

Grant Guidelines

Our Mission

Liberty Bank Foundation invests in organizations that our neighbors rely on to build strong, vibrant, communities. Our mission is to improve the lives of our customers, teammates, and communities for generations to come.

Geographic Area Served

Liberty Bank Foundation supports organizations and programs operating in communities served by Liberty Bank.

Funding Priorities

Our funding is focused on supporting low-to-moderate income individuals and families in the following priority areas:

Education & Training

- K-12 Academics
- College and Career Readiness
- Adult Workforce Development
- Entrepreneurial Support Organizations (ESOs)

Affordable Housing

- Low/moderate-income housing development
- Technical assistance for nonprofit housing developers
- Education supporting affordable and supportive housing
- Foreclosure prevention and homeowner counseling
- Homebuyer and landlord education for low/moderate-income individuals

Food

We offer a limited number of grants to support the primary food pantry or soup kitchen in each community we serve. Our primary means for addressing food insecurity is through our Liberty Bank Rotary Club Thanksgiving Drive.

Eligibility for Grants

An organization may submit one grant application per calendar year. When reviewing grant applications, here's what we take into consideration:

- Number of people served
- The level of need of the people to be served.
- Measurable Impact. Does the program have the capacity to effect sustainable change by addressing root causes rather than offering short-term solutions? Will it foster significant improvements within the community or for the individuals served?

The following types of organizations are eligible for grants from the foundation:

- Nonprofit organizations recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that are classified as public charities
- Municipal Agencies (where the project is solely for public purposes)

Typically, our funding is directed toward specific programs. In exceptional instances, we may review applications for capital projects or equipment. Please contact Foundation staff if you require further clarification.

Liberty Bank Foundation does not make grants to support the following:

- Annual fundraisers or campaigns
- Event sponsorships, tables, tickets, or underwriting of events
- Advocacy, lobbying, or partisan political activities
- Political campaigns or support for political candidates
- Community, cultural, or recreational festivals
- Animal welfare or animal-related causes
- Childcare or daycare agencies
- Grants for individuals
- Private scholarships or tuition assistance programs
- Civic organizations (ex. fraternal organizations, service clubs)
- Consultants, professional fees, or contracted services not tied to a specific eligible program
- Debt reduction or deficit financing
- Emergency financial assistance to individuals
- Endowments or reserve funds
- Fundraising activities (ex. Golf tournaments, road races, benefit events)
- Organizations or programs serving a limited or very small number or individuals
- Pilot programs, start-ups, untested new initiatives
- Religious organizations, unless the request supports non-sectarian, broad-based community programs
- Research studies or feasibility studies
- Regranting or pass-through organizations whose primary purpose is to distribute funds to other organizations
- Third-party fundraising on behalf of another organization
- Trips, tours, conferences or travel
- Substance abuse prevention programs
- Capital campaigns, capital projects, or equipment purchases (except in rare cases and only after consultation with Foundation staff)
- National organizations without meaningful local presence or impact in communities served by Liberty Bank

Liberty Bank Foundation does **not** sponsor events or organizations. Grants are awarded to support **programming only**. Any sponsorship requests should be directed to Liberty Bank. Funding is not guaranteed year-to-year, and each organization may apply only once per year. For eligibility questions, contact the Foundation.

Grant Size and Duration

The minimum grant is \$5,000 with most grants awarded at the \$5,000-\$10,000 level. Grants are made on a one-time basis.

Applying for a Grant

If your organization has not previously received funding from Liberty Bank Foundation and would like to set up a time to discuss your proposal before applying, please contact us at tmaher@liberty-bank.com. **Note, this is not a requirement.** Grant requests are reviewed three times annually according to the schedule below. You can find our online Grant Application here: [Grant Application](#) .

Application Deadline	Decision Timeframe
March 1	June
June 1	September
December 1	March

Application Checklist

For us to consider your grant request, the following supporting information and documents must be uploaded with your grant application. To avoid a delay in considering your request, please check that all the documents below have been uploaded before clicking “submit.”

Governance

- IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter
- Board list with affiliations

Financial

- Project budget
- Organizational operating budget
- Audited financials (with management letter)
- Most recent Form 990 (include all pages)

If you can't provide any required documents, upload a note explaining why or when you expect to submit them. Your grant request won't be accepted without all documents. **Applicants with outstanding final reports from previous grants must submit them before being considered for new grants.**

Contact Information

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