

# The EPIC Air Quality Fund Application

Dear Applicant,

We are pleased to announce that we are now accepting applications for awards from the EPIC Air Quality Fund.

Before you begin, please take note of the following:

1. **Review all guidelines, eligibility, and selection criteria at The EPIC Air Quality Fund website:** <https://epic.uchicago.edu/epic-air-quality-fund-applications/>
  2. **Access a pdf of the application:** To assist you in preparing for the online submission, you can preview the application form [HERE](#)
  3. **Seek Assistance if Needed:** If you encounter any difficulties or have questions while completing the application form, please write: [clean-air-info@uchicago.edu](mailto:clean-air-info@uchicago.edu)
  4. **Submit Before the Deadline:** Ensure that you submit your completed application form by **10 September 2024, 11:59pm in your local timezone**. Late submissions will not be considered, so be mindful of the timeline and plan accordingly. To note: Outstanding applications received before this deadline may be evaluated on a rolling basis.
  5. **After submission:** You will receive a copy of your submission on email. If you do not receive it, please write: [clean-air-info@uchicago.edu](mailto:clean-air-info@uchicago.edu)
- Additional note:** If your application is selected, you will be required to fill out one of the following forms below.
- **For foreign (non-US) entities, W-8 BEN-E** - Certificate of Foreign Status of Beneficial Owner (Entity): <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw8bene.pdf>
  - **For US-based entities, W-9** - Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification: <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>

We appreciate your interest and wish you the best of luck in your application!

Best Wishes,

**The EPIC Air Quality Fund Team**

For questions, please contact: [clean-air-info@uchicago.edu](mailto:clean-air-info@uchicago.edu)

\* Indicates required question

1. Email \*

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## Personal Information

2. First name of applicant\*

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3. Last name of applicant\*

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4. Contact number of applicant (please include country code):\*

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5. Mailing address of applicant\*

Please include Street Address, City, State/Province, ZIP/Postal Code, Country.

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6. Date of birth\*

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Example: January 7, 2019

7. **Select the country in which you plan to execute your project?\***

Note: Preference will be given to projects conducted in 'high' and 'medium high' opportunity score countries.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Afghanistan (High: 11.4)
- ☐ Albania (Medium-high: 9.6)
- ☐ Algeria (Medium-high: 8.2)
- ☐ Angola (High: 12.4)
- ☐ Argentina (High: 10.2)
- ☐ Armenia (Medium-high: 9.6)
- ☐ Austria (Low: 2.6)
- ☐ Azerbaijan (Medium-high: 9.2)
- ☐ Bahrain (n/a)
- ☐ Bangladesh (Medium-high: 8.4)
- ☐ Belarus (High: 11)
- ☐ Belgium (Low: 4)
- ☐ Benin (High: 11)
- ☐ Bhutan (High: 12.4)
- ☐ Bolivia (High: 11.8)
- ☐ Bosnia and Herzegovina (Low: 4.4)
- ☐ Botswana (High: 10.2)
- ☐ Brazil (Medium: 7.4)
- ☐ Bulgaria (Low: 5.4)
- ☐ Burkina Faso (High: 10.2)
- ☐ Burundi (High: 12.4)
- ☐ Cambodia (High: 10.8)
- ☐ Cameroon (High: 13)
- ☐ Canada (Low: 4)
- ☐ Central African Republic (High: 12.2)
- ☐ Chad (Medium-high: 9.2)
- ☐ Chile (Medium: 5.8)
- ☐ China (Medium: 6.6)
- ☐ Colombia (Low: 4.8)
- ☐ Costa Rica (Medium-high: 9)
- ☐ Côte d'Ivoire (High: 11.6)
- ☐ Croatia (Medium: 6.8)
- ☐ Cyprus (Medium: 6.2)
- ☐ Czechia (Medium: 6.4)
- ☐ Democratic Republic of the Congo (High: 13.2)
- ☐ Denmark (Low: 3)
- ☐ Djibouti (High: 11)
- ☐ Dominican Republic (Medium: 7.8)
- ☐ Ecuador (Medium: 8)
- ☐ Egypt (High: 9.8)
- ☐ El Salvador (High: 10.2)
- ☐ Equatorial Guinea (High: 12.4)
- ☐ Eritrea (High: 10.6)
- ☐ Estonia (Low: 5.6)
- ☐

