

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – Mental Health Fund Grant

General Information

Q. What is the Mental Health Fund Grant?

The Mental Health Fund Grant provides financial support to IFCN-verified signatories to address mental health challenges resulting from crises, harassment, or other significant disruptions.

Q. What is the maximum grant amount I can request?

Organizations can request up to **\$5,000** per application.

Q. Who is eligible to apply?

All IFCN-verified signatories are eligible if they are facing a qualifying event such as civil unrest, natural disasters, state repression, harassment, or similar disruptions impacting staff mental health.

Q. Can I apply for the Business Continuity Fund as well?

Applicants for the Business Continuity Fund are eligible for a maximum of \$20,000 per incident. If you receive the maximum amount from the Business Continuity Fund, you will not be eligible for the Mental Health Fund as well.

Eligibility and Qualifying Events

Q. What qualifies as a “mental health challenge” for grant eligibility?

A mental health challenge includes circumstances where staff members face significant emotional or psychological distress due to events like or experiencing psychological impact from :

- Civil unrest, military conflicts, or state repression.
- Exposure to harassment, bullying, or targeted abuse.
- Traumatic events such as natural disasters or workplace crises.
- Regular exposure to misinformation, disinformation, and harmful content
- Facing online harassment, threats, or digital abuse due to their fact-checking work
- Working in high-stress environments covering sensitive topics or crisis situations
- Dealing with burnout or compassion fatigue from continuous exposure to challenging content
- Requiring support for trauma-informed approaches to fact-checking work

Q. Can an organization apply multiple times?

Yes, organizations may apply for funding multiple times throughout the year if each application addresses a distinct event or crisis.

Q. Are there restrictions on how the funds can be used?

Yes. Funds must be used exclusively for mental health-related expenses, such as therapy, trauma-informed consulting, or recovery-focused workshops. Funds cannot be used for general operational costs or non-mental health-related activities.

Application Process

Q. How do I apply for the grant?

You can apply online through the IFCN Grant Platform: <https://ifcn.grantplatform.com/>.

Q. What information is required in the application?

You will need to provide:

- Organization details and IFCN verification status.
- Description of the event or crisis impacting mental health.
- Itemized budget for requested funds.
- Supporting documentation, such as receipts, therapist certifications, or evidence of harassment (if applicable).

Q. Do I need to attach supporting documents?

Yes. Supporting documents such as invoices, therapy session estimates, or evidence of the qualifying event should be included to strengthen your application.

Q. Can I submit my application via email or WhatsApp?

Applications must be submitted through the online platform. In emergencies, preliminary contact can be made via email or WhatsApp, but a full application must follow on the platform.

Review and Approval

Q. How long does it take to receive a decision? Expedited review within **5–10 days**.

Q. How will I be notified about the decision?

Applicants will be notified via email from the IFCN Grant Platform of IFCN staff.

Q. What criteria are used to evaluate applications?

Applications are evaluated based on:

- **Relevance:** Alignment with the fund's objectives.
 - **Urgency:** Demonstrated need for immediate intervention.
 - **Feasibility:** Practicality and appropriateness of the proposed use of funds.
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Post-Approval Requirements

Q. What are the reporting requirements for approved grants?

Approved grantees must submit a brief report within **90 days**, including:

- A summary of how funds were used.
- The impact of the funded activities on staff well-being.
- Documentation of expenses (if applicable).

Q. What happens if I cannot use the funds as planned?

If circumstances change, contact IFCN immediately to discuss adjustments or return unused funds.

Support and Assistance

Q. Who can I contact for help with my application?

For assistance, reach out to **Email:** info@ifcn.org

Q. What should I do if I encounter technical issues on the application platform?

If you experience technical difficulties, email info@ifcn.org with details about the issue, and a team member will assist you.

Other Questions

Q. Are there deadlines for applying?

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year to respond to urgent needs.

Q. Is there a cap on the total number of grants my organization can receive?

No, but each application must address a distinct event or mental health challenge to be eligible.

Q. Can I collaborate with other organizations on an application?

No, this grant is specific to individual IFCN-verified signatories. Each organization must submit its own application.

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