

Grant Application Guidelines

Blackford County Community Foundation – 2026

Blackford County Community Foundation has developed the following guidelines to assist those applying for grant funds.

Fields of Interest – Our Community Foundation will focus primarily on these fields of interest; however, it expects to remain flexible in its grant-making activities.

Community Development

- Arts and cultural development
- Community parks
- Community beautifications, improvement and enhancement projects

Community Services Planning & Coordination

- Health services coordination
- Human services coordination

Education

- Community education on relevant issues
- Post-secondary, secondary, elementary, preschool and special education

Health

- Community health services
- Mental health services

Human Services

- Elderly services
- Children and youth services
- Family services
- Youth advancement

Consideration Requirements

- Grants are not awarded to profit-making enterprises.
- Grants are not awarded to support political activities.
- Grants are not awarded to support operating budgets of organizations, except for limited experimental or demonstration periods. *Exceptions to this policy may be made when there are compelling reasons.*
- Governmental units applying for any budgeted items need to show why additional funding is needed.
- Grants are not awarded for sectarian or religious purposes or to sectarian or religious organizations operated primarily for the benefit of their own members.
- Capital grants to building campaigns will only be made when there is evidence that such support is vital to the success of a program meeting priority needs of the community. Payments of such grants are made only after a significant percentage of the total campaign requirements have been raised.
- Grants are not awarded for endowment purposes.
- All grants are awarded in accordance with current regulations issued pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. (No Transportation costs allowed.)

Criteria that Governs Grant Decisions

Applications will be evaluated and prioritized with the following questions in mind:

- How significant is the problem or opportunity?
- How many people will this project benefit?
- Is the timing for this project appropriate?
- Are you collaborating or partnering with other organizations?
- Are other organizations financially supporting this project?
- Is there a possibility of future or continued support for this project from the community or other organizations?

How to Apply

- Contact our Executive Director at elizabeth@blackfordcounty.org or 765-348-3411 to determine if your proposal fits the guidelines.
- Submit your application online by following the link on our grant application and timeline page.
- After your application has been reviewed, Foundation staff will contact you regarding next steps.

**Deadline to Apply
Awards Announced**

Cycle I
February 6
Week of March 23

Big Idea
April 2
Week of July 20

Cycle II
June 4
Week of September 21