**Project Grants Application Template**

**Ethereum Foundation Ecosystem Support Program**

**Self screening questions**

Before you fill out this proposal template please consider the following questions to check that project grants are right for you and you are ready to apply.

Have you considered:

* Booking office hours slot to discuss before submitting.
* Applying for a small grant first, if a short period of work could de-risk the project or answer key questions.

Preparation questions:

* Do you have a roadmap with defined tasks and deliverables?
* Have you established the need for this project or user demand?
* Do you have a clear idea of the required resources and budget?
* Have you determined what risks or open questions could impact your project?
* Have you researched the state-of-the-art?
* Have you researched the approaches taken by similar projects?
* Have you determined that EF grant funding is more appropriate for this project than other non commercial grant funding or support programs?

Is this a fit for project grants?

* Is Ethereum central to your project?
* Are you sure you are not going to do a token sale soon?
* Is your project producing a public good?
* Will software deliverables be open source and unencumbered by patents?
* Are you able to wait two months for a grant decision?

**Consent to share**

*By completing this application you consent to the information within this application being shared with advisors within and outside of the Ethereum foundation.*

\_\_\_ Please tick

**Guidance notes**

*We understand that writing a project proposal can be daunting. You don’t have to impress us with your writing skills - but you do need to give us enough information to understand what your project is all about. We’ll use what you provide here to make an initial determination about whether to proceed with your application, so make sure you understand our [funding criteria] and [what we look for].*

*If anything is unclear or you have questions about what we’re looking for in a section, please sign up to chat with us during* [*office hours*](https://esp.ethereum.foundation/applicants/office-hours)*. If you don’t feel ready for the full Project Grants application, you might also consider starting with Small Grants, which are well suited for projects that are newer or smaller in scope.*

## 1 About your project

**What problem or need are you trying to address, and why is it important?**

*What is the specific problem, research question, or need you are trying to address?*

*Why should this problem or need be prioritized, and what happens if it isn’t solved?*

**What does this project aim to do, and what will it produce?**

*Describe the main concept and components of the proposed work. Stick to -what- you want to do; you’ll have a chance to explain why you want to do it in the next section.*

*Outcomes: Describe what you hope to accomplish, such as increasing the security of a particular standard or improving developer experience in a specific domain.*

O*utput: What will exist when you’re done that doesn’t exist now? A new tool, library, research paper, community event, improvements to an existing resource?*

**What is the current status of the project?**

*If you have a prototype or MVP, please provide a link.*

**Why this approach?**

*What other approaches have you considered, and how did you decide that yours was the best one? How does it advance the state of the art? What have you done to validate strategy, and how has it evolved in the process?*

*As part of our own due diligence, we will look into how other projects are addressing similar issues. We expect you to be familiar with other efforts in your field of work, and to be able to articulate how your proposed project improves on or adds to previous work.*

**What’s the expected impact?**

*How will the project benefit Ethereum?*

*Who will ultimately use or interact with the outcome of this project?*

*How will it enable them to become more effective contributors to Ethereum?*

**How will you maximize the long-term impact of your work?**

*How do you plan to get the results of your work to its intended users? How will you publicize it and support people in using it?*

**Anticipated challenges**

*What are the main challenges you’ll have to overcome? How will you prepare for these?*

## 2. Team

*Briefly tell us about the main team members who will be working on this project. Provide relevant qualifications, experience and achievements. Link to profile pages, Github,* [*Ethresear.ch*](http://ethresear.ch/) *handles if relevant. Also provide details of any planned hires.*

## 3. Project roadmap(s)

**Guidance notes**

*Rather than a single roadmap, we would prefer you to provide multiple options - for example a version that produces a proof of concept and one that takes you to a full MVP, or a phased research project with one roadmap for the full project and another for the first phase only.*

*There are two reasons for this:  First, it is good project management practice to stage projects and test assumptions early so that alternative approaches can be tried or the project stopped if these assumptions turn out to be wrong. Second, in order to allocate financial support efficiently we need to understand the expected impact of different levels of support, and how such support might be timed.*

*Project grants often undergo significant rescoping during the evaluation process. A common outcome is that the project is separated into multiple components or phases to be considered individually for funding. This may mean that only a portion of the work is funded, or that a grant is awarded to cover the initial phase of the project with intent to evaluate progress and discuss funding the next phase as the first phase nears completion.*

*To this end, we look at natural stopping points, which components are necessary, which are “nice to have”, and areas where we can test assumptions and mitigate risk by taking a more modular approach.*

*For each stage or component that you consider indispensable to the project, provide:*

* ***Brief description***
* ***Expected roadmap with tasks and timeline***
* ***Expected result or deliverable(s)***
* ***Impact on Ethereum of the results of this stage of work***
* ***Ballpark funding needed***
* ***How funds will be used***

*If there are additional stages or components which would be valuable but not absolutely necessary, just denote them as optional or additional work and include the same information as for the core components.*

The table below provides a template for project roadmaps, *but if this is constraining feel free to present the same information in a different format:*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Stage 1 | Stage 2 | Optional Additional work | Optional Additional work |
| **Brief description** | Brief description e.g. Exploratory study into feasibility of x,y,z | Brief description e.g.MVP | Brief description e.g.Production | Optional Additional work |
| **Expected roadmap** | * *Month 0* * task | * *Month 1* * *Task* * *Task* * Expected *Deliverables* * *Month 2* * *Task* * *Task* * *Month 3* * *Task* * *Task* * Expected *Deliverables* | * *Month 2* * Additional task * *Month 3* * Additional task * Expected *Deliverables* * *Month 4* * Additional task * Expected *Deliverables* | * *Month 5* * Additional task * *Month 6* * Additional task |
| **Expected result** | e.g. report into feasibility | e.g. opensource prototype | e.g. production ready software | e.g. documentation and workshops |
| **Impact on ethereum** |  |  |  |  |
| **Ballpark Grant ask** | $ |  |  |  |
| **Use of resources** | **How do you plan to use the funds?**  e.g. hiring a developer, devoting more time to this project. | *Month 1-3 Full time developer r  $xxx,* | *Month 2-4 Specialist cryptographer  $xxx,* | *Month 3-6 Full time developer r  $xxx,* |

## 4. Sustainability and Use of resources

**Have you secured or applied for other sources of funding?**

*Please give details of the source, amount, status of application, and any implications for the project of any grant funding or funding round.*

**What is the plan to sustain the project in the long term?**

*Will you look for other sources of funding, work on it in your spare time, aim to have other contributors take over?*

**Is your project open source, if applicable?**

*If not, why? Do you plan to make it open source in the future?*

## Other details & references

*Is there anything we should know about that hasn’t been covered by the questions above?*

**Is there any information in this proposal that needs to remain completely confidential?**

*We treat all submitted information with care and share outside the ESP team only as needed - for example, conducting due diligence or consulting with technical advisors. We'll accommodate requests for total confidentiality where possible, and will let you know if any information you’ve identified as confidential needs to be shared in order to move the application forward.*