Am I eligible to apply?

Any U.S.-based freelance journalists are eligible to apply.

What if I am a foreign journalist?

Story proposals must come from US-based reporters, have a strong U.S. angle involving American citizens, government, or business, and must be published in English, in a media outlet in the U.S.

What type of story proposals have the highest chance of being approved?

FIJ’s board of directors is looking for stories on the coronavirus that break new ground and expose wrongdoing—such as corruption, malfeasance, or abuse of power—in the public and private sectors.

FIJ encourages proposals written for ethnic media as well as those submitted by journalists of color and involving the impact of the coronavirus in U.S. ethnic communities.

What are the main items I need to complete an application?

You must have a story proposal, estimated budget, resume, two works samples, professional references, and a letter of commitment from an executive of the news outlet that pledges its commitment to publish your investigation.

How much money can I receive and what does the grant cover?

Grants average $5,000 but can be as high as $10,000. They cover out-of-pocket expenses such as travel, document collection, and equipment rental. FIJ also considers requests for small stipends.

How long until I know if I am approved for a grant?

FIJ will review proposals as they are submitted. Grant decisions can be expected within two weeks of submission of application.