

hack^{the}hood

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FAQs FOR ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS 2016

LAST UPDATED: November 25th, 2015

This document is intended to answer some of the most frequently asked questions about Hack the Hood's RFP for Organizational Partners. If you have any further questions, please contact us by email at partnerrfp@hackthehood.org.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

What if my organization is not based in the Bay Area or California? Can I still apply?

Yes, we will consider non-California applications on a case by case basis.

Is this a grant application?

No, Hack the Hood is not providing grants through this process. This RFP is to find collaborative organizational partners.

Do you have a cap or goal for the number of partners you are looking to work with?

We are looking for up to a maximum of 7 organizational partners for 2016.

Do we have to pay you for the curriculum and the work you do for us?

No, you do not have to pay for the curriculum or the training.

What does Hack the Hood pay for?

Hack the Hood pays for the curriculum and training.

What do we pay for?

You pay for the program delivery components as described in the budget. The "hard costs" of the program are the youth stipends, instructor salaries, and Chromebooks. Other aspects of the program as described in the budget may vary site by site.

How much direct in-person time will our program director/manager need with Hack the Hood?

We expect the program director and/or manager to meet with Hack the Hood at a one-day orientation meeting, train the trainers, and ongoing check-ins and scheduled site visits.

What happens when the program ends? Do we still work together?

Part of our model includes post-bootcamp activities such as an Accelerator Team (A-Team) model where participants who have completed the bootcamp may continue to meet twice per month to engage in individual and group projects. We will provide training and best practices on this model during the one-week train the trainers. We hope that our future partners have ongoing activities at their organizations that will continue to engage youth in longer term goals such as educational and employment attainment, training and skills development, and ongoing social and emotional support.

What is considered a strong community infrastructure/local ecosystem?

Hack the Hood is working towards a collective impact model where community-based organizations serving youth, small business networks, municipal entities such as workforce development agencies and local government, and tech companies can work together to strengthen the local economy and support diversity efforts in the tech ecosystem. Relationship building among all the partners is key for success and we will happily share contacts and best practices to help you achieve these goals.

PROGRAM DELIVERY

How many new staff do we have to hire? Do you have a network of potential program staff we can hire for support?

Management teams are generally assigned from existing staff. It is typical that you hire 3 Instructors and a Community Outreach Coordinator for the bootcamp. We can assist with referring prequalified candidates, if possible.

Does Hack the Hood provide web design and technical training for my staff? What level of skill do they need to have?

Yes, we provide all technical training for all instructing staff working directly with youth, including 21st century skills (learning and workforce readiness skills training). Instructors need to have proficiency in web design and multimedia (experience and knowledge in coding is helpful, but not required).

Do you recruit the small businesses for us? We've never worked with a business network; how do we do that?

No we do not, but we do provide training and support, including business referrals and potential partner introductions. Our expectation is you will have a Community Outreach Coordinator (seasonal hire) and we will provide a mandatory training in May to support building relationships with small business networks.

Do businesses have to pay for their websites?

No, there is no cost our small business clients who will receive a free starter website through our program.

After the boot camp, can small business clients hire the youth?

We do not have any specific system for continued client engagement, but we strongly encourage our youth of legal working age to seek support and learn how to manage independent consulting for their clients if they wish to continue working with them.

Do you find the mentors for us? Volunteers don't like to come to our town to help out--how can you help us address that?

We strive to build relationships with people who work in the tech ecosystem and have gathered a network of interested volunteers. However, as much as we have tried to bring volunteers to areas outside of Oakland and San Francisco, it has proven difficult. We are working towards strengthening our partnerships with tech companies to provide opportunities for 'business' (field) trips. We strongly encourage you to seek local tech companies and organizations for volunteers and mentors to participate in the Hack the Hood boot camp. We will provide templates for outreach materials you can adapt and use for this purpose.

Can we do the program part-time, like after school? Can we combine it with another program?

