

2024 R3 Notice of Funding Opportunity Questions & Answers: 3/1/24

About the R3 NOFO

When will the R3 application become available?

The next R3 Notice of Funding Opportunity will open March 1, 2024. [Join the ICJIA subscriber list](#) to be notified of this and all other ICJIA funding opportunities.

What is the deadline for submission?

R3 grant applications will be due on April 30, 2024.

How much funding will be available to eligible agencies?

\$30 million.

How do I determine whether my community is eligible for funding?

Use [the interactive online map tool](#) to determine whether a specific address, neighborhood, or community falls within an R3 area and is eligible for funding. R3 areas appear in colored patches across the map.

Type the address of the applicant organization into the Search Bar. In addition, scroll into the applicant organization's proposed service area to determine whether it appears within a colored (grant-eligible) area.

Will current grantees be eligible for these funds?

Yes. R3 grantees may apply for grant funding to serve communities in a different region, outside of the region they currently serve.

Current grantees also may apply for funds under other [ICJIA-administered grant programs](#) as they become available. [Join the ICJIA subscriber list](#) to be notified of all ICJIA funding opportunities.

How will ICJA ensure the \$30 million is distributed fairly across the state?

To ensure grant equity across Illinois, funds are awarded regionally and based on population. [View the R3 eligibility map and regions.](#)

How will you ensure that the communities across the state are aware of R3?

The Lieutenant Governor’s Office and ICJIA have employed an extensive communication plan that includes announcements via subscriber lists, website postings, social media, legislator engagement, and media engagement, especially in areas determined to be of high need.

How will this grant opportunity be announced?

This opportunity will be announced via the [ICJIA email list](#), the [ICJIA website](#), ICJIA social media, and the [R3 website](#).

What are the priority program areas for this grant opportunity?

Applicants may apply for grants to provide services in the following priority areas:

- Economic Development
- Violence Prevention
- Reentry
- Youth Development
- Civil Legal Aid

Will funding for planning and assessment grants be available to help us develop services in our community?

Not in this round. 2024 R3 Program grants will support service delivery. Planning and assessment grant opportunities may become available in the future.

Will R3 funds be either available or targeted, specifically, to support the migrant population?

Funded programs that serve immigrants may apply for funding under the terms of NOFO eligibility and its other guidelines.

NOFO Review Process

Who reviews the applications?

Application reviewers include members of R3-eligible communities, individuals with work or lived experience in at least one of the five R3 program priorities (economic development, violence prevention, reentry, youth development, and civil legal aid), and a small number of ICJIA staff. All reviewers must participate in cultural bias and grant review training.

How are applications reviewed?

Applications are reviewed by panels of trained volunteers, ICJIA staff, and other stakeholders and scored based on the criteria outlined in the R3 Notice of Funding Opportunity. Panelist scores are averaged for each applicant and the applicants' final scores are ranked within each funding region. ICJIA recommends funding applicants that achieve each region's highest scores.

Equity scores are considered in cases where there is a tie. Equity points are applied based on local preference, local preference for staff or collaborative partners, whether they are located in high-need areas, levels of community involvement, and restorative justice efforts.

Do applicants compete on stand-alone merit or with the other applicants in their region?

Applicants compete with other applicants within their selected region and tier.

Who approves R3 grant decisions?

The bipartisan R3 Board makes final decisions on grant funding designations. The R3 Board consists of the Lieutenant Governor and other elected officials, service providers, violence prevention experts, and people who have been directly impacted by incarceration.

Will funding be renewed annually for approved applicants or will they need to reapply?

Grants awarded under this funding opportunity may be renewed without an application beyond the initial 12-month period of performance. R3 awards may support up to 36 months of program activity, contingent on funding availability, successful program performance, and compliance with the terms and conditions of GATA, ICJIA policies, and the grant agreement.

What options does my organization have if our application is rejected?

Applicants who were not selected may appeal the decision if they believe an error was made when the application was reviewed. Applicants also may request a summary of reviewer comments by emailing Shadynna Redmond at Shadynna.Redmond2@illinois.gov.

How long is the application review process?

ICJIA estimates a review period of one month.

When will grant approvals be complete and grantees notified of their status?

ICJIA estimates notification will occur by July 1, 2024.

Is there a timeline for this NOFO?

March: NOFO released. ICJIA provides technical assistance sessions.

March/April: Community outreach.

April 30: Application deadline.

May: Application review.

June: Application review is completed. Application scoring finalized. Information on selected applicants presented to the R3 Board. ICJIA Budget Committee reviews recommendations.

July 1: ICJIA initiates contract negotiation with selected applicants.

How long does it typically take for approved grantees to receive the funding?

