

McPherson County Community Foundation Competitive Grant Application Guidelines

These guidelines are designed to provide you with information about applying for a grant from the McPherson County Community Foundation (MCCF). The following is an explanation of our policy, priorities, limitations, deadlines, and other things you'll need to know about the way we work and the and the factors that influence our decisions.

What is the McPherson County Community Foundation?

Established in 2001 as a community foundation, the MCCF is a nonprofit, charitable organization with a tax-exempt designation under 501(c)3 of the IRS code. The MCCF serves both the donor and the grant seeker by providing a community endowment to meet the donor's wishes and the community's needs.

What kinds of programs does the MCCF fund?

The McPherson County Community Foundation makes grants to nonprofit organizations in the McPherson area with a focus in Arts; Basic Human Needs and Disaster Relief; Children and Youth; Community Development and Leadership; Conservation, Preservation, and Beautification; Education; the Elderly; and Health Care and Mental Health.

Organizations are only eligible to receive funding once within a 12 month period.

What type of support is funded?

The review committee will consider the following:

Project or program support – supports specific projects or programs.

Operating or general support – supports the work of the organization.

Endowments – intended to be kept permanently and invested to provide income for continued support of the organization.

Seed money – to establish or initiate a new project, program or organization, including salaries and other operating expenses.

Capacity building – activities that strengthen an organization and help it better fulfill its mission, such as equipment and staff, facility purchase and renovation, training, publications, and convening.

Capital campaigns – supports construction or renovation of a facility.

Although all are eligible, preference is given to grants focusing on program support, seed money or capacity building.

Restrictions on Foundation Support

MCCF does not make grants to individuals. We also ordinarily do not support:

- Annual appeals in membership drives;
- Lobbying or political purposes;
- Support of organizations that practice discrimination by race, color, creed, sex, age or national origin;
- Operating deficits or retirement of debt

Grant Award Procedure

All applications undergo a preliminary review by the MCCF staff for eligibility, completeness and clarity. Applicants will receive an email acknowledgement of receipt of proposals and notification of any missing or incomplete information. The applications are then sent to the Grants Committee, comprised of volunteer citizens for review. The committee makes recommendations to the Board of Directors for final approval.

If your proposal is approved, you will receive a grant agreement for your signature that outlines the terms and conditions under which the grant has been authorized. A final narrative and fiscal report will be required upon completion of the project or, in the case of ongoing projects, within one year of funding.

Deadlines

The deadline for submitting grant proposals will be included in the Request for Proposals (RFP) that we distribute throughout the year, as well as in other publicity announcing the beginning of a grant making cycle. **Applications must be in the MCCF office or postmarked by the deadline date.**

Other Grants

In addition to the RFP cycles, the McPherson County Community Foundation accepts grant requests throughout the year and works to match those requests with available grant funds. The community foundation will retain the request for one year from the date of submission or until a grant has been awarded. If you are interested in being considered for funding, please send a one-page narrative with the following information:

- Name of organization
- Address/Telephone number/Email address
- Contact person & Title
- Program/Project Name
- Dates of program/project or indicate if ongoing
- Demographics of who the program/project will serve
- 3-5 Sentences describing the program/project
- Amount Requested
- Attach a copy of letter or notice indicating the organization is a non profit organization.

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