SOUTH CENTRAL INDIANA TALENT REGION
Powerful technologies. Prosperous communities. Resilient futures.

READI 2.0 | LEI GRANT CALL FOR PROJECTS

Introduction

The South Central Indiana Talent Region (SCITR) invites interested parties to submit projects for consideration for potential READI grant awards. SCITR was awarded $30 million in READI 2.0 funding. This Call for Projects is the first step in the process of collecting and evaluating project submissions. All interested parties are encouraged to submit projects and those project submissions will be accepted up through 5:00 pm, eastern time on May 2, 2024. Project submissions received after that time will not be considered.

Project Eligibility

To be eligible for READI 2.0 funding, projects must meet several key criteria. Eligibility criteria include:

1. Projects must demonstrate a regional impact on at least one goal established by SCITR in their READI 2.0 plan. This includes (1) Innovation and Entrepreneurship, (2) Education and Workforce Development, (3) Housing, and (4) Quality of Place. A copy of the regional plan outlining these priorities is located on the SCITR website.
   https://www.southcentralreadi.com/

   Additionally, projects meeting the criteria for Lilly Endowment Inc. (LEI) funding will be considered eligible. These include (1) Arts and Culture, and (2) Blight Elimination and Redevelopment. Information on eligible LEI projects can be found on the IEDC READI website at https://indianareadi.com/resources. Note that additional funding for LEI eligible projects is above and beyond the $30 million cap given to the region.

2. Projects must demonstrate support by a local unit of government. A minimum public match ratio of 1:1 must be provided. This is a ratio of public dollars to project request dollars through the READI 2.0 or LEI program.

3. Projects must demonstrate that most of the match is provided by the private sector. A minimum match ratio of 3:1 must be provided. This is a ratio of private dollars to project request dollars through the READI 2.0 or LEI program.

4. Projects should demonstrate that preliminary planning and community engagement has occurred. This can be in the form of a feasibility study, master plan, or needs assessment, or other planning/design initiative. All projects should have a clearly defined scope of work

and be able to produce an itemized cost estimate should their project move forward to the detailed submission process.

5. Finally, all projects involving land/construction should demonstrate that they have property ownership or site control (in the form of an option to purchase or other purchase agreement) needed to proceed with the project.

Project Submission

The first step in being considered for potential READI 2.0 funding is to submit a project via the online project collector portal at https://www.southcentralreadi.com/.

READI 2.0 Evaluation Process

All projects received for consideration for READI 2.0 funding will first be evaluated to determine eligibility versus IEDC issued program guidelines. Projects meeting eligibility criteria will be reviewed by the SCITR Review Committee and by IEDC to understand more about alignment to regional goals, support of IEDC program KPIs and intended regional impact.

The final projects identified by the region for submission will be required to submit detailed documentation regarding scope, schedule, budget, match, site control, and preliminary planning to confirm eligibility.

LEI Project Evaluation Process

All projects received for consideration for LEI funding will first be evaluated to determine eligibility versus IEDC issued program guidelines. Projects meeting eligibility criteria will be reviewed by the SCITR Review Committee and by IEDC to understand more about alignment to regional goals, support of IEDC program KPIs and intended regional impact. The region will then select up to four blight/redevelopment projects and four arts and culture projects to submit to IEDC for final consideration.

The final LEI projects identified by the region will require an additional, more detailed application as noted in the LEI documentation on the IEDC READI website. LEI projects are funded with monies outside of the $30 million READI 2.0 award. Projects will be evaluated across the state for these funds, and there is no guarantee of allocation of any LEI funds to the SCITR Region.

Contact Information

Questions regarding this application should be sent in writing to: info@southcentralreadi.com