- ☐ Ethiopia (Medium: 6)
- ☐ Finland (Low: 3.2)
- ☐ France (Low: 3.4)
- ☐ Gabon (High: 11.2)
- ☐ Gambia (High: 10.4)
- ☐ Georgia (Medium: 7.6)
- ☐ Germany (Low: 3.2)
- ☐ Ghana (Medium: 7.6)
- ☐ Greece (Low: 3)
- ☐ Guatemala (High: 9.8)
- ☐ Guinea (High: 10.2)
- ☐ Guinea-Bissau (Medium-high: 8.8)
- ☐ Haiti (High: 11)
- ☐ Honduras (High: 12.6)
- ☐ Hungary (Low: 5.4)
- ☐ India (Medium: 7.6)
- ☐ Indonesia (Medium: 8)
- ☐ Iraq (High: 11.8)
- ☐ Ireland (Low: 2.2)
- ☐ Italy (Medium: 5.8)
- ☐ Jamaica (Medium: 7.6)
- ☐ Japan (Medium: 5.8)
- ☐ Jordan (Medium-high: 9.2)
- ☐ Kazakhstan (Medium-high: 9.4)
- ☐ Kenya (Medium: 6)
- ☐ Kosovo (Medium: 7)
- ☐ Kuwait (n/a)
- ☐ Kyrgyzstan (Low: 4.8)
- ☐ Laos (Medium-high: 9.6)
- ☐ Latvia (Medium: 7.4)
- ☐ Lebanon (Medium: 7.8)
- ☐ Lesotho (High: 12.4)
- ☐ Liberia (High: 10)
- ☐ Libya (Medium-high: 8.4)
- ☐ Lithuania (Low: 2.2)
- ☐ Macedonia (Medium: 7.8)
- ☐ Madagascar (Medium: 6.8)
- ☐ Malawi (High: 11.8)
- ☐ Malaysia (Medium: 7.4)
- ☐ Maldives (Low: 3)
- ☐ Mali (Medium-high: 9.2)
- ☐ Mauritius (Medium-high: 8.8)
- ☐ México (Low: 4.4)
- ☐ Moldova (Medium: 8)
- ☐ Mongolia (Medium: 6.4)
- ☐ Morocco (Medium-high: 9.2)
- ☐ Mozambique (High: 9.8)
- ☐ Namibia (High: 9.8)
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- ☐

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- ☐ Nepal (Medium-high: 9.2)
- ☐ Netherlands (Low: 3.4)
- ☐ Nicaragua (High: 11)
- ☐ Niger (Medium-high: 9.2)
- ☐ Nigeria (Medium-high: 9)
- ☐ Norway (Low: 2.2)
- ☐ Oman (n/a)
- ☐ Pakistan (Medium-high: 8.2)
- ☐ Panama (Medium: 7.8)
- ☐ Papua New Guinea (High: 9.8)
- ☐ Paraguay (Medium-high: 9)
- ☐ Peru (Medium: 7.4)
- ☐ Philippines (Medium: 7)
- ☐ Poland (Low: 5)
- ☐ Portugal (Low: 3.4)
- ☐ Qatar (n/a)
- ☐ Republic of the Congo (High: 11.8)
- ☐ Romania (Low: 4.6)
- ☐ Rwanda (High: 11.6)
- ☐ Saudi Arabia (n/a)
- ☐ Senegal (Medium: 7.2)
- ☐ Serbia (Low: 4.4)
- ☐ Sierra Leone (High: 10.6)
- ☐ Singapore (n/a)
- ☐ Slovakia (Low: 4.8)
- ☐ Slovenia (Low: 3.6)
- ☐ Somalia (Medium-high: 9.6)
- ☐ South Africa (Medium: 7.4)
- ☐ South Korea (Medium: 6.2)
- ☐ South Sudan (Medium-high: 9.6)
- ☐ Spain (Low: 3.4)
- ☐ Sri Lanka (High: 9.8)
- ☐ Sudan (High: 10)
- ☐ Swaziland (High: 10.6)
- ☐ Sweden (Low: 3.4)
- ☐ Switzerland (Low: 2)
- ☐ Taiwan (Low: 5.4)
- ☐ Tajikistan (High: 10.4)
- ☐ Tanzania (Medium-high: 9.4)
- ☐ Thailand (Medium-high: 8.8)
- ☐ Timor-Leste (High: 9.8)
- ☐ Togo (Medium-high: 9.6)
- ☐ Tunisia (Medium-high: 8.6)
- ☐ Turkey (Medium-high: 9.4)
- ☐ Turkmenistan (High: 10)
- ☐ Uganda (Medium-high: 9.2)
- ☐ Ukraine (Medium: 7.2)
- ☐ United Arab Emirates (Medium: 6.4)
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- ☐

