



2024 Guidelines for Capital Grants

Capital Grants

Akron Community Foundation is seeking capital improvement grant applications from local nonprofit organizations. Capital grants are limited to construction, expansion, upgrades or renovations. Only nonprofit organizations with capital projects that benefit Summit County, and its residents, are qualified to apply.

What We Support

When making funding decisions, we prioritize:

- Projects that address safety issues for organization staff or individuals served.
- Projects that reinforce the foundation's strategic priorities in arts and culture, civic affairs, health and human services, education, and priorities identified through our 2023 Community Needs Assessment.
- Projects that serve individuals and communities of color who have faced historic inequalities and lack of access to funding.
- Projects with evidence of community involvement in setting project priorities.
- Projects with strong engagement and financial support from the board.
- Projects that incorporate green building and sustainable development practices.
- Projects from organizations in operation for over five years.
- Projects that have secured at least 50% of the funds needed at the time of the application.

Funding for Grants

Funding for capital grants of \$350,000 will be provided primarily through Akron Community Foundation's board discretionary funds. Grants will range from \$2,500 to \$25,000.

Applying for and receiving a capital grant does **NOT** impact your organization's ability to receive a grant from any of our quarterly grant cycles or any of our affiliate fund grant processes.

Eligibility

Along with the priorities mentioned above, eligible organizations are those that:

- Are in Summit County, OH
- Have a 501(c)(3) designation from the IRS
- Are a current (FY 2022 and 2023) grantee of Akron Community Foundation or one of its affiliate funds or are an agency endowment fundholder
- Did not receive a capital grant award during the 2022 capital cycle
- Can produce current and complete organizational and capital project budgets, as well as Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)

Limitations

Akron Community Foundation's capital grants will **NOT** consider or support requests from or for:

- Organizations or individuals applying with a fiscal sponsor
- Sports clubs, leagues, booster clubs, parent-teacher associations, or athletic facilities



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- Hospitals or other large health care institutions
- Public or private educational institutions
- Religious organizations for religious purposes
 - Projects that serve the entire community, regardless of religious affiliation, may be eligible for support.
- Endowment or capital campaigns
- Annual fundraising campaigns or general operating expenses
- One-time or special events
- The foundation will only fund capital improvements once through its capital grant program

Application Process

Grant proposals must be submitted on the capital grant application form available at www.akroncf.org/capitalgrants. Only one application per organization will be accepted. Other proposal formats will not be accepted.

The foundation's Community Investment staff, as well as ad hoc members of our Community Investment Committee, will evaluate completed applications for conformity with the foundation's grantmaking guidelines.

The grant application process opens on May 1, 2024, and closes at **11:59 p.m. on June 1, 2024**. Grants will be approved by Akron Community Foundation's board of directors on **Sept. 27, 2024**, and you will be notified of your status shortly after via email. Please do not apply for a capital grant if you need the funds before **Sept. 27, 2024**.

Awarded funds are distributed within two weeks after completing **both** the Signed Agreement and Request for Payment forms through the online application database.

Award recipients are required to submit a summary of grant-related activities along with a financial statement at the end of the grant year.

For Additional Information

Community Investment staff welcomes questions or additional inquiries about eligibility. Feel free to contact any of our staff:

- John F. Garofalo, Vice President, Community Investment, at 330-436-5624 or jgarofalo@akroncf.org
- Cristina González Alcalá, Ph.D., Director of Community Investment, at 330-436-5626 or cgonzalezalcala@akroncf.org
- Chris Miller, Community Investment and Communications Officer, at 330-436-5627 or cmiller@akroncf.org
- Brian Reitz, Agency Endowment and Engagement Officer, at 330-436-5628 or breitz@akroncf.org
- Mariana Silva, Community Investment Specialist, at 330-436-5612 or msilva@akroncf.org