

# Business Planning Assessment for Executive Leaders Application Information

Applications accepted on a rolling basis, as funding remains available.

*Grounded Solutions Network is launching a second round of its fellowship program for executive leaders looking to undertake business planning for organizational growth and/or increased sustainability. Apply now to complete an **Organizational Assessment**, which will then qualify you for additional training and one-on-one coaching opportunities later in 2016 and beyond. See the full funding announcement [here](#).*

The online application has three distinct sections outlined below. This PDF is available to help you consider your eligibility and prepare to apply; however, all applications should be completed only here: <https://www.tfaforms.com/407721>.

1. **Eligibility Form.** You must be a member of the executive leadership team either of the organization or the program (i.e. executive director, chief operating officer, or part of the management team), and you must be a current Network member. Your organization should be well-established and currently implementing industry best practices (see the Program & Business Planning section of the [Stewardship Standards](#) for details) as appropriate for your organization in order to participate in this program.

*If you answer “no” to any questions in the eligibility form or you have any other questions about your eligibility, please do not continue and contact us before completing the application.*

2. **Readiness Survey.** This survey will help the Network and our consultants better understand and gauge your organization's current capacity and readiness for new business development. For many nonprofits, the term "business" is a new term; most groups use words like "programs" to describe what they do. As you complete this short questionnaire, keep in mind that what we're asking about is essentially your preparedness to expand your programs or take on new ones.

*The online form includes a series of “yes/no” questions and should take you about five minutes to complete.*

3. **Business Planning Idea List.** We're eager to learn more about what idea(s) you might like to explore throughout the business planning process. Your ideas could be related to a new social venture or line of business or they could be related to evaluating and/or expanding an existing program area within your organization. The ideas that you list as part of this application are non-binding; you are encouraged to pivot and change along the way and we expect that as part of the exploration process. This is just to help us understand what you are thinking about right now.

*The online form includes two text boxes where you can describe your idea(s). The first text box will prompt you to share at least one idea for a social ventures or new line of business. The second text box will prompt you to share at least one idea for evaluating or expanding current lines of business.*

**Grounded Solutions Network will review your submissions and be in touch with any questions. All qualified applicants will receive a written request for additional organizational documents and stakeholder interview information, which must be submitted in a timely manner in order to move forward with the fellowship.**

If you have any questions, please call Jenee Gaynor at 503-493-1000 ext. 10

## Eligibility Form Preview

(Complete this as part of the online application [here](#).)

1. Organization, Name, Title and Email  
*We expect applicants to be from the executive leadership team for their organization or the relevant program.*
2. Are you currently a National Community Land Trust Network Member? Yes/No
3. Are you prepared to dedicate at least 10 hours to this program over the next two months? Yes/No
4. Does your organization have at least 20 residential units in a community land trust, a long-term deed-restricted housing program, or another permanently affordable homeownership program?  
*While there is not a strict cut off, we expect applicants to be from organizations with established and experienced programs.*
5. Stewardship Standards Self-Assessment Section - Review each standard and its associated practices, and select your current level of implementation.  
*In general, we expect that successful applicants will be implementing at least some of the relevant practice for each of these standards. See [affordableownership.org/stewardship-standards](http://affordableownership.org/stewardship-standards) for more information and the full list of Stewardship Standards.*