
City of Chicago's Reparations Task Force Application



City of Chicago Reparations Study & Task Force

The Chicago Reparations Task Force will support a historic effort to build Chicago's first Reparations Study. In partnership with the City's Office of Equity and Racial Justice (OERJ) and the Aldermanic Black Caucus, Task Force members will help shape how the City acknowledges, addresses, and repairs generations of harm experienced by Black communities and residents in Chicago. The Chicago Reparations Task Force represents a significant step forward in the City's ongoing efforts to acknowledge past harms and build a more just and equitable future.

Key Responsibilities of Task Force Members:

- Define what Black reparations means in the specific context of Chicago
- Identify key areas of harm for redress (e.g., housing, policing, incarceration, education, health, and economic development)
- Contribute to and amplify public testimonials and personal narratives to include within the report
- Review policies and practices that have led to structural inequities
- Help develop recommendations and remedies for reparative action
- Attend community engagement sessions and public hearings
- Attend 90-minute Task Force monthly meetings ^[1]
- Review relevant materials to inform decision-making and recommendations
- Support the development of Chicago's Reparations Study

Timeline:
June 2025-
June 2026

Selection Process:

- The Task Force will be composed of 40 members through a two-part selection process:

Nominations: Twenty-five members will be selected from a pool of nominations submitted by the Mayor's Office and the Aldermanic Black Caucus. This ensures representation from diverse sectors with the capacity to support the implementation of Executive Order 2024-1.

Public Application: Fifteen members will be chosen through a public application process to ensure that individuals who have lived experience—especially as residents or displaced residents of historically Black neighborhoods— but may not be connected to an organization or particular sector have a seat at the table.

All nominees and applicants will complete a short application to ensure the City forms a representative and inclusive Task Force.

Application: [APPLY HERE](#) by May 20th

^[1] Note, once core issue areas are identified, task force members will join one additional monthly meeting for a core issue area.

FAQ

How many people will sit on the Task Force?

- 40 people

What skillsets/sectors are we looking for?

- Researchers and/or historians
- Economists and Actuaries
- Faith leaders
- Educators and Academics
- Business leaders
- Leaders of Black-led organizations and/or Black-serving organizations
- Community leaders for core issue areas (housing, economic development, environmental justice, community safety, health, etc.)
- Multiracial Coalition Leaders
- Attorneys
- Comms/Marketing
- Youth
- Artists
- Agriculturalists or individuals who support efforts that promote food equity
- Individuals who support efforts around contract equity

Who is an ideal member?

- We seek individuals who:
 - Reside in Chicago
 - Are deeply committed to promoting equitable outcomes and actively participating in equitable processes.
 - Serve as leaders, whether in formal or informal capacities.
 - Embrace and value diverse backgrounds and perspectives.
 - Are highly motivated to support the city's efforts toward a reparations study.
 - Maintain strong connections to historically Black Chicago communities and residents.
 - Possess one or more of the skillsets outlined above.
 - Approach leadership with a collaborative mindset.

How long is the task force membership?

- The membership will run for one full year after the first task force meeting, per Executive Order 2024-1.

Will task force members be compensated for their expertise?

- Yes, members will receive a stipend for their time and contribution to this effort.

Where can I review the Executive Order 2024-1?

- https://chicityclerk.s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public-1/reports/EO%202024-1.pdf?VersionId=98My6d6b67Y_cAjuZKj5A5DdTKv.Gr.A

Who can I contact if I have questions?

- Reach out at equity.opportunities@cityofchicago.org

