

BALTIMORE CITY ETHICS BOARD
626 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Phone: 410-396-4730 Fax: 410-396-8483
<http://ethics.baltimorecity.gov>

**GOVERNMENTAL/CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS –
APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL**

NAME OF BENEFITTED PROGRAM / CHARITY: Leadership for Educational Equity Public Policy Fellows

PART A. SPONSORING AGENCY

Name Office of Councilmember Zeke Cohen
Address Suite 522, City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202
Contact Person / Coordinator Joshua Thomson
Telephone (410) 396-4821 Email joshua.thomson@baltimorecity.gov

PART B. PURPOSE OF PROPOSED SOLICITATION

I. Identify the specific governmental or charitable program, function, or activity for which solicitations will be made:

Leadership for Educational Equity (LEE) Public Policy Fellowship

II. Describe the specific purposes to which contributions and other receipts will be applied:

Contributions will be used to support a Leadership for Educational Equity Fellow and their talent acquisition and placement. Specifically, funds will be used to place a LEE Fellow in the First District City Council Office.

III. Select the appropriate range for the aggregate value of the contributions sought:

- \$500,000 or more
- between \$150,000 and \$500,000
- between \$50,000 and \$150,000
- between \$5,000 and \$50,000
- less than \$5,000

PART C. CITY ENDORSEMENT

By: ___ Board of Estimates ___ Designee of B/E: _____

Date and Manner of Endorsement: _____

Attach Copy of Written Endorsement

PART D. WHEN AND HOW SOLICITATION TO BE CONDUCTED

I. Proposed starting date of solicitation efforts: Immediately upon approval

II. Proposed ending date of solicitation efforts: June 27, 2020

III. Describe the categories of persons to be solicited and by whom and how those solicitations will be made:

This campaign will target individuals, organizations, and businesses with a history of involvement in providing a variety of resources that promote social and racial justice in education within Baltimore City. They will be contacted through individuals, groups, emails, calls, Internet and social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, videos, etc.). We would like to expand our target to other businesses that contribute to strengthening positive relationships among the many communities in our city.

IV. Identify all *public servants* who will be soliciting contributions:

Councilmember Zeke Cohen and staff

V. Describe measures to be taken to ensure that the solicitation (i) will be directed at a broad range of donors and (ii) will not specially target *controlled donors*:

Potential donors will be solicited based on their history of participating in activities related to this specific campaigns or have contributed to or have interests in similar causes to impact positive change for Baltimore communities. There potential donors who are controlled donors will not be targeted or singled out in any way and will be solicited, if at all, in the same manner as other potential donors.

VI. Describe measures to be taken to avoid any suggestion that contributors might receive special access or favored treatment from any agency or public servant of the City:

The LEE Fellowship provides high quality work placements focused on equity and inclusion in education.

Fellows are formally hired by LEE and are under LEE human resources and training jurisdiction.

The purpose of these funds will be made clear to those donating and donors will be informed

that they will not gain favors or special access by supporting LEE as donors have no agency

over individuals recruited or their placement.

PART E. PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CUSTODY, ACCOUNTING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF DONATIONS

Name Baltimore City Foundation

Address 7 E Redwood St - 9th Floor

Baltimore, MD 21202

Telephone (410) 396-1395

PART F. SIGNATURE AND AFFIRMATION

I affirm under the penalties of perjury that the contents of this Application and of all accompanying attachments are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Date: 06/27/2019

FOR: 1st District Baltimore City Council

{Type/Print Name of Sponsoring Agency}

BY: 

{Signature}

Joshua Thomson, Chief of Staff

{Type/Print Name and Title}

100 Holiday St. Baltimore, MD 21202



{Type/Print Office Address}

410-396-4821

{Type/Print Office Telephone Number}

joshua.thomson@baltimorecity.gov

{Type/Print Email Address}

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Joshua Thomson, Chief of Staff 	CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Office of Councilman Zeke Cohen's RM 522, City Hall		
	SUBJECT	Government/Charitable Solicitation Application		

DATE 06/27/19

TO To Honorable Clerk of the Board
of Board of Estimates
Room 204, City Hall

Re: Government/Charitable Solicitation Application

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE BOARD OF ESTIMATES:

The Board is requested to endorse a Governmental/Charitable Application for submission to the Board of Ethics of Baltimore City to allow Councilmember Zeke Cohen and staff to solicit donations for a Leadership for Educational Equity Public Policy Fellow for the First District City Council office. The period of the campaign, pending board approval, will be effective upon Board approval to June 27th, 2020.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF MONEY:

No general funds are involved in this transaction.

BACKGROUND AND EXPLANATION:

Donations will be solicited from Baltimore businesses, civic leaders, the foundation community and the general population. A potential donor list will be comprised of individuals and corporate entities that contribute to the economic, social, and cultural vitality of Baltimore City. Most of the individual and corporate entities fitting that description are not controlled donors. However, those potential donors who are controlled donors with respect to the City Council or the Board of Estimates will not be targeted or singled out in any way and will be solicited, if at all, in the same manner as the other potential donors.

Leadership for Educational Equity's mission is to end the injustice of educational inequity by inspiring and supporting a diverse set of leaders with classroom experience to engage civically and politically. Leadership for Educational Equity's Public Policy Fellowship Program is a full-time program where a diverse group of exceptional Leadership for Educational Equity members work in policy roles for government entities and learn from policy and elected leaders. Councilmember Zeke Cohen's office provides a strategic and diverse platform for these talented individuals to work directly with local leaders in developing and advancing policy initiatives and fostering valuable relationships. This funding will explicitly fund one Public Policy Fellow for the First District City Council office. There is a need in our City Government to enlist such individuals into our offices to promote a more equitable Baltimore.

Councilmember Cohen chairs the Education and Youth Committee of the Baltimore City Council and serves on the Public Safety, Executive Appointments, and Housing and Urban Affairs Committees. Our office believes policy development should be guided by and carried out

in partnership with the communities we serve. Since entering office, Councilmember Cohen has sought to further increase the relevancy of the Education and Youth Committee by collaborating closely with youth and education advocates and using the committee as a platform for advocacy campaigns. Through these collaborations, students' access to public transportation was protected from cuts and desperately-needed funds were put into our public schools and after-school programs in the city's 2017-18 budget.

A Public Policy Fellow would provide our office with greater capacity to research and propose local policy solutions that could increase youth access to yearlong employment, expand trauma-informed and restorative practices in all public facilities serving youth, and enhance protections for transgender students. The Fellow would be an essential resource for our office to work and collaborate with various community stakeholders to expand opportunities for Baltimore's youth.

Baltimore City Code Article 8, Section 6-26, prohibits solicitation or facilitating the solicitation of a gift. An exception was enacted in 2005 to permit certain solicitations that are for the benefit of an official governmental program or activity, or a City endorsed charitable function or activity. Ethics Regulation 96.26B sets out the standards for approval, which includes the requirement that the program, function or activity to be benefited and the proposed solicitation campaign must be endorsed by the Board of Estimates or its designee.

MBE/MWE PARTICIPATION:

N/A

APPROVED BY BOARD OF ESTIMATES:



CLERK

DATE

JUL 10 2019