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- ☐ United Kingdom (Low: 4.4)
- ☐ United States (Low: 4.4)
- ☐ Uruguay (Medium: 7.8)
- ☐ Uzbekistan (Medium-high: 9.6)
- ☐ Vietnam (Medium: 7.4)
- ☐ Yemen (High: 10.8)
- ☐ Zambia (High: 12.4)
- ☐ Zimbabwe (High: 11.6)

8. **Which country are you presently residing in?** If it is not the same as the country you plan to execute the project in, please \* provide a justification for why you still consider yourself a 'local actor'. Preference will be given to those who can reasonably be considered 'local actors' in the communities they seek to implement their project.

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9. **What language(s) is(are) spoken in the country in which you will execute your project?** \*

*Please state your response as primary language and additional languages*

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10. **Are you fluent in the primary language spoken in the country in which you will execute your project?**\*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

#### Entity Information

11. **Name of the entity**\*

*(If you are currently working independently, please name the host organisation that has agreed to support your project)*

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12. **Please select entity type**\*

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Nonprofit
- ☐ For profit
- ☐ Academic institution
- ☐ Government entity
- ☐ Other:

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13. **Date of incorporation of entity, if entity has been incorporated for less than three years**

*Only if applicable*

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*Example: January 7, 2019*

14. Please state country/ countries in which entity is registered/ incorporated\*

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15. Please state entity's registration/ incorporation number\*  
(If not applicable, please put 'NA')

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16. Share link to webpage, if available: (otherwise, put: 'NA')\*

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17. Contact details of primary person\*

Please acknowledge the following:

Mark only one oval.

☐ I affirm that as an applicant, I will serve as the principal point of contact for all communications related to this application.

18. Full name of secondary contact person\*

This person will be contacted in the event we are unable to contact the applicant.

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19. Designation of secondary contact person\*

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20. Email of secondary contact person\*

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21. Contact number of secondary contact person (please include country code):\*

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#### Compliance Checklist

22. Is your entity allowed to accept foreign grants/ funds, specifically from the United States?\*

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

23. Is your organization in compliance with all relevant local, state, and national laws and regulations of your country with respect to accepting foreign (US) grants/funds, and you are able to accept funds in USD from us immediately, if successful in your proposal? \*

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

24. **Does your entity have a bank account that can receive foreign grants or funds?\***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

25. **Does the entity's bank accept transfers in USD?\***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

26. **This proposal and communications with the EPIC Air Quality Award Team must be in English. Please acknowledge.\***

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ I acknowledge

#### Project Details

27. **Project Title\***

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28. **Project Summary and Impact Goals:** Please provide an overview of your project and describe its goals. In your summary, <sup>\*</sup> please make sure impact goals are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART). Please make sure the project directly addresses the core objectives of this funding call: (1) measure PM2.5 for a period of 12 months in a place with no or little air quality monitoring, (2) Share these data in a fully open manner, and (3) achieve systemic national-level impact in some manner. Please note when addressing item (3) we are looking for specific policy changes (e.g. create or increase ambition of an air quality standard, address a specific policy, achieve specific outcome X).

Word limit: Up to 300 words

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29. **Data Generation Plan:** How do you plan to generate PM2.5 data, at what time resolution, and for how long? Where and <sup>\*</sup> how many units will be deployed? Will they be reference or lower-cost sensing? Why do you think this is the correct configuration to advance specific, tangible, national-level impact of some kind? Please note: These awards will only support stationary monitoring of outdoor air quality.

Word limit: Up to 300 words

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30. **Data-Sharing Plan:** How do you plan to share the PM2.5 data in a fully open manner (e.g. in physical units (not as an AQI)),\* in near real-time (e.g. not a month after the data are generated), in a manner that can be easily incorporated into open data platforms like OpenAQ (e.g. in a structured CSV file)?

