

Granville Foundation

GRANT SEEKERS' FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1. **Does my non-profit organization need a 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS before applying for and receiving grant funding?** Yes, except in extraordinary cases. Your organization must have a 501(c)(3) designation or be a government entity in order to apply for and receive funding.
2. **What is a 501(c)(3) designation and how can I get one?** A 501(c)(3) designation refers to the specific section of the Internal Revenue Service Code that defines a non-profit organization. For more information, go to the IRS website at: <http://www.irs.gov/charities/charitable/article/0,,id=96099,00.html>.
3. **We are a government entity (public educational institutions, libraries, departments of government, etc.). Do we need a 501(c)(3) designation?** No. Government entities will not have a 501(c)(3) designation. It is suggested that you refer to our Grant Guidelines at <http://www.granvillefoundation.org> for eligibility information.
4. **We are not a nonprofit organization or government entity. May we apply for a grant?** No. The Granville Foundation does not make grants except to such organizations. We are unable to award grants to individuals, except in the case of scholarships, which are awarded directly to the educational institution on behalf of the students.
5. **Our organization is based outside Granville. Are we eligible to receive a grant?** Yes, but only if your proposed project or program primarily benefits Granville residents.
6. **Do you fund new non-profit organizations?** Yes, but only if you have a 501(c)(3) designation and meet all of our other grant requirements.
7. **If my organization has received grants in the past, are there limitations to how many years we can receive grants?** No, there is no limit to the number of grants an organization may receive. We do, however, strongly recommend against seeking funding for the same purpose year after year. The Granville Foundation should not be viewed as a source of permanent funding.
8. **Does Granville Foundation make multi-year grants?** No, we do not.
9. **What sort of programs does Granville Foundation's grant program support?** The Foundation has identified several broad categories of particular interest including: the arts; community history and culture; expanding the horizons of youth; senior and family services; health and human services; environment and conservation; parks and recreation; community and economic development. The Foundation is particularly interested in proposals that help address areas of unmet need.

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10. **Does Granville Foundation fund faith-based organizations?** Granville Foundation has the ability to fund faith-based organizations. We will not, however, fund any projects of a basically religious nature or projects that require participation in religious activities as a condition for receiving services. We might, for example, support a project involving sacred music, but not one that would require singing sacred music as part of religious worship.
11. **How often may I apply for a grant, and how many applications can I submit?** Granville Foundation accepts applications once a year. Your organization may only submit one application.
12. **If I know or contact members of the Granville Foundation, does it affect the likelihood that my proposal will be funded.** No, it does not. We encourage organizations to discuss their interests with board members in advance of applying for a grant.
13. **Who decides which applications are awarded grants?** The Foundation's board of directors grants committee reviews all proposals and makes recommendations to the board.
14. **When is the deadline for grants and when are awards announced?** The 2012 grants competition will be announced on December 7. The deadline for submitting a proposal is January 27, 2012. We anticipate announcing awards by about March 1, 2012.
15. **Will you review a draft of my proposal and offer comments?** If time permits, one or more board members may be available to discuss your proposal informally. Please note that any suggestions or recommendations will reflect the personal judgments of the board member and that they do not assure funding for your project.
16. **What happens if my budget changes or there is a shift in the program from what was originally proposed?** If there are changes to your proposal either during the consideration of your proposal or after a grant is awarded, you will need to contact the Foundation's Executive Director who will advise you on how to proceed. Do not assume, however, that you are able to change the purpose of your grant without prior approval of the Foundation.
17. **What happens after my organization's proposal is funded?** The Granville Foundation will contact you after a decision is made. You will receive a grant contract to sign and return before a check can be issued.

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18. ***Will I need to submit reports?*** We encourage our recipients to provide at least one written progress report describing the work accomplished by their project with the assistance of Granville Foundation funding. We especially like to receive photos that we can share with the community on our website.

19. ***The Granville Foundation declined to fund our proposal. Why? Will be able to submit another application next year?*** The decision to decline a grant proposal is not necessarily a reflection on the value of the program. As a general rule, it only indicates that Granville Foundation's funds are limited. We receive many more requests to support programs than our relatively limited resources will permit. Feel free to reapply the following year; and, as always, the Granville Foundation's board is available to answer questions.