

South Dakota Fund Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible applicants typically include:

- Nonprofit organizations as defined by IRS Publication 78
 - Tribal organizations
 - Public entities and school districts
 - Coalitions or partnerships (Fiscal Sponsors) led by an eligible organization
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What are the eligibility requirements?

Eligibility requirements are the same for our traditional focus areas and our new initiatives:

- Grant requests must be program or project related.
- Grant requests cannot be for more than one-half the project costs.
- Grant requests should show matching dollars for the project.
- Organizations must wait a 12-month period before applying.

(Eligibility requirements are further explained on our [South Dakota Fund](#) webpage under Grantmaking Guidelines.)

How do I apply?

- [GOapply](#) – SDCF’s online grant portal
 - Create a new user account
 - Opportunity – South Dakota Fund
- Submit a Letter of Inquiry

(Please visit our [GOapply User Guidelines](#) for further detail.)

What new grant opportunities are available in 2026?

The Foundation is launching three statewide grant initiatives in 2026:

- Child Well-Being
- Housing
- Workforce Development

These initiatives are designed to support planning, development, and implementation of strategies that strengthen communities across the state.

SDCF will continue to offer grants in its six traditional focus areas:

- Culture
 - Economic Development
 - Education
 - Financial Literacy
 - Health
 - Human Services
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What funding amounts are available?

Types of grants are available:

- **Traditional Grants**
 - Up to **\$20,000**
 - **2026 Initiatives**
 - Development Grants:
Up to **\$50,000**
 - Implementation Grants:
Up to **\$100,000**
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Examples of the Child Well-Being initiative

Child Well-Being grants support efforts that improve a child's wellbeing at all stages of development, including:

- Early childhood development
 - Physical and mental health
 - Family stability and support
 - Education and school readiness
 - Youth development and resilience
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Examples of the Housing initiative

Housing grants support the development, access, or sustainability of affordable housing, including:

- Development of affordable housing
 - Increasing access to safe, stable housing
 - Preserving existing affordable housing
 - Housing sustainability and long-term affordability
 - Supportive services connected to housing stability
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Examples of the Workforce Development initiative

Workforce Development grants support programs and strategies aimed at enhancing workforce skills & improving employment opportunities, including:

- Skill-building and credentialing programs
 - Career pathways and job training
 - Employer partnerships
 - Workforce re-entry and upskilling
 - Strategies that improve employment outcomes and wage growth
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Can an organization apply for more than one grant under different focus areas?

No. You may only apply for either a traditional focus area or for one of our new initiatives. You may not apply for more than one South Dakota Fund grant in a 12-month period.

What is the timeline for these grants?

The South Dakota Fund is an ongoing grant program.

South Dakota Fund Timeline



Application Stage	Timeline/Due Date
Letter of Inquiry (LOI)	LOIs are accepted on a rolling basis.
LOI Decision: Invited or Denied	SDCF responds to LOIs within 15 working days.
Application	Applications are due 60 days after SDCF sends out an invitation to apply.
Application Decision: Awarded, Denied or Holdover	SDCF informs an applicant of their status within 90 days of the application submission date.