Community Grants Program

Introduction & Timeline

Applications are accepted year-round. There is no deadline. Once you've submitted your application, **please allow up to four to five months for review.** You will be notified of your application's status by the decision dates currently posted on **our website**.

Eligibility Requirements

To be considered eligible to apply for the Community Grant Program, an organization must:

/ Have tax-exempt status under Sections 501(c)(3) or 170(b)(1)(a)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code and units of government, or have a 501(c)(3) Fiscal Sponsor

/ Work in the following counties: Travis, Burnet, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, and Williamson.

The Foundation has limited resources, so there are restrictions on the scope of the activities the Foundation is able to support. In general, the Foundation does **NOT** grant funds for:

/ Unrestricted general operating expenses

/ Endowment funds

/ Religious organizations for religious purposes

/ Fundraising activities or events

/ Umbrella funding organizations that intend to distribute funds at their own discretion

/ Political lobbying or legislative activities

/ Individuals

The Foundation will award grants only to organizations that have met all deadlines for project reporting and accountability for any previous Community Grant award from the Foundation.

The Foundation will only accept one Community Grant request from an organization during a 12-month period.

Based on the criteria outlined above, does your organization fit our eligibility requirements?*
Choices
Yes
No
Unsure

Does your program have a strong focus in Central Texas?*
(Travis, Burnet, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, or Williamson counties)

Please note: Your organization does not need to be based in one of these counties, but your request must focus on programs with an impact in Central Texas to be considered eligible.

Choices
Yes
No

Organization Information

If you are applying as a Fiscally Sponsored Project, please be sure to answer questions and provide documents reflecting your project's budget, board, and operational expenses.

Any documents that are not applicable to you, such as a 990 form, please upload documents from your sponsoring organization.

Mission Statement*
Select the GuideStar button to the left of this question to pull in your mission from your GuideStar profile.
Character Limit: 750

Brief Agency History*
Character Limit: 1,000

Agency Services*
Character Limit: 10,000

Annual Budget*
Character Limit: 20

Fiscal Health*
In the space below, discuss the fiscal health of your organization. In addition, please explain, if applicable: 1) any changes of 15% or more in either your income or expenses from one year to the next, including surplus, deficit, accumulated debt, capital campaigns, changes in bookkeeping practices, etc. and 2) plans for reducing any deficit (include the factors that contributed to the deficit and its amount).
Character Limit: 10,000

Request Information

Project Title *
Name of Project

Character Limit: 100

Request Amount*
Austin Community Foundation will only consider requests up to 30% of an organization's annual operating budget.

Requests for $5,000 or under will complete an abbreviated application. Requests over $5,000 will have a "Detailed Request Information" section appearing below.

Character Limit: 20

Project Cost*
Provide the total cost of the project.

Character Limit: 20

What is the need you are addressing in the community?*
Please aim to keep responses to a couple of short paragraphs.

Character Limit: 7,500

Project Description*
Tell us about your project and how it addresses the community need. Provide specifics of your project and funding request.

Please aim to keep responses to a couple of short paragraphs.

Character Limit: 7,500

Brief Description*
In about 100 words, please share a brief overview of your request. **This summary will be what our fundholders will see first when reviewing Community Grant applications.**

Character Limit: 500

Key Staff and Partnerships*
Please share any partnerships with other groups, organizations, or community members for this project.

Character Limit: 10,000

Impact Area 1*

You may select up to two impact areas that align with your project.

Choices
Animals
Arts & Culture
Community
Engagement
Education & Training
Environment & Public
Space Health & Wellness
Human Services/Basic
Needs Recreation

Impact Area 2

Choices
Animals
Arts & Culture
Community
Engagement
Education & Training
Environment & Public
Space Health & Wellness
Human Services/Basic
Needs Recreation

Project Start Date*

Character Limit: 10

Project End Date*

Please be mindful of our review time of 4-5 months. We may not consider a request if the project ends before the funding decision date.
Character Limit: 10

Project Budget*

Please complete and upload [this Excel document](#) for this requirement.

If possible, please upload as an Excel file.
File Size Limit: 1 MB

Organization Logo*

File Size Limit: 1 MB

IRS Determination Letter

Please upload your IRS Determination Letter if you have recently received your 501(c)(3) status.
File Size Limit: 2 MB

Detailed Request Information

This section is only required for requests over $5,000**.**

Evaluation*

What objective criteria will indicate the project is a success? How will you know if the criteria are met?

Character Limit: 10,000

Cultural Competency & History with Priority Population*

Please share your project's priority population, your history working with this population, and an outreach plan and/or partnerships to connect with the community you serve. Please also share how your organization is accessible, responsive, and convenient for clients.

Character Limit: 10,000

Operational Budget*

Please complete your organization's income and expenses for your previous and current fiscal year.

It is preferred, but ***not*** required, that you utilize our operational budget **template.** If submitting an application within 4 months of your upcoming fiscal year, please also include the upcoming fiscal year.

File Size Limit: 3 MB

Most Recent IRS Form 990*

File Size Limit: 8 MB

Most Recent Audit

An Audit is required for organizations with an annual operating budget **greater than $250,000.**

If your organization has an operating budget over $250,000, but you do not have a current audit, please upload a Word document letting us know.

File Size Limit: 8 MB

List of Board Members*

File Size Limit: 1 MB