

Frequently Asked Questions – New Member Agency Applications
United Way of Southwest Oklahoma
March 2026

1. The issue of uploading documents to the application portal has been resolved. Future issues should be directed to info@UWSWOK.org

2. What should I do if I do not have an audit or financial review that has been completed in the last 18 months? Upload a letter signed by your board chair stating the reason you do not have an audit or financial review and that you understand one will be required prior to applying for funding in January 2027.

3. What if we do not have a separate nondiscrimination policy, but have nondiscrimination language include in our bylaws? The portal requires an upload for each required document. Please upload the relevant section of the bylaws that includes the nondiscrimination language highlighted to ensure its easily seen.

4. What if we are a church and have not filed 990s or have a formal 501(c)3 letter? At this time having an IRS 501(c)3 letter and filing annual 990 is part of the qualifying criteria for funding through UWSWOK, therefore agencies without these documents are ineligible. The United Way Bylaws specifically prohibits funding ecclesiastical organizations and religious activities; however, it allows UWSWOK to work with faith-based organizations to support activities that meet the qualifying criteria of UWSWOK.

5. Where can I find data to support my application? okforalice.org; data.census.gov; <https://data.hrsa.gov/>; local needs assessments; etc...

6. What does participate in United Way fundraising efforts mean? We ask our partners to run an internal campaign each year at minimum that allows employees to give and participate in campaign promotions when asked. In addition, partners are encouraged to have board members support the UW, host a UW fundraising event and attend UW fundraising events when possible. Partners should not compete with United Way fundraising efforts by not conducting payroll campaigns, hosting fundraising events in direct competition with UW fundraising events etc...

7. Will applying to be a UWSWOK member agency guarantee funding for my organization? **No.** Applicants chosen to become a member agency will need to complete a funding request in January 2027, a team of volunteers will then determine the amount of funding each program receives based on the application and funds available. No funding will be received prior to July 2027.