



Call for Applications: GEI SA Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility:

I live in South Africa but don't live in Gauteng Province or Durban. Can I apply?

In order to be eligible for the Gender Equity Initiative (GEI) in South Africa, you must be a resident of either a) Gauteng Province—regardless of metropolitan or district municipality—or b) the City of Durban.

Please keep an eye out for future cohorts in which additional provinces and/or metropolitan municipalities may be added. You can find this information either on our [website](#), social media ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)), through our monthly newsletters in which you can sign up [here](#), and/or by contacting Lindelwe Mapurisa, South Africa Project Coordinator at Lmapurisa@riseuptogether.org.

Do I need to be a citizen of South Africa to apply?

Although, you do not have to be a citizen of South Africa, preference will be given to applicants that are citizens. All applicants must be a legal resident of South Africa.

My organization is a national organization with programs and offices across South Africa. Am I still eligible to apply if my organization works in other provinces and cities of South Africa in addition to Gauteng Province and Durban?

Yes! Employees of organizations working in multiple provinces and cities are eligible to apply to be a Rise Up leader, as long as your organization also runs programs in Gauteng Province and/or Durban and is interested in advancing gender equity and social justice in these two areas.

My organization is not registered as a Nonprofit Organization (NPO) or a Public Benefit Organization (PBO)? Will my application be disqualified?

No, your application will not be disqualified. We welcome applicants from government entities, universities, networks, non-registered nonprofit organizations, and community-based organizations without NPO or PBO registrations; however, these organizations will not be eligible to apply for Rise Up funding without a fiscal sponsor with one of these registrations and with the ability to receive foreign bank wires. We understand that some applicants may be going through the legal and registration process now and/or will choose to partner with a fiscal sponsor who meets the legal requirements.

Am I required to be fluent in English?

We ask that applicants are able to understand verbal English and have an intermediate proficiency level in speaking and writing English.

About the Application:

What is the purpose of the organizational profile? How will that impact my ability to participate in the program?

The organizational profile will provide the Rise Up team with further insights into your work and how it fits within the aim and mission of Rise Up and the GEI program. Additionally, an applicant's host

organization must support the applicant's participation in the Advocacy and Leadership Accelerator Workshop and in becoming a Rise Up leader. For workshop participants who receive funding, the host organization is obligated to support you during the implementation of your GEI funded project.

What does it mean when you say "GEI is a non-stipended program"?

The use of the term "non-stipended" means that Rise Up will not pay or be responsible for loss of wages during the week-long Advocacy and Leadership Accelerator Workshop. However, all costs related to the workshop will be covered such as accommodation and meals. We will also provide a stipend for travel to and from the workshop and incidentals.

I am the founder of my own organization. Can I list this in Section II of the application?

Of course, as long as your organization is related to GEI-related areas as listed on the first page of the application.

In the organizational profile section, could you explain what the legal/registration status terms implies?

Sure! If you and your organization want to submit a proposal for funding from Rise Up, your organization/network must be registered as a non-profit organization (NPO) or a Public Benefit Organization (PBO) and be set up to receive foreign bank wires. If your host organization does not meet this requirement, then you will need to acquire a fiscal sponsor who meets the previously mentioned qualifications in order to submit a proposal for funding from Rise Up after the Advocacy and Leadership Accelerator workshop.

My organization is not a registered NPO or PBO and we currently do not have a fiscal sponsor. Do I need to list one in my application or can I take the next few months to search for a fiscal sponsor?

No, you do not need to list a fiscal sponsor if you do not have one currently—in this case, please select the third checkbox under the legal/registration status prompt in Section II (Organizational Profile). If selected to participate in GEI South Africa and you plan to submit a proposal for funding post- Accelerator workshop, it is required to have a fiscal sponsor then. Please refer to the answer to the previous questions for more information.

I don't have a supervisor. May I leave that question blank?

Do not leave this question blank. If you do not have a person that directly supervises your work, you may list someone who works with you and knows your work well. For example, if you are the Executive Director of an organization, you may list a member of your organization's board.

Do I need references?

Yes, please list the name and contact information requested for one professional reference. We ask that your reference be an individual who currently works directly with you or supervises you and not an individual who works under you.

In the logistics section, can my professional reference and the person listed to approve my participation in GEI be the same?

Yes. In the case of listing a managing supervisor, for example, this would be warranted.

Is there a word limit to my responses? Will hand-written applications be accepted?

We kindly ask that your responses are contained within the spacing provided for each question. Applications can be typed or handwritten. In the latter case, please ensure that your writing is legible. When sending the application as an attachment, please scan your documents rather than taking a photo, if possible.

I sent an application but did not send a resume or curriculum vitae? Is my application complete?

No, your application is not complete. A completed application will consist of: 1) the main application itself with ALL sections filled out; and 2) an attached resume or curriculum vitae. Incomplete applications will be automatically disqualified from consideration.

Application Review and Selection:

How will Rise Up review applications?

First and foremost, Rise Up will review to ensure submitted applications are thorough and complete meaning that all sections should be filled, and the requested documents are attached. In addition, we will need to ensure all applicants under consideration meet the eligibility criteria as seen on the first page of the application. If you are still unsure whether or not you meet the eligibility requirements, please contact Lindelwe Mapurisa at Lmapurisa@riseuptogether.org, with a cc to Theresa Effa at teffa.C4Cng@riseuptogether.org.

I sent an email to the Rise Up team and still haven't heard back. Who should I contact?

We sincerely apologize for any delays in our response to you. Please resend your email to GEI South Africa Project Coordinator, Lindelwe Mapurisa at Lmapurisa@riseuptogether.org, with a cc to Theresa Effa at teffa.C4Cng@riseuptogether.org.

When should I expect selection decisions to be made?

After the October 28th application deadline, the Rise Up team will go through a preliminary review round in which they will invite selected applicants for an in-person interview to take place in Johannesburg and Durban in November. Applicants asked to participate in an interview will hear from the Rise Up team by the second full week of November.

Once all interviews are completed, the Rise Up team will select the final 20 candidates for the Rise Up South Africa cohort. All applicants should expect to receive final decision letters in early to mid-December 2019.

About Rise Up:

I have never heard of Rise Up before. Could you tell me more about your organization?

Rise Up advances health, education, and equity by enabling girls, youth, and women to transform their lives, communities, and countries. Rise Up invests in visionary leaders, local organizations, and innovative solutions to achieve large-scale change through leadership development, advocacy capacity building, grantmaking, and storytelling. Since 2009, Rise Up's network of over 500 leaders has directly benefited 7 million girls, youth, and women, and advocated for over 100 laws and policies impacting 115 million people in Africa, Latin America, South Asia, and the United States.

Rise Up is based at the Public Health Institute in Oakland, California, USA. For more information regarding our history and programming, please refer to our website at www.riseuptogether.org.

Is there a Rise Up office in South Africa?

Unfortunately, we do not have an office in South Africa. However, if you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our South Africa Project Coordinator, Lindelwe Mapurisa, based in Johannesburg at Lmapurisa@riseuptogether.org or by phone at +27(0)604593757.

Other Rise Up staff working on the Gender Equity Initiative in South Africa include: Theresa Effa, South Africa and Nigeria Programs Director, based in Abuja, Nigeria; Chantal Hildebrand, Program Manager, based in Oakland, California, USA; and Rahwa Hassen, Program Associate, based in Oakland, California, USA.