



Annual Grants Program

POLICIES

Grantmaking Funding

The High Point Community Foundation uses a spending policy to determine the amount to grant from its unrestricted endowment each year. The Grants Committee also administers the annual distributions from two special funds in conjunction with annual grants. The first fund is the Cory McInnis “Compassion in Education” Endowment Fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide grants for projects that enhance the quality of life and education for students in High Point. The second fund is the Violet Hutchens “Children’s Education” Field of Interest Fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide grants for the education of young people.

Grantmaking Restrictions

The High Point Community Foundation does not make grants for the following: general operating support, costs already incurred, endowments, loans or mortgages, sectarian purposes, political purposes, or to individuals. State wide or national programs will not be considered unless funding is sought for a portion of the program that directly benefits the greater High Point area. The Foundation does not make repeat or multiple year grants. Organizations may not submit more than application for funding per grant cycle and must have its own 501(c)(3). **NO WAIVERS OR EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED.**

All organizations must provide the appropriate annual financial statements using the following guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees:

- Grant applicants having an annual budget of \$100,000 or less shall attach a copy of the most recent tax return (Form 990) or postcard which has been filed with the IRS.
- Grant applicants having an annual budget of more than \$100,000 but less than \$200,000 should attach a copy of the most recent federal tax return (Form 990) which has been filed with the IRS, which has been prepared and signed by an independent CPA, and a copy of financial statements together with a compilation report by an independent CPA.
- Grant applicants having an annual budget of more than \$200,000 but less than \$400,000 should attach a copy of the most recent federal tax return (Form 990) which has been filed with the IRS and has been prepared and signed by an independent CPA, and a copy of financial statements together with a review report by and independent CPA.
- Grant applicants having an annual budget of \$400,000 or more should attach a copy of the most recent federal tax return (Form 990) which has been filed with the IRS and has been prepared and signed by an independent CPA, and a copy of financial statements together with an audit report by an independent CPA.
- Electronic signatures are now acceptable as previously approved.

Strategic Leadership Grant Policies

The following apply to Strategic Leadership Grants only:

- An agency can apply for both the Strategic Leadership Grant (SLG) and the High Point Community Foundation (HPCF) Annual Grant Program but can only be awarded one. The SLG takes precedence.
- An agency cannot hold a SLG and a HPCF Annual Grant at the same time.
- The application period is from June – August on most years.
- Agencies that have been previously funded for 2 years in a row through the HPCF Annual Grant Program cycle are eligible to apply for the SLG this year.
- The SLG proposal must detail a timeline for the release of the funds. In most cases the total fund allocation will not be made all at once, but rather checks will be issued each November if the multi-year project meets its benchmarks.
- Grantees must abide by the same mid-year evaluation to which all other grants are subject to for each year of the grant award. Progress at the mid-year evaluation will be instrumental to the determination of whether or not to continue funding the grant. The determination of whether to continue funding will be made by September of each year.

All other Community Foundation Grant Policies apply.