We believe the model is most effective as a full-day program delivered during the summer (Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm, Friday 9am to 1pm for six weeks). However, we are flexible and open to modified models based on your organization and youth needs.

How are youth selected for the bootcamp?

We have an application form that we will share with you. You may use this to receive applications from prospective bootcamp participants. We also have screening criteria and an interview process, and we will provide you with best practices for those as well.

Do youth get certified from participating in the bootcamp?

No, we do not offer any certifications at this time.

Do youth pay to participate in the bootcamp?

No, it is not part of our model to have low-income youth of color paying to participate in this bootcamp or any A-team activities. If they successfully complete the bootcamp, they will receive stipends and Chromebooks.

We are a school, can we apply?

Yes, so long as you have a 501(c)3 status or have a 501(c)3 partner to serve as the lead agency.

Do we have to do it in the same place every day?

Yes, consistent location is key for youth and small business client consultations.

What kind of support will Hack the Hood provide while the bootcamp is in session?

Hack the Hood will provide technical assistance, check-ins and site visits.

What does a longer-term commitment look like? Can we sign up for more than one year?

In addition to training you on the A-team model (which meets twice a month with graduates of the boot camp), there will be programmatic/regional opportunities for post-bootcamp such as skills development/training, jobs, internships, college visits, etc. If you are interested in learning more about this post-boot camp model and ongoing relationship with Hack the Hood, and the budget, please be sure to indicate your interest in your completed application and letter of interest.

FUNDRAISING

Do you help us fundraise? What is the minimum amount of fundraising required of my organization?

If you are selected, we will negotiate fundraising responsibilities with you as part of the process to finalize the MOU. Hack the Hood will help raise money for a portion of the program costs at a site. Last year, our partners received an average of \$25,000 of pass-through grant support from Hack the Hood; we are still determining what we have raised for this purpose for 2016.

Do we build our budget around the goal of 25 youth, or the number of youth we anticipate to serve?

While we have identified 18-25 as the number of youth to serve in your program, we understand your organization may serve a different number of youth in your community. We will support you in understanding the best practices and staff-to-youth ratio for the program that will inform the budget of your program delivery.

We don't have money for youth stipends, how can we get it?

There are a variety of ways to find this funding. One way is to work with the summer job programs for youth in your City and see if you can get funds from them. Different organizations tap into resource pools that they have cultivated. We can provide technical assistance and consultations to assist, as well as providing grant language that you can customize for this purpose.

We have a lab, do we have to raise money to pay for Chromebooks? We don't want to do that.

A part of our model is that youth who complete the program keep their Chromebooks at the end of the graduation. We have found this to be an effective part of our model to incentivize youth to complete the boot camp. We welcome the use of any other computer or multimedia equipment as you see fit.

GENERAL

How is this program different than (insert one): Black Girls Code, Yes We Code, Hidden Genius Project. Can we work with one of them as well? Do you work together?

The Hack the Hood bootcamp is a full-day, six week bootcamp that engages youth in real-world projects where they build websites for local small businesses. We are very interested in developing not only the technical skills of the youth, but also their 21st century skills (learning and workforce readiness), and building relationships between the youth and small business clients we work with. We are very open to you working with any of these organizations and we hope to strengthen our relationships with these organizations to support the future of the youth we serve.

Can multiple organizations apply together as one collaborative partnership?

Yes!

Can for profit entities support the selected organizational partners? Can we direct funds to Hack the Hood to go back to our community?

Absolutely, yes! We strongly encourage relationship building within our communities as part of our collective impact model to strengthen the local economy and keep dollars in the pockets of local community members, especially our youth and small business community. We will be announcing partnerships in early 2016. Feel free to contact us directly to learn more about how to support our fundraising efforts:

partnerrfp@hackthehood.org.

Who will be my main point of contact?

For the application process, the main point of contact is Barbara Gee (partnerrfp@hackthehood.org).