminate racism by changing systems, institutions, policies and attitudes that perpetuate racism*." For more information please refer to Defining Racism.

The grant program has four distinct funding streams intended to help achieve the following **outcomes**:
- Edmontonians are more aware of racism and its impact and have a greater understanding of how to take action to address it.
- Edmontonians will be knowledgeable of the community organizations that are working to dismantle individual, systemic and structural racism.
- Edmontonians will work together to build a diverse, inclusive and equitable city.

FUNDING STREAMS:

- **Community Activation**
  Up to $15,000 and $325,000 of total funds available (under 250K operational)
  - This funding helps community groups run projects and events led by and for young people and/or seniors. Projects that encourage connection between different cultures and generations to fight racism will be prioritized.

- **Local Anti-racism Capacity Building/Innovation**
  Up to $30,000 and $450,000 of total funds available
  - We support local grassroots groups doing anti-racism work. This includes projects that:
    - Help people participate fully.
    - Promote healing and reconciliation.
    - Show and fight against systemic racism.
    - Create lasting positive change (for example, building relationships with other communities facing racism, sharing stories of those affected, and assessing and meeting community needs).

- **Local Community Participatory Action Research**
  Up to $40,000 and $375,000 of total funds available
  - This funding is for communities facing racism to do their own research on local issues that matter to them.

- **Shifting the Perspective**
  Up to $50,000 and $350,000 of total funds available
    - This funding is specifically for community groups looking to support projects that tell stories, to change how we talk about racism, through digital media.

- **Anti-Black Racism**
  Up to $50,000 and $200,000 of total funds available
    - This funding is for community groups looking to implement actions in the [Anti-Black Racism Action Plan](#) through collaboratives and/or partnerships

GRANT PRIORITIES

As part of your application, you will be asked to identify what form of racism you will be addressing:
We can understand racism in a few ways:

- **Between People (Interpersonal):** This is about negative feelings and actions between individuals. It can be things we say or do without even thinking, like microaggressions, or more obvious things like racial bullying, discrimination, and hate crimes.
- **Within Organizations (Institutional):** This happens when schools, workplaces, and other organizations have rules and policies that unfairly favor the dominant group. Even if they don't say anything about race, these rules can lead to unfair outcomes.
- **Throughout Society (Structural and Societal):** This is about the big, long-term ways our society is set up that give some racial groups more advantages than others. It affects many different parts of our lives.

Please see the [definitions](#) for more information.

Organizations must clearly demonstrate how their project meets one or more of the Anti-racism Grant Program outcomes AND how their project falls under one of the following project focus areas:

- [**Mental Health:**](#) When you have good mental health, you can manage stress, use your talents, learn effectively, work well, and be part of your community. It's valuable in itself and crucial for your overall well-being.

- **Employment:** This means having work that pays fairly and offers a safe and encouraging environment. It's not just about earning money, but also about feeling good about your work and growing in your career.

- [**Education:**](#) Education involves both teaching and learning. It's the knowledge you gain through school or being taught, and it also refers to the whole system of education.

- [**Food Security:**](#) This means that everyone has reliable access to enough food that is affordable and healthy. It can also mean having access to foods that are important to different cultures.

- **Disabilities:** "Disabilities" is a broad term that includes:
    - **Impairments:** Issues with how your body functions or is structured.
    - **Activity Limitations:** Difficulties doing things like walking or reading.
    - **Participation Restrictions:** Challenges getting involved in social activities or work (based on the World Health Organization definition).

ORGANIZATION ELIGIBILITY

Organizations must be registered (and in good standing) under one of the following acts:
- Alberta Societies Act
- Non-profit Private Company
- Non-Profit Public Company
- Extra-Provincial Non-profit Company, OR
- A local grassroots organization may be funded with a fiscal agent.

Ineligible Organizations include:
- Municipal departments or other governmental organizations
- For-profit organizations/enterprises
- Organizations that have overdue or incomplete accounting/reporting relating to any grant previously awarded by the City of Edmonton

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

The program provides funding assistance for initiatives, new programming or resources for anti-racism projects within Edmonton. Eligible expenses include:

- Staffing costs specific to the initiative
- Honorariums
- Program/project material and supplies
- Printing and communications
- Training expenses
- Travel expenses, within Edmonton
- Evaluation expenses
- Insurance
- Food Expenses, maximum 25% of the budget (exceptions may apply)
- Administrative costs and fees up to 15% of the total project costs (e.g. legal fees, accounting/booking fees, bank/financing related charges, ongoing operational expenses such as rent/lease payments and facility maintenance, fiscal agents etc.)
- Short-term rental of space for projects/programs

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Program funding cannot be used for expenses related to:

- Events/Festivals
- Time and labour provided towards preparation of funding applications, fundraising including costs for fundraising campaigns and websites for fundraising purposes.
- Endowments, charitable donations, bursaries, developing business cases or proposals for funding, donor recognition, and gifts (with the exception of gifts for Indigenous protocols).
- Project expenses that are incurred before the application has been approved and agreement signed.
- Capital and facility upgrades, renovations and construction.
- Debt reduction, financing charges and/or interest payments on loans.

- Administrative costs and fees that exceed more than 15% of the total project costs (e.g. legal fees, accounting/booking fees, bank/financing related charges, ongoing operational expenses such as rent/lease payments and facility maintenance, fiscal agents, etc.)
- Direct government lobbying or partisan political activities (i.e. activities related to advocacy must demonstrate non-partisan approaches.)

GRANT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- **Organizational Capacity** - the organization can meet financial and reporting obligations, demonstrates sound governance and the proposed project is within the scope of the organization's mandate. Organizations whose mandate, values, and purpose are focused on addressing racism will be prioritized.
- **Project Viability and Financial Feasibility** - a project is viable when there is a clear plan with timelines, activities and readiness to implement. A complete and balanced budget.
- **Project Impacts** - the project must address one or more of the grant program outcomes and priorities.
- **Access** - the project must minimize barriers to participation, including broad public involvement beyond the organization's direct membership (if applicable), and include how project resources, findings and/or learnings will be shared.
- **Community Need and Allyship** - The organization can demonstrate community need and community support. The organization leverages support from work already underway and/or includes partnerships and collaboration from ally groups directly related to the proposed project.

Higher priority will be given to organizations that:
- Are led by Indigenous, Black or Racialized individuals.
- Can demonstrate that their mandate, purpose and values are focused on addressing racism.
- Are working in collaboration with other groups.
- Have an operating budget under $250,000/year.

Funding Decisions will be based on a number of factors including:
- Assessment scores
- Evidence of sound financial processes

An incomplete application is missing attachments and/or has incomplete responses to questions. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

The following required documents must be attached with the on-line Application. If you are using a fiscal agent please include their documents:
- Most recent audited year-end financial statements, signed by 2 Board members
OR
- Most recent internally generated financial statements (those that are not presented either as a notice to reader, a review or an audit) signed by 2 Board members and must include a bank reconciliation and bank statement as at the fiscal year-end

REPORTING

Successful applicants will be responsible for final reporting within 60 days of the project completion, including:

- A financial report detailing grant expenditures
- Project activities, outputs and outcomes achieved

Projects must be completed within one year of receiving the grant (December 2026)

GRANT TIMELINES

- Applications due: September 11, 2025. No late submissions will be accepted.
- Application Reviews: September 12 - October 15, 2025.
- Award Notifications: No later than November 1, 2025.
- Funding Agreements/Letters and payments completed: November 1 - December 15, 2025.

For more information about the Anti-Racism Grant Program, please contact Grants@edmonton.ca.