

Request for Applications (RFA) Frequently Asked Questions

I am originally from Gauteng or KwaZulu Natal, but currently live and work in a different province. Can I apply?

The application is open for people currently working in Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal Provinces. After the Leadership and Advocacy Accelerator training, we expect the new Rise Up Leaders to implement what they learn and impact women, girls, and/or gender-nonconforming people living in those areas.

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 in addition to Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal Provinces?

Yes! Employees of organizations working in multiple counties are eligible to apply to be a Rise Up Leader, if your organization also runs programs in Gauteng or KwaZulu Natal and is interested in advancing gender equity in those areas you are eligible to apply.

Am I required to be fluent in English?

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

What is the expected time commitment?

We ask that applicants can participate in a six-day residential training from May 5-10, 2025, with availability to attend several one- to two-hour virtual sessions before and after the in-person workshop.

What kind of resources will be available during the training?

Rise Up will cover all costs related to program participation including transportation, accommodation, meals, materials, and data costs.

What is the word limit for my answers?

There is no word limit. However, in your application, we ask that you please make your answers as concise and clear as possible.

Why do you need my organization's information? How will that impact my ability to participate in the program?

We request information about the organization you work or volunteer for because your organization's details are crucial for ensuring that it aligns with the objectives of the Rise Up Leadership and Advocacy Accelerator training program. If you work at multiple organizations, please complete this section, and the rest of the form questions, about the organization whose work is relevant to the Rise Up program. An applicant's organization must support the applicant's participation in the Rise Up Leadership and Advocacy Accelerator training and be willing to support the leader during project implementation.

What is the level of commitment of an organization?

If you are selected as a Rise Up Leader, your organization must allow your participation during the virtual sessions and the 6 days in-person residential training and be interested in you sharing what you learn with other members of the organization. Additionally, if selected for funding, the organization will support you during the implementation of a Rise Up-funded project. If you want to compete for funds and your organization is not legally registered and/or cannot receive international funds, you and your organization must identify a fiscal sponsor organization that can receive funds.

I am the founder of my own organization. Can I list it as my organization?

Yes, if your organization is related to one of the Rise Up thematic areas as listed in the eligibility criteria.

I don't have a supervisor. Should 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 mention the name of the person who works with you and knows your work well. For example, if you are a Director, you may list your Executive Director, or if you are the Executive Director, you may list the name of a board member.

Rise Up has previously selected a leader from my organization, am I still eligible to apply?

Yes, it will not impact the likelihood of you being selected. Also, we accept more than one leader application per organization.

When will I hear back from the Rise Up team about selection?

We will be reviewing applications and conducting interviews with finalists over Zoom and/or WhatsApp in February and March 2025. Once all interviews are completed, the Rise Up team will select the final 25 candidates for the South Africa cohort. **Only accepted applicants will receive final decision letters by April 1, 2025.**

I have a question that is not on this FAQ. Who do I contact?

For any questions regarding the RFA, eligibility criteria, and/or our programming in South Africa, please contact Rise Up South Africa Country Representative, Rethabile Mphutlane at SouthAfricaRep@riseuptogether.org