

## **About the Organization:**

From plastic pollution to climate change to the environmental impacts of our sport, our oceans are threatened. The clock is ticking. 11th Hour Racing works with the sailing community and maritime industries to advance solutions and practices that protect and restore the health of our ocean. Inspired by and furthering the mission of The Schmidt Family Foundation, 11th Hour Racing embraces sponsorships, grantees, and ambassadors who integrate sustainability into their values and operations while educating, innovating and inspiring people with the critical message of ocean stewardship.

## **11th Hour Racing's Grant making Strategy**

11th Hour Racing fosters systemic change to restore ocean health — their vision for the future includes cleaner, healthier waterways through strong local stewardship and collective action around the world.

As the climate crisis intensifies, so does the impact on ocean health. They need a global paradigm shift, from an extractive economy that depletes their natural resources to a sustainable economy that uses resources wisely and protects our ocean. They work to facilitate this transition by supporting local solutions to global problems, led by community organizations and industry leaders.

By supporting local pilot programs that model best practices of sustainability, restore coastal ecosystems, and advance ocean stewardship, our grantees are creating systemic change to restore ocean health. They are working toward a future of cleaner, healthier waterways through strong local stewardship and collective action around the world.

## **Focus Areas**

11th Hour Racing seeks proposals that align with one or more of our focus areas:

- Ocean Literacy & Stewardship – increase the understanding and appreciation of the importance of healthy oceans and waterways to communities through experiential learning, citizen science, and powerful storytelling
- Clean Technologies & Best Practices – advance practices and technologies in coastal communities and the marine industry that reduce waste, prevent plastic pollution, improve water quality, and assess new circular solutions
- Ecosystem Restoration – improve water quality, bolster coastal resilience, and sequester carbon through coastal habitat restoration

## **Eligibility**

- They will prioritize projects led by 501(c)(3) organizations but other types of non-profit or charitable entities may apply as long as the proposed project addresses one or more of 11th Hour Racing's strategic goals outlined above. 11th Hour Racing awards grants in the U.S. and globally, therefore international organizations are welcome to apply.
- Projects seeking funding for political advocacy, lobbying, litigation, fundraising, or legally mandated mitigation projects are not eligible.

## **Grant Awards**

- Current grants are 1 year in length, we generally do not offer multi-year grants.
- Typical grant awards range from \$10,000 – \$100,000, with an average grant size being \$25,000. First-time grants to new organizations are generally smaller in size.
- Their grant funding must be tied to a specific project, with measurable outcomes. We currently do not offer general funding, capital or infrastructure grants, or endowment funding.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

Project submissions are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Environmental impact: the magnitude of the project's environmental benefits
- Capacity and Organizational Expertise: organizational capacity and qualifications necessary to implement the proposed project
- Innovation and Creativity: how unique the project is or the methodology used

- Feasibility of implementation: technological, financial, and political factors that may influence the success of the project

Strong consideration will be given to: projects that involve collaborations and stakeholder engagement; model best practices; can demonstrate measurable outcomes in a one-year timeframe, and share successes broadly. For anything we fund, and especially demonstration projects or place-based work, we would like to see opportunities for broader impact through replicating or scaling.

For more information please check the [Link](#)