Please note: The EPIC Air Quality Fund requires that all projects supported by it make their data fully open and in a format that is compatible with the [OpenAQ Platform data format](#), so that the data produced can be maximally utilized and the progress of our supported work can be measured publicly. Please see [this Guidelines document](#), which further outlines the open data requirements of these awards and an assessment of whether popular air quality monitoring companies' data policies meet our open data requirements.

*Word limit: Up to 300 words*

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31. **Positive National-level Impact Plan:** Please describe the positive national, system impact you seek to achieve in this project and share your plan to achieve it. \*

Please note: By 'national-level' impact, we mean impacts that can have a *systemic* effect on how air pollution is viewed or addressed in the country, rather than nationwide mitigation measures (e.g. distribution or increased awareness of masks, filters, etc.). We expect funded local actors/organizations will have specific plans - and actual measurable impacts - that will vary from country to country. Examples of 'systemic national-level impact' could be work that spurs the creation or raises the ambition of an air quality standard, activates an influential group of leaders within the country toward advocating for a specific air pollution policy, etc. Whereas some groups may hold workshops with the data, others may invest in apps, specific policy objectives, or myriad of other activities, depending on what their judgment is on what activities will affect change in their national level environment. Please note: We are not interested in academic or technical impacts *unless* they somehow were to feed directly into national level impacts on air pollution.

*Word limit: Up to 300 words*

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32. **Project Activities:** List and provide a brief description of each of the project activities that you plan to implement to achieve your objectives over an 18 month period. \*

*The brief description of each activity must contain name of activity, tentative timeline (eg: Mar 2025) and its importance in achieving the national-level impact that you are seeking to achieve. Word limit: Up to 500 words*

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33. **Project Team:** Please describe the team with whom you will be working on this project and each of their expected roles.\*

*Word limit: Up to 150 words*

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34. **Previous or ongoing work:** Do you have any previous or ongoing work that this project directly or indirectly ties into? \*  
Please describe and provide any references/links to your previous work (can include data, studies, academic papers, press releases).  
*Word limit: Up to 150 words*

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35. **Partnerships and Collaborations:** Mention any existing or potential partnerships and collaborations outside of your core team that will support the project's implementation or enhance its impact. \*  
*Word limit: Up to 150 words*

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36. Are there country-specific opportunities coming up in the near future that make it especially compelling to launch an AQ program right now? (e.g. election in a year, revamping AQ standards in the next 3 years, etc.) \*

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37. **Anything else you want to share?**

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#### Project Budget

38. **Total project amount (in USD)** \*

Please Note: We expect award amounts to be roughly 50,000 USD for groups proposing to deploy lower cost sensors and 75,000 USD or more for groups using regulatory grade equipment.

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39. **Please follow the steps given below to submit your budget:**

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**1. Make a copy:** Click on the budget template <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wLGkp4dhJ1FIRUmhd-bNtjelQNXuX3BisI0NlhKoKok/edit?usp=sharing>, click on **File > Download > Microsoft Excel (.xlsx)** and rename the downloaded file to include the applicant's name and the entity's name (e.g., 'Jane Doe - XYZ Foundation').

**2.Fill Out the Template:** Complete all required fields in the budget template.

**3. Share the File:** Upload the file onto a drive and share a link to the completed budget sheet in the response box below. Ensure that you have enabled access to your sheet by selecting the '**Anyone with the link can view**' option. If we do not have access to your budget sheet, your submission would be considered as incomplete. If you have any questions, please write: [clean-air-info@uchicago.edu](mailto:clean-air-info@uchicago.edu).

#### Attachments

40. **Share a PDF of your CV/Resume\***

Upload a PDF of your resume to a drive and paste a shareable link of the document in the response box below. Please ensure that you have enabled access to your PDF by selecting the '**Anyone with the link can view**' option. If we do not have access to your PDF, your submission would be considered as incomplete.

#### Consent

41. **Please carefully read and acknowledge each of the following statements by marking the checkbox next to each item:\***

*Check all that apply.*

- ☐ I understand only one application per team at an organization is accepted.
- ☐ I certify that the information provided in this award application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- ☐ I agree to comply with all terms and conditions associated with this award if awarded.
- ☐ If granted an award, our org has the capacity to invoice within the first 30 days of a signed agreement

42. **Do we have your permission to share your application with other funders?\***

*Mark only one oval.*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No