

1) Tailored Messaging & Positioning

- a) Identify **decision-makers**: directors, CEOs, heads of partnerships, or development officers.
 - b) Learn about each institution's mission, expansion history, and community engagement initiatives.
 - c) Prepare a **short institution-specific talking point** (e.g., "I saw your recent expansion in X city," or "Your educational programming aligns with what Clearwater envisions").
- Segment messaging for:
 - **Museums & cultural institutions** → emphasize visibility, legacy, and cultural leadership.
 - **Innovation/educational institutions** → highlight talent pipelines, research potential, and audience reach.
 - **International organizations** → focus on Clearwater's hospitality/tourism market as an entry point into the U.S.

2) Direct Engagement & Relationship-Building

- Assign staff, or council to **personally contact leadership** (directors, CEOs, development heads) at target institutions.
 - Organize **one-on-one virtual briefings** to present the opportunity.
 - Host a **site visit & showcase weekend** where potential applicants are invited to Clearwater for tours, presentations, and community engagement sessions.
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- Personalized check-ins reminding of **RFP timeline**.
 - Offer staff support for proposal preparation questions.
 - Log every outreach attempt and response.
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3. Tiered Priority System

Not all prospects are equal. Categorize into:

- **Tier 1 (High-Priority):** National/international flagship institutions → personal calls monthly.
 - **Tier 2 (Medium-Priority):** Regional/niche institutions → monthly email + quarterly call.
 - **Tier 3 (Low-Priority):** Institutions showing low interest → automated updates only.
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4. Reporting & Accountability

- Weekly: Review progress (number of calls made, responses received).
 - Monthly: Summarize outreach metrics → e.g., "40 calls placed, 12 warm leads, 3 scheduling meetings."
 - End of RFP cycle: Export contact log + outcomes as a final report for trustees/staff.
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5. Best Practices

- Always set a **next action date** before ending a call or sending a follow-up (never leave it open-ended).
- Use consistent subject lines for email follow-ups: *"Clearwater Partnership Opportunity – Follow-Up"*.
- Color-code statuses in the log (green = committed, yellow = interested, red = no interest).

Follow-Up & Record-Keeping Strategy

1. Contact Log System

Use a **CRM (Customer Relationship Management tool)** like HubSpot, Airtable, or even Excel/Google Sheets

Key fields to track:

- Institution name
 - Contact name & title
 - Contact info (phone/email)
 - Date of first contact
 - Notes from call (interests, objections, timing needs)
 - Follow-up dates scheduled
 - Status (New Lead, Warm Lead, Committed, Declined)
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2. Follow-Up Cadence

Day 1 (Initial Call/Email Sent):

- Log notes immediately (tone of call, specific interests, any next steps).
- Email the **Opportunity Prospectus** and thank them for their time.

Week 1 (First Follow-Up):

- Reach out if no response to email.
- Suggest a **short virtual meeting** (15–20 minutes).
- Update log: "Follow-up #1 sent."

Week 3 (Second Follow-Up):

- Share an article, press release, or news about Clearwater's cultural growth (adds value instead of just asking).
- Update log: "Follow-up #2 shared resources."

Month 2–3 (Nurture Stage):

- Invite them to a **virtual info session or site visit event**.
- Update log: "Invited to showcase event."

Month 4–6 (Deadline Window):