

GUIDELINES FOR GRANT SEEKERS

The High Point Community Foundation makes grants to support programs that improve the quality of life in the greater High Point area. We welcome grant applications from nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code as well as other public entities. To be eligible for funding from the High Point Community Foundation, a nonprofit organization must be located in or serving these areas: High Point, Archdale, Trinity, and Jamestown.

GRANT MAKING OBJECTIVES

The Community Foundation is often a "first funder" giving seed money to new or existing programs that address emerging community opportunities or needs. The Foundation's other major focus is improving the effectiveness and building the capacity of the greater High Point area nonprofits through technical assistance grants. We particularly seek out projects where a modest grant can make a significant impact. Other grant making objectives are to:

- support creative responses to existing or emerging community problems;
- support efforts that recognize and build on our community's strengths and assets;
- reach a broad segment of the community by making grants in many fields for a wide range of purposes;
- address underlying causes rather than symptoms of problems;
- support projects that are preventive and farsighted rather than remedial;
- increase access and opportunities for people from low-income and underserved portions of our community;
- increase cooperation and coordination among program providers; and
- leverage additional program support from other private and public funding sources

GRANTS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. Nonprofit organizations can only receive grants from the Community Foundation for two consecutive years; after this they must take one year off before they can apply again.
2. An agency that had been funded for two consecutive years may submit in writing a request for a waiver if the timing of the new project for which funding is being sought is critical to its success or there are other extenuating circumstances. The Committee Chairman along with the Pre-Screening Committee will determine if the waiver is to be granted.
3. Nonprofit organizations must have proof of their 501(c)(3) status and the signature of their Board Chairman to be eligible for a grant.
4. Schools that are applying for a grant must have a project that will impact the entire school and not just a single classroom. They must also have the approval of their school principal.
5. All grant requests must be delivered in a uniform manner without additional binders or folders. All grant requests must include a Project Budget to be considered. Attachments are limited to (3) recommendation letters.
6. Organizations that do not have their own 501(c)(3) status will not be eligible for a grant.

7. The maximum allowed will be \$50,000.00 for grant requests.
8. Any grant requests that cannot be funded to a least 50% of their total budget will not be funded.
9. The official year designation for the annual Grants Committee records will be the year in which the grants applications are collected, interviews take place, and decisions are made.
10. Requests for on-going administrative support are discouraged.
11. If a grant is made as a "matching grant" the Foundation will not release a check to the Grantee until the match has been made.
12. Any organization that is at least two years old must submit the most recently completed audit for consideration by the Grants Committee. If the agency has been in existence for less than two years, the year-end financial statement or for those in operation less than one year, the most recent monthly financial statement will be accepted.