

JOIN US

The 2021 Global Mayors Challenge is now open for proposals



A global innovation competition to elevate leaders and their bold ideas

TRANSFORMING CITIES

in the wake of COVID-19

Competition Process

11 JANUARY 2021

JANUARY – MARCH 2021

21 MARCH 2021

JUNE 2021

JUNE – OCTOBER 2021

OCTOBER 2021

LATE 2021

JANUARY 2022 – DECEMBER 2023

Competition Launch

Cities with populations of 100,000 or more are invited to join the Mayors Challenge.

The first 500 cities to RSVP will receive additional expert support from Bloomberg Philanthropies to prepare their proposals.

Learn More

Cities are invited to participate in a series of virtual convenings with global experts to learn more about the competition and receive guidance on completing a winning application to the Mayors Challenge.

Submit Your Idea

50 Champion Cities Announced

The 50 cities with the 50 best ideas will advance in the competition.

Strengthen Your Idea

50 Champion Cities will receive funding and expert support to improve their ideas.

Resubmit Your Proposal

Champion Cities resubmit their improved applications to compete for \$15M in prize money.

Grand Prize Winners Announced

15 Grand Prize Winners will receive \$1M each in prize money to bring their ideas to life.

Implementation Support

Grand Prize Winners receive expert support to implement and spread their winning idea to other cities.



Why Enter?

We know the COVID-19 pandemic forced cities to confront life-or-death challenges throughout 2020. And we saw city leaders respond in extraordinary ways – generating one bold policy response after the next to keep residents safe, re-imagine city services, and re-design civic infrastructure.

Bloomberg Philanthropies is launching the 2021 Global Mayors Challenge to elevate the most transformative ideas that, while born of crisis, have great potential to move our cities – and humanity – forward. The Mayors Challenge aims to help the most transformative ideas generate even greater impact and then spread to other cities.

By entering the 2021 Global Mayors Challenge, your city will have access to world class expertise and support to strengthen your ideas, as well as robust peer-to-peer exchanges around the most dynamic urban innovations emerging in cities.

If your city emerges as one of the 50 Champion Cities or 15 Grand Prize winners, you'll receive global press attention, comprehensive implementation support, and dedicated funding to advance your idea.

The 2021 Global Mayors Challenge seeks to uncover the 50 most innovative solutions to transform cities in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.



FAQ



How many applications can each city submit?

Each city can submit only one application, representing a single breakthrough idea.



What makes a great idea?

The Mayors Challenge is looking for the 50 leading urban innovations that were imagined or launched in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. These ideas can be in any stage of implementation, but must have the potential for meaningful impact and the ability to spread to other cities.



Does my idea have to solve a specific problem or issue?

We know that cities around the world are united by similar challenges. That is why the 2021 Global Mayors Challenge is calling for city solutions that address one or more of four critical themes challenging cities in this moment: health and wellbeing, climate and environment, economic recovery and inclusive growth, and good governance and equality.



Do I have to RSVP to participate?

Yes. All eligible cities must RSVP at mayorschallenge.bloomberg.org. Shortly after you reserve your city's spot, you will receive additional information about the application process.

Importantly, the first 500 cities to RSVP will receive extra support to create a high quality application. RSVP today!



Does my city have to submit the application online?

Yes, all cities are required to submit their idea through an online application. Eligible cities are required to RSVP to access the application.



“What happens in cities can change the world — and that’s truer today than it has ever been.”

— Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg

To participate, all cities must submit an application by

21 MARCH 2021

Questions about participation? Send us an e-mail:
mayorschallenge@bloomberg.org

Visit:
www.mayorschallenge.bloomberg.org

