General Information
Q: What is the Social Innovation Fund?
A: The Social Innovation Fund is an initiative of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) that is focused on improving the lives of people in low-income communities throughout the United States. CNCS achieves this goal by funding innovative community-based solutions that have compelling evidence, ultimately with the aim of increasing the evidence base, capacity, and scale of the organizations serving vulnerable populations.

Submission Process and Eligibility
Q: Is a Letter of Intent (LOI) required?
A: Yes, all applicants must submit an LOI that Opportunity Reboot will use to complete a preliminary screening of prospective applicants. The LOI must include all of the information outlined on page 6 of the RFP. Full proposals from organizations that did not submit an LOI will not be accepted.

Q: What are the eligibility requirements for applicants?
A: To be eligible for the Opportunity Reboot competition, an organization must be a nonprofit with 501(c)(3) IRS status or an entity described in sections 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Q: Our organization has received funding from Youthprise in the past. May we still apply for an Opportunity Reboot subgrant through Youthprise?
A: All organizations meeting the eligibility requirements on page 6 of the RFP are eligible to apply for the Opportunity Reboot subgrant, excluding those who are current recipients of SIF subgrants from other organizations.
Q: Will Opportunity Reboot consider proposals for geographic areas already represented among current SIF intermediaries and subrecipients?
A. Yes. However, a key focus of Opportunity Reboot is to expand services to areas that are geographically diverse and/or philanthropically underserved.

Q: What if we serve disadvantaged students (low-income, students of color) but not students at-risk of dropping out?
A: Opportunity Reboot targets youth between the ages of 14 and 24 and are typically homeless, in foster care, involved in the juvenile justice system, and/or disconnected from school and education.

Q: Our organization has received an SIF subgrant from another organization. May we still apply for a SIF subgrant through Youthprise?
A: Current SIF subgrantees are eligible for Opportunity Reboot funding.

Q: Are multiple applications from the same organization allowed?
A: Multiple applications from the same organization will not be permitted.

**Program Models and Geographic Focus**

Q: Are applicants required to select from a pre-determined list of models for program implementation?
A. No. Opportunity Reboot requires that subgrantees implement programs that emphasize positive youth development and align with the Career Pathways Framework. See pages 7 and 8 of the RFP for more details regarding a Career Pathways Framework.

Q: Are applications being accepted for new program models?
A: Because of the requirements regarding preliminary evidence of program effectiveness (see page 4 of the RFP), applications from new program models will not be accepted.

Q. What are the evidence requirements for applicants?
A: Applicants must submit descriptions of the proposed model and data that indicate evidence of effectiveness. The data must confirm, at a minimum, preliminary indication/evidence of success. Levels of evidence will be determined based on CNCS’ Rubric for Identifying Interventions’ Incoming Levels of Evidence, which is summarized on page 4 of the RFP.

Q: Does Opportunity Reboot focus on specific cities/regions within the state?
A: Opportunity Reboot will target Minnesota’s Youth Development and Economic Opportunities focus areas, to include major population centers in Minneapolis (Hennepin County) and Saint Paul (Ramsey County), as well as areas in Greater Minnesota, some of which are rural.

Q: Are enterprises that focus on work readiness skills eligible?
A: Opportunity Reboot requires that subgrantees implement programs that align with the Career Pathways Framework. See pages 7 and 8 of the RFP for more details.
Q. What occupations are eligible for Opportunity Reboot?
A: Applicants must prepare youth for occupations that are in demand with their local community or region. Applicants can show jobs are in demand through Labor Market Information.

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A: Applicants must prepare youth for occupations that are in demand within their local community or region. Applicants can show jobs are in demand through Labor Market Information (LMI).

Q: What if we serve low-income youth that are at-risk and have significant barriers? (UPDATED 10/27/15)
A: Opportunity Reboot is targeting youth between the ages of 14 and 24 who are either homeless, in foster care, involved in the juvenile justice system, or disconnected from school and work. Programs can serve general at-risk youth alongside our target population. However, Opportunity Reboot funds can only be used to serve the target population. Applicants must show how they are serving this population and how they will ensure funds are only used to serve the target population.

Q: Can we pay wages or stipends with Opportunity Reboot Fund? (UPDATED 10/27/15)
A: Subgrantees may be able to use funds to cover the cost of incentives that are integral to the program model in addressing barriers to recruitment, retention and connecting youth to employment. These items are subject to restrictions imposed under federal Regulations, including the National Service Criminal History Check Requirements, and must be budgeted and approved in writing at the time of award.

Available Funding and Match Requirement
Q: How much funding is available through Opportunity Reboot?
A: Youthprise will award six to eight Opportunity Reboot subgrants based on approximately $1.25 million/year in available funds, for a total of $3.75 million awarded over the three-year grant period. Subgrants will be in the range of $150,000-$250,000 per subgrantee annually, and individual grants over the three-year period will total $450,000-$750,000 per grantee. This is a five-year project. Funding for years four and five is subject to appropriations.

Q: What are the requirements for the 1:1 funding match?
A. Applicants must be able to provide a 1:1, dollar-for-dollar, cash match for the funded project. Federal funds may not be used to meet this match requirement. Instead, matching funds must be from state, local or private sources, including state or local agencies, businesses, private philanthropic organizations, or individuals. In addition, the match must be cash only; in-kind donations are not acceptable for the match. Applicants must submit a formal commitment to secure at minimum 25% of required dollar-for-dollar matching funds at the time of proposal submission. Applicants that cannot demonstrate the ability to provide a 1:1 cash match will be disqualified from the review process.

Updated 10-27-15
Q: Can nonprofits apply for less than the dollar amounts stated on the announcement?
A: The minimum subgrant award allowable is $100,000. We expect to make grants in the range of $150,000 – 250,000.

Q: When will the matching funds need to be secured? (UPDATED 10/27/15)
A: Opportunity Reboot requires that applicants secure at least the minimum of 25% of Year 1 matching funds at the time of proposal submission. The deadline to submit proposals from invited applicants is January 8, 2016.

**Grant Management/Administration NEW CATEGORY!! (UPDATED 10/27/15)**

Q: Do you know if there is limit for how much of the grant can be spent on support services and administration?
A: Costs attributable to a federal grant can be categorized as direct or indirect expenses. Administrative costs, comprised of salaries for administrative or clerical staff, are typically charged as indirect costs especially when they are supporting multiple projects or awards. This generally does not include program costs.

Any non-Federal entity that has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate, except for those non-Federal entities described in 2 C.F.R Appendix VII to Part 200—States and Local Government and Indian Tribe Indirect Cost Proposals, paragraph D.1.b, may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC) which may be used indefinitely.

If you already have an approved indirect cost rate, then you must use that rate/limit for any indirect costs you include in your budget for Opportunity Reboot and submit a copy of the indirect rate cost agreement in your application. More information about direct and indirect costs can be found at Subpart E-Cost Principles in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards found at 2 CFR Part 200.