



# 2020 Census grants available

To help ensure complete counts



## UP TO \$20,000 AVAILABLE PER GRANT

Commerce is offering small grants of up to \$20,000 to community groups, non-profits, local governments, or other organizations that want to help ensure a complete count of Washington residents in the 2020 Census. Funding will help organizations develop plans for outreach and messaging to “hard to count” populations and areas as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Here’s what you need to know to apply for a grant. You can find full details of the application process and grant requirements in the [Request for Proposals](http://www.commerce.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Census-Grants-Final-RFP-7.16.18.pdf) at <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Census-Grants-Final-RFP-7.16.18.pdf>

These grants are intended to build local capacity in support of the statewide effort to ensure all geographies and cultural and linguistic communities are fully and accurately counted in the 2020 census.

- Anyone is welcome to apply, even organizations that haven’t gotten governmental grants before. To be eligible, you must have a license to do business in Washington, or be willing to become licensed. Successful applicants will demonstrate close connections with the communities they intend to engage, particularly with outreach and community organizing or mobilization.
- Applications should be short, focused on what your organization plans to do and why your experience shows you can be successful.

## SMALL ORGANIZATIONS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

We encourage non-traditional applicants to apply for these grants, as we know that many of the communities that are hard to count in the census are poor, or otherwise marginalized. To encourage all types of organizations to apply, even very small ones, we have:

- Streamlined the RFP application process
- Extended the application deadline
- Eliminated insurance requirements for contractors
- Designed the grants to be “performance-based,” reducing your administrative costs and recordkeeping requirements.

### “Hard to Count” populations include:

- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Persons who do not speak English fluently
- Lower-income persons
- Homeless persons
- Undocumented immigrants
- Young mobile persons
- Children
- Persons who are upset with and/or distrust the government

### — TIMELINE:

- July 16** – Request for Proposals issued
- July 26** – Preproposal meeting at 1 p.m. at the Department of Commerce, 1011 Plum St. SE, Olympia, WA. A conference call option is available: 360.407.3780; PIN code is 996263#
- Aug. 24** – Proposals due

### — NEED MORE INFO?

Visit our webpage <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/contracting-with-commerce/upcoming-opportunities/request-for-proposal-organizations-interested-in-2020-census/> to download the full RFP and sign up for our email list.

Contact the RFP coordinator, Jaci Woodson, at 360-725-4049, or [jaclyn.woodson@commerce.wa.gov](mailto:jaclyn.woodson@commerce.wa.gov)

### — OUR MISSION

We strengthen communities in Washington.

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