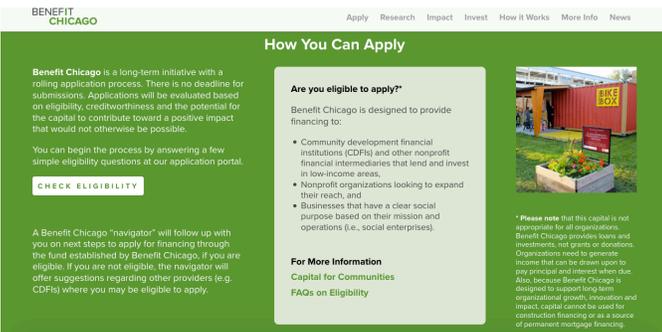


Interest grows among applicants, investors

Less than three months after its launch, Benefit Chicago took its first steps toward helping Chicago-area organizations access patient, flexible capital focused on local impact. The Benefit Chicago eligibility portal opened on July 18, and in just the first few weeks, dozens of organizations submitted information—from intermediaries

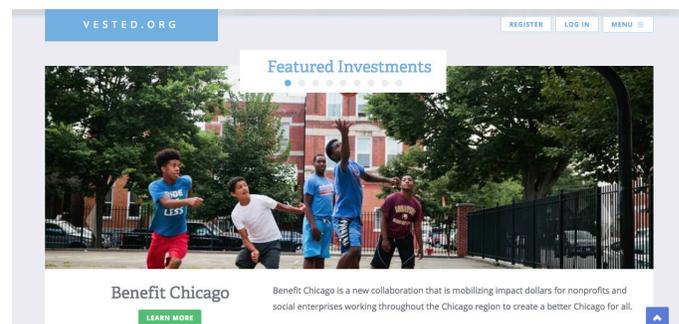
Investor activity has also been robust. Calvert Foundation, which issues the Community Investment Notes that help fuel Benefit Chicago, has seen approximately \$10 million in investments and interest from new investors since the Benefit Chicago launch. That's in addition to \$65 million in commitments from The Chicago Community Trust and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The goal is to mobilize \$100 million as part of a multi-year effort. Investors can participate through financial advisors and brokerage accounts, by investing online or through donor-advised funds at The Trust.



“This kind of impact investment capital doesn’t begin to flow overnight,” noted Justin Conway, vice president of investment partnerships at Calvert Foundation. “But we are very excited by the activity we’re seeing from all kinds of investors, both large and small. This is investment capital that will directly support nonprofits and social enterprises in the Chicago region.”

with long track records of funding place-based economic development, to small businesses looking to hire and train at-risk populations, to nonprofits focused on affordable housing and access to healthy foods.

Benefit Chicago “navigators” are reaching out to those that submit information, offering feedback on whether they might be eligible for financing through the fund (where investments start at \$500,000) and, if not, what options might be available from other organizations to meet their capital needs. (For more information, take a look at our FAQs on eligibility.)



For those organizations that might qualify for a direct loan through Benefit Chicago, the application and underwriting process is estimated to take three to six months

New investments have ranged from \$20 to \$1 million. For more on how to invest, read [Investing for Impact](#) or go to www.CalvertFoundation.org/Chicago.

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