



B-Fund 2024 - Request for Proposals

Mission

Brem Foundation maximizes every woman's chance of finding early breast cancer through education, access, and advocacy.

B-Fund 2024

Brem Foundation helps women find breast cancer early, when it is most treatable and survival rates are highest. Brem's B-Fund has historically paid for women to get critical diagnostic tests when they cannot afford them, but when screening rates plummeted at the height of the pandemic in 2020, Brem added screening mammograms as eligible use of B-Fund support, in addition to diagnostic exams. The inclusion of screening exams will continue for the 2024/2025 grant cycle.

Statement of Need

B-Fund pays for breast diagnostic and screening tests for patients in need who cannot access breast care due to financial hardship. Institutions that receive funding from this program must demonstrate that their receiving patient is eligible for support under their existing financial assistance policy or is experiencing financial hardship, and cannot be enrolled in any other financial assistance program within two (2) weeks of experiencing breast symptoms requiring diagnostics tests or having an abnormal screening mammogram.

Eligibility Requirements

Each eligible entity must:

- Exhibit that it has breast screening and diagnostic capabilities or that it officially partners with entities that have breast screening and diagnostic capabilities.
- Outsource tests when needed if the breast center and/or breast center partner does not have all available breast diagnostic or screening technologies.
- Be committed to equal access to breast care and breast diagnostic tests regardless of patients' race, nationality, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status.



- Demonstrate that they are providing breast care and diagnostic services to patients who are eligible under their existing financial assistance policies and cannot be enrolled in any other financial assistance program within two (2) weeks of experiencing breast symptoms requiring diagnostics tests or having an abnormal screening mammogram.
- Have a financial assistance policy in place.
- Make concerted and reasonable efforts to explain the benefits and eligibility criteria for Medicaid and other available public and private financial assistance programs to patients, or patients' guarantors, and make available to those patients the information on programs that may provide coverage for breast screening and diagnostic services and associated costs, before providing B-Fund support.

**Funds will primarily be designated for entities located in the DC metro area.*

Use of Funds:

Funds must only be used to pay, in part or in whole, for breast screening and diagnostic tests including but not limited to:

- Screening mammography
- Diagnostic mammography
- Ultrasound
- MRI
- Breast Biopsies
- Molecular Breast Imaging
- Pathology costs associated with breast diagnoses

Funds may not be used for:

- Salaries for employees involved with breast care
- Costs associated with any post-diagnosis care, regardless of whether a patient is diagnosed with breast cancer
- Transportation to and from breast diagnostic exams
- Administrative and operating costs
- Educational materials
- Equipment, even equipment used for breast diagnostics



- Research
- Any other costs outside of the breast screening and diagnostic tests themselves

B-Fund supported breast diagnostic tests and screenings and associated costs, whether fully or partially funded by Brem Foundation, must be charged at or below the grantee's negotiated Medicaid rates.

Funding Requirements: To be considered for a B-Fund grant, **all applicants** must submit the following in their application:

- Statement of Need
- Intended Use of Funds
 - Each application should outline its intended use for granted funds. It should include projected numbers of patients utilizing the funds as well as the types of diagnostic (and/or screening) tests that will be funded by the granted amount.
- Adherence to Financial Assistance Policies
 - Applicants agree to use the same financial assistance policies in determining financial eligibility for assistance as they do for determining financial assistance eligibility to patients being treated at the applicant's facility or facilities.
 - Should the entity determine that a patient is in need of diagnostic or screening breast care and is experiencing financial hardship but falls outside the entity's financial assistance policy, Brem Foundation authorizes the entity to use sound judgment in providing assistance to the patient in need. Entities must identify those patients who received assistance through this grant but fell outside the entity's normal financial assistance criteria and explain their circumstances in their reports to Brem Foundation.
- Intention to limit use of funds to the named entity
 - The Organization agrees that the B-Fund grant may only be used for the purpose and may not be expended for any other purposes without Brem Foundation's prior written approval.
- Amount & Time Frame
 - The requested amount of funds should be included in the grant proposal. Any funds granted are to be used within 12 months of the award. If funds can not be used within 12 months of the award, contact Brem Foundation



to discuss the return of unused funds or the possibility of an extended grant period.

Dates

- Brem Foundation will accept applications beginning April 2, 2024
- Applications are due May 15, 2024 for distribution on or by July 1, 2024
- **RFP Release:** April 2, 2024
- **Applications Due:** May 15, 2023
- **Fund Distribution:** July 1, 2024
- **First Report Due:** January 31, 2025
- **Second Report Due:** June 30, 2025

Award Requirements

- Adherence to the applicant's financial assistance policy, evidence that funds disbursed served an individual who was experiencing financial hardship, or explanation of criteria used if the recipient of funding fell outside the entity's financial assistance policy.
- Biennial Reports
Awarded entities must provide Brem Foundation with reports on **January 31, 2025 and June 30, 2025**. The Report shall include the following information, which may be modified by Brem Foundation:
 - Date of test
 - Age Range
 - If the patient has received B-Fund support multiple times in the past 6 months.
 - Insurance status
 - Race and if identifies as Latina/Hispanic
 - Any known barriers to receiving screening (e.g., transportation, cost, language, time off work, child care)
 - Patient Residential Location - State/City
 - Medical center administering test
 - If diagnostic, the amount of time between abnormal mammogram & diagnostic test



- Type of screening or diagnostic test received
- Results of tests administered, if known
- Cost of screening or diagnostic test received (actual cost, amount B-Fund contributed, amount patient paid out of pocket)
- Any patient testimonial

Compliance with Law.

The Organization shall comply with applicable state and federal law, including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as amended (“HIPAA”).

- Grant Cycle
 - The grant cycle is for twelve months, beginning July 1, 2024. No new grant applications will be considered until all original funds have been used.
- Statement of Impact
 - Along with biennial reports, the entity shall supply a statement of impact at the end of the grant cycle regarding how the awarded funds have changed the way that the entity was able to care for patients in need of breast diagnostics.

Patient Testimonials and Marketing

When possible, the Organization shall provide Brem Foundation with patient testimonials and photos about how the granted monies have helped them.

The Organization agrees that Brem Foundation may use such testimonials in seeking funding and in marketing materials (including but not limited to its website, e-newsletters, paper mailings, donor communication, and social media) and shall have received any written consent required under state or federal law to allow Brem Foundation to use such testimonials.

Application Review and Decision

Organizations will receive notification via email to the contact person referenced in the application. Brem will confirm receipt of the application and will notify the applicant if



selected as a grantee. Each application will be carefully reviewed by Brem's selection committee.

All beneficiaries will be required to sign a formal MOU between Brem Foundation and the recipient organization.

Submission:

- All grant applications should be submitted in PDF to info@bremfoundation.org.
- Please provide a primary contact, name of organization, email address, physical address, social handles, and telephone number of the primary contact for the grant application.