


What's New?

Year-Round Membership Recruitment,
Monthly Payment Plans, and Two Grant Cycles



In September 2020, the Impact Austin board approved the following changes to support a new model of year-round membership recruitment, introduction of a monthly payment option, and grant awards – all facilitated with the same trust-based mindset that we apply to all new grantmaking processes.

- ✓ Members have full participation privileges, and you become a member as soon as payment is initiated, either by setting up monthly payments or by paying the annual payment in full. **If you're a member, you get to vote!** Immediate participation will make year-round recruiting and onboarding more effective, inclusive, and welcoming.
- ✓ There will still be a membership deadline for voting – an administrative necessity – but it will be moved to just days before voting on grants commences. Members need to have made their annual payment or initiated monthly payments prior to the deadline in order to be eligible to vote.



All members will be eligible for two Grant Review Committee (GRC) cycles, **no matter when they join**. New members will be eligible for the next 2 GRC cycles and renewing members will be eligible for an additional 2 GRC cycles, consistent with a full year of paid membership.



Impact Austin will now offer two grant cycles per year, Spring and Fall. Grant dollar amounts will be determined by dividing the grant portion of membership dues 50/50 into two grant pools - Spring and Fall. Because members will pay dues at different times during the year, and because some will pay annually and other monthly, having two grant cycles will ensure that grant amounts will be **balanced**.

For Spring 2021 awards (Community and Education Grants), the grant amount will be determined at the end of the calendar year.

For Fall 2021 awards (Equity and Health & Well-Being Grants), the grant amount will be determined at the end of June.

Are you still wondering how this will be put into practice?

Here is a tentative schedule for the Spring 2021 grant season.

12/31	Spring 2021 Grant Pool Closes	5/15	Membership deadline for voting
1/7	Grant amount finalized	5/19	Member voting starts
1/11	GRC signups start	5/27	Member voting ends
1/11	Grant applications open	6/7	Annual Meeting
2/9	Grant applications close	7/1	Payments to Community Partners
2/9	GRC signups end		

Note: These dates assume all 2021 meetings are virtual and that voting is conducted in advance of Annual Meeting.

Member recruitment will be an inclusive, year-round practice. Now there's never a bad time to **#JoinImpactAustin!**