Contract execution takes about 60 days from the date the award is made. Payments are commonly released within one month of contract execution assuming periodic financial reports (PFRs) are submitted on time.

Please note, once a PFR is received, ICJIA makes every effort to ensure funds are ready to be released by the Comptroller within 7 business days. ICJIA cannot account for the amount of time the Illinois Office of the Comptroller will take to process payments.

R3 Eligibility Map

What is the purpose of the R3 map?

The R3 map indicates areas around Illinois with the highest levels of gun injury, unemployment, child poverty, and commitments to and returns from the Illinois Department of Corrections. Only organizations that serve people in an eligible area may apply for R3 grant funds.

How do I use the map?

Use [the interactive online map tool](#) to determine whether a specific address, neighborhood, or community falls within an R3 area. R3 areas appear in colored patches across the map.

Type the address of the applicant organization into the Search Bar and hit Enter or scroll to a proposed service area to determine whether it appears within a colored (grant-eligible) area.

Why did the map change ahead of this grant opportunity?

A recalculation of eligible areas is required every four years by statute. Additionally, the 2023/2024 mapping process incorporates new census tracts to reflect the 2020 Census. The original R3 Area map was based on 2010 Census boundaries.

Who developed the new map?

ICJIA researchers collaborated with an R3 working group to analyze the data used to identify eligible areas and create the new map.

How was the new map developed?

Updated mapping data were retrieved from the Illinois Department of Corrections, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Public Health, and the U.S. Census Bureau's Five-Year American Community Survey. ICJIA staff analyzed the data with input on the procedures from the Governor's Office, the Lieutenant Governor's Office, and an R3 working group. Data findings were applied to the map, [which is available here](#).

What data sources are used to map eligibility?

Updated mapping data were retrieved from the Illinois Department of Corrections, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Public Health, and the U.S. Census Bureau's Five-Year American Community Survey.

Did the updated map expand geographic eligibility?

Yes. The updated map shows 906 eligible R3 Areas, a 15% increase in area over the 2019 map, which showed 769 areas. These increases were seen in all 12 regions of Illinois.

Who will be impacted by the map change?

Few will be impacted by the map revisions. However, organizations that find their communities have moved out of R3-eligible areas may apply for funding under other violence prevention programs [administered by ICJIA](#). [Join the ICJIA subscriber list](#) to be notified of all ICJIA funding opportunities.

When will the Board vote on the new map?

The R3 Board reviewed and voted to approve the map in January 2024.

Why doesn't the map cover more Hispanic communities?

Stakeholder feedback suggests some Hispanic/Latinx communities interact differently than other groups with the criteria outlined in the R3 legislation. For example, individuals who are undocumented may be deported, as opposed to being committed to the Illinois Department of Correction—a criterion stated in the R3 legislation. Others have suggested that a general distrust of government and other institutions may prevent individuals in Hispanic/Latinx communities from being counted in data on gun injury, unemployment, child poverty, and commitments to and returns from the Department of Corrections. This distrust may manifest in a refusal to seek treatment at a hospital for a gun injury or not responding to Census surveys).

Unfortunately, this limits researchers' ability to include these and other hard-to-count populations in data used for metrics relating to the legislatively outlined criteria on a statewide scale.

Will current R3 grantees be grandfathered into the new map?

Current R3 grantees will not be impacted by map revisions. However, those grantees must confirm eligibility based on the new map when reapplying for R3 funds.

What is the difference between an R3 area and an R3 region?

R3 areas are determined by high rates of gun injury, unemployment, child poverty, and commitments to and returns from the Illinois Department of Corrections, as defined in the R3 legislation.

R3 regions refer to groups of counties created to ensure funding is distributed equitably across the state.

How were the eligible areas identified?

The R3 legislation defines eligible areas as those with the highest rates of gun injury, unemployment, child poverty, and commitments to and returns from the Department of Corrections.

Are communities that appear on the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Disproportionate Impacted Area map eligible for R3 funds?

Yes. [View the DCEO DIA map here.](#)

My community was listed as an R3 area in 2019 but is no longer eligible according to the new map. What happened?

The map was updated with current data on gun injury, unemployment, child poverty, and commitments to and returns from the Department of Corrections. Organizations that find their communities have moved out of R3-eligible areas may apply for funding under other violence prevention programs [administered by ICJIA](#). [Join the ICJIA subscriber list](#) to be notified of all ICJIA funding opportunities.

General Information

How much R3 funding has been awarded across Illinois?

So far, ICJIA has awarded more than \$235 million in R3 program grants.

How can I become notified of upcoming ICJIA grant training and technical assistance opportunities?

[Join the ICJIA subscriber list to be notified](#) of all training and technical assistance opportunities.