

Granville Foundation

**CHARACTERISTICS OF AN EFFECTIVE  
GRANT PROPOSAL**

## Characteristics of an Effective Grant Proposal

The Granville Foundation looks for certain qualities when we review competitive grant proposals. As you develop your proposal, please consider how it takes into account the following:

1. **Clarity of Presentation.** Does your proposal describe succinctly the work you plan to perform?
2. **Credibility:** Does the proposal provide convincing evidence that it will serve a compelling community interest? Does it provide factual evidence to support its case?
3. **Evaluation:** Does the proposal provide a mechanism for evaluating the effectiveness and impact of the work it envisions?
4. **Innovation:** Does the proposal break new ground or point the way to a more effective way of addressing some community need or problem?
5. **Values:** Does the proposal envision work that strengthens important positive community values?
6. **Leverage:** Does the proposal provide a way to amplify our resources by forming partnerships with other organizations?
7. **Management:** Does the proposal demonstrate that the applicant has the institutional capacity to manage effectively the work that envisions?
8. **Organizational Commitment:** Does the proposal provide evidence of serious organizational “buy-in” to the work it describes? Does the applicant match our resources with some of its own? Will senior organizational officials assume important roles in the planning or execution of the work proposed?
9. **Sustainable:** How does the applicant propose to continue support for the work proposed beyond the year ahead?
10. **Visibility:** Does the proposal envision work that will be visible to the Granville community?
11. **Durability:** Will the proposed work have significant long-term effects on our community?