

GRANTMAKING GUIDELINES
WESSINGTON SPRINGS AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Revised August 2010

1. GENERAL

Wessington Springs Area Community Foundation (WSACF) will strive to support a broad spectrum of projects. Determination of recommendation for approval will be based upon need, creativity in addressing community concerns, community volunteer support, and accountability. WSACF funds will NOT be awarded to subsidize normal operating expenses. WSACF will NOT consider any loan requests.

2. MULTI-CYCLE FUNDING

As a general guideline, no more than three years of sequential grant funding shall be awarded to any one grantee for the same purpose. If projects require substantial funding to accomplish objectives, applicants should indicate intent to request additional funding in subsequent grant cycles. No guarantee of continued funding will be committed until future grant applications are reviewed. Previously funded projects with good track records should be favorably considered in subsequent grant decisions.

3. CHALLENGE OR MATCHING GRANTS

The Wessington Springs Area Community Foundation encourages match funding. When the Board perceives the need for more local involvement and support of a given project in order to establish ownership by the community, it may require challenge grants in any proportion. Grant funding may be contingent upon acquisition of the required matching money.

4. PARTNERSHIPS

Applications received from a partnership of two or more organizations will be considered if their proposal meets the guidelines of the Foundation. However, communications and accountability must be established with one organization.

5. GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

All grant applicants are required to complete a grant application form, attach an itemized budget for the project, and send a representative from the organization to the meeting where their request will be reviewed. (Applicant will be informed of the meeting time and place).

6. GRANT REVIEW PROCESS

Grant applications shall be considered twice each year when funds are available. The Board of Directors shall set the application deadlines. All applications will be reviewed and grants awarded by the Board of Directors according to the criteria set forth. A request is then submitted to the South Dakota Community Foundation for funding.

7. COMMUNICATIONS WITH APPLICANTS

All applicants will be informed in writing within two weeks after the Board meeting as to the status of their application. The Board will hold decisions in confidence until publicly announced.

8. FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

Grant recipients shall submit a final evaluation report to the Foundation immediately following project completion where Foundation funds were used. Additionally, grant recipients are required to submit pictures of completed projects showing how Foundation grant funds affected said project. These pictures are to be used at the discretion of the Foundation Board and its' coordinator for grant recipient display boards to be viewed at the Foundations annual meeting. Grant recipients are welcome to represent such displays at the Foundation annual meeting. Applicants shall inform the Foundation in writing of any significant changes in grant applicant status, organizational status, or project implementation information for approval. All projects are expected to be completed and grant monies expended within 12 months of the grant award. Extensions to these guidelines would need to be approved by the board of directors.

9. EXCEPTIONS

The Board may make an exception to any printed policy upon motion duly made, seconded and carried by 2/3 of the members present and voting. Motion must state rationale for the exception. Exceptions taken in one instance do not establish precedent for future grant decision.