

Blue Mountain Community Foundation

Discretionary Grants Program Update



**2018 Discretionary
Grants budget –
About \$270,000**



**What hasn't
changed?**



Deadline:
July 1st at midnight,
online at
www.bluemountainfoundation.org




**“Grants and
Scholarships” tab on
website – only accepting
online applications**



**All volunteer process –
decisions made
September 18 – and
announced soon after**



**Once decision made:
letters sent to applicants;
if approved, form enclosed;
once form signed and returned,
then grant paid;
reports due the following year**



**Eligibility: 501(c)3
organizations, public
or governmental
agencies**



**Walla Walla,
Columbia, Garfield
or Umatilla counties**



**Broad range of
interests and issues**



**What's different in 2018?
Full implementation of
changes begun in 2016**



Strategic Plan 2016 – Community Engagement and Impact Move to strategic, impactful grants



What are strategic grants?



**In general,
larger grants
(\$15,000 to \$100,000)**




**Grants for projects that
will make an impact on a
problem or opportunity
in the community**



**More strategic
grantmaking;
align with Community
Conversations Results**



Initial results:

- **Access to Education**
 - **Strong and Diverse Economy**
 - **Health**
 - **Care for nature**
 - **Safety**
- 

**Successful applications
will connect their work
with one of these
goals**



**Application itself is
different – more
information requested**



**Already requested:
Letter of Tax
Exemption**



**New information:
Board of Directors list
with officers noted**



**New information:
Financial review or audit;
or financial statements
with balance sheet and
income statement**




New Information: Program or Organization Budget



**New Information:
Mission statement and
copy of most recent
annual report**



**New Information:
Brief bio of applicant's
leader – president,
executive director, etc.**



**New Information:
Other sources of funding
and pending requests for
the program or project**



**New Information:
Statement about
Diversity, Equity and
Inclusion for applicant
organization**



**New emphasis for BMCF is
diversity, equity and
inclusion. A sample
statement:**



DEI Statement:

“calls for affirmations of diversity in its many forms, encompassing but not limited to: ethnicity, race, gender and gender identity, sexual orientation, age, economic circumstance, class, disability, geography and philosophy.”

Diversity ensures that a range of perspectives, opinions, and experiences are recognized and acted upon in achieving the organization's mission.



**BMCF is interested in seeing
Diversity, Equity and
Inclusiveness policies put into
action to improve our
communities for everyone, and
to make us all more effective.**



What else is new?
Less likely to support:




**Membership
organizations that may
be tax exempt but not
charitable under 501(c)3
of IRC**



**Projects which are
the ministry of a
church.**




**Recap: Same as in the past –
7/1 deadline,
online only application,
application at
www.bluemountainfoundation.org,
same basic application, 501(c)3
letter of tax exemption**




New in 2018 –

Application requires more information

- **Applicant's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement**
 - **Brief bio of leader (president, executive director)**
 - **Financial audit or review**
 - **Budget for project or organization**
 - **Board list with officers listed**
 - **Copy of most recent annual report**
 - **Other sources of funding for the project, including pending requests**
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**In 2018, a focus on Strategic
Grants –
\$15,000 to \$100,000,
up to 60% of Discretionary
Grants budget (tentatively –
depends on applicant pool)**



**Remaining 40% of budget
available for smaller grants
supporting ongoing
programs, new programs or
other**



**Staff will have a more
active role in reviewing
applications prior to
Committee and Board**



In most cases, once a proposal is received, staff will be in touch if more information needed, to schedule a site visit, etc.



Sources of information:
previous applications, your website
and Facebook page, Guidestar and
Form 990s, material submitted with
application, site visit, experience of
staff and/or board with the
organization, among others



**For more information on
Community Conversations,
visit**

**[www.wcommunitycouncil.org
/community-conversations](http://www.wcommunitycouncil.org/community-conversations)**



Questions?

