



Tides Collective Action Funds

A Tides collective action fund (CAF) is a way for multiple donors to collaborate and support issues they care about most, at home and abroad. Our professional staff has special expertise in social change philanthropy, grantmaking, mission-related investments, and donor collaboration.

What's Included

Contributions. CAFs can accept contributions from a variety of funding sources, such as private foundations, corporations, and individuals. We encourage funds that seek to generate multiple, higher volume individual contributions to use online giving tools such as Network for Good, which collects funds via credit card, and sends a monthly check to Tides Foundation for deposit.

Grant Recommendations. A collective, rather than an individual donor or representative, makes grant recommendations out of the fund. Grants out of the fund are within the exclusive control of Tides, which is why the collective makes recommendations to Tides for the distribution of grants.

Support. Each fund is matched with a Tides Advisor who provides guidance on everything from fund structure and governance to strategy and operations. Additionally, Tides' Grants Team works to process your grants efficiently and legally. On a quarterly basis, you will receive a report summarizing fund activities for the previous three months. At any time, you can review your fund's activity online through Salesforce Community Portal, our online portal.

What is a Collective Action Fund?

A collective action fund is a purpose-driven fund at Tides Foundation driven by the belief that there is power in numbers. Multiple individuals and organizations unite to raise funds, then grant money out to advance a shared cause.

Unlike a donor advised fund, a collective action fund awards grants based on the recommendation of the fund's independent advisory committee (IAC). The IAC is a group of experts with deep connections to communities working to advance social justice, supported by a designated Tides advisor. Through collective action funds, our partners expand their grantmaking options, enhance collaboration, and explore innovative ideas that right the imbalances blocking our path to justice.

Advantages of a Tides Collective Action Fund

Charitable giving. Tides is a public charity, so contributions — including gifts of stock, real estate property and other assets — are immediately tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Grantmaking and financial expertise. Tides houses internal expertise in financial and grantmaking services and will maintain legal and fiduciary oversight over your fund.

Administrative support. Tides handles all administrative details of the fund, allowing you to focus on your values and vision.

Charitable expenses. In addition to grantmaking, your fund can pay charitable expenses related to the grantmaking activity of your fund.

Fees and Expenses

Basic Administrative Fees

Contributions to your fund will typically be charged a percentage-based administrative fee. This covers the basic administration of your fund including the processing of contributions, grants administration, quarterly reports, and access to Salesforce Community Portal.

Additional Service Fees

Additional or complex administrative, consulting, or investment services require additional fees. Those fees are developed and negotiated based upon a mutually-agreed-upon scope of work and set of deliverables. They may be based on a percentage of contributions, a flat fee, or combination thereof.

Direct Expenses

Tides will assess your fund for any direct costs incurred while operating the fund. These could include the following:

Grant Fees: Funds are charged a per-grant fee of \$50 for all domestic and international grants. The grant fee will be charged for each installment of an installment grant. The minimum amount for each grant to be made from the fund is \$250.

Wire Transfer Fees: Tides generally makes grant payments through printed checks. Upon request, payments can be transmitted to domestic grantees via wire transfer for an additional cost of \$20 per wire. Most international grant payments must be transmitted via wire transfers at a cost of \$40 per wire.

External Legal Fees: Any legal fees your fund is required to incur because of its operation will be charged to your collective action fund. For example, a proposed grant with complexities could require external legal review. To meet legal requirements, we reserve the right to engage counsel as needed and will notify you of a need to do so when possible.

Minimum Annual Fee: Throughout the year, administrative fees on contributions as well as all grant fees paid by a fund are tracked towards the minimum annual fee of \$500. If, at year-end, a fund has not met the minimum threshold, the fund will be charged the balance to meet this minimum.