



MINNESOTA COMMUNITY IDEAS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

The **Minnesota Community IDEAS Program** seeks to design, test and spread ideas that make our communities better for everyone through meaningful, community-led change. In 2026, nine selected organizations will each receive a total award of \$125,000. Grants will be awarded within three target communities—Greater Minnesota, the Twin Cities Metro Area, and Native-led organizations serving Native communities—with three grants awarded within each of the three communities.

In February 2026, selected organizations will receive an email invitation with instructions on how to submit an application through the Foundation's online portal, GranteeView. The application deadline will be 1 p.m. on April 30, 2026.

IMPORTANT: Only organizations selected from the random selection process and invited to apply are eligible to complete the full application.

For more details on the interest form and random selection process, please visit the [Minnesota Community IDEAS website](#).

A copy of the full application is provided below for reference.

If you have questions about eligibility or the application process, contact the Bush Prize: Minnesota team at mncommunityideas@spmcf.org or [651.325.4202](tel:651.325.4202).

PREQUALIFICATION QUESTION

Before accessing the full application online, we ask the following qualifying questions to ensure your organization is eligible for the Minnesota Community IDEAS program.

1. Have you been invited to apply for the Minnesota Community IDEAS Program?
☐ Yes
☐ No

2. Provide the invitation code your organization received to access the application: _____

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Provide the following information for the applicant organization. Organizations or programs that are fiscally sponsored may serve as the applicant organization. You will be asked to provide information on your fiscal sponsor separately (below).

- Organization's Legal Name
- Organization ID# (Assigned when registering for GranteeView)
- Organization Doing Business as Name (if different than legal name)
- Org. Employer Identification Number (EIN): XX-XXXXXXX
- Organization Address
 - Street Address
 - City
 - County
 - State
 - Zip
- Organization Main Phone Number
- Organization Website
- Executive Director Name
- Executive Director Title
- Executive Director Email
- Executive Director Phone
- Applicant Contact Name (if different than Executive Director)
- Applicant Contact Title
- Applicant Contact Email
- Applicant Contact Phone

Is your organization certified by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public charity or a public agency/unit of government or Indian tribal government under Section 7871 of the Internal Revenue Code?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No, but we have an eligible fiscal sponsor

Fiscal Sponsor Organization Information (if applicable)

If applying using a fiscal sponsor, an authorized representative of the fiscal sponsor is required to sign and upload a Fiscal Sponsor Agreement. You will be asked the following for the organization:

- Fiscal Sponsor Project Name
- Fiscal Sponsor Legal Name
- Fiscal Sponsor DBA
- Fiscal Sponsor Employer Identification Number: XX-XXXXXXX
- Fiscal Sponsor Year Established
- Fiscal Sponsor Address
- Fiscal Sponsor Website
- Fiscal Sponsor Executive Director Name
- Fiscal Sponsor Executive Director Title
- Fiscal Sponsor Executive Director Phone
- Fiscal Sponsor Executive Director Email

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

- ORGANIZATION - Provide a brief introduction to your organization, its history and its mission. (Suggested 3-5 paragraphs, or 2,000 characters)
- INNOVATION – Provide a summary of your idea and the opportunity, challenge, issue or need that it works to address. How does the proposed idea use creative approaches, technologies, collaborations, and/or methods to drive bold and creative change to solve problems affecting the community more effectively? (Suggested 5-6 paragraphs, or 3,000 characters)
- DEVELOPMENT – What is your plan to implement the proposed idea? Describe the actions, resources, partnerships and timeline involved. (Suggested 6-8 paragraphs, or 4,000 characters)
- EQUITY – Provide a brief introduction to the community who will be served by the proposed idea. Describe how the proposed idea benefits communities that have been historically under-served (Black, Indigenous, Asian, Latino, new Americans, immigrants, refugees, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ communities, veterans, rural communities, low-income communities, and others). (Suggested 3-5 paragraphs, or 2,000 characters)
- AGENCY – How do you listen to/involve community to ensure the community you serve **informs** AND **forms** the work of your proposed idea? (Suggested 3-5 paragraphs, or 2,000 characters)
 - ☐ **Informs:** Work should be shaped by input from the community itself. This means the organization listens to the experiences, needs, and feedback from the community it serves to align its goals and initiatives with the actual needs and priorities of the community.
 - ☐ **Forms:** Beyond being informed by the community, the community has an active role in shaping the work. The community is directly involved in designing and implementing programs and solutions, and the organization's work reflects the values, culture, and strengths of the community.
- SOLUTIONS - What is the significant and long-lasting change you will accomplish if this idea is successful? How does the proposed idea address the root causes of significant community issues and systemic challenges? How would it inspire others in the region and serve as a model for future success? (Suggested 5-6 paragraphs, or 3,000 characters)

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

- Audit or financial review from most recently completed year showing actual income and expenses. This information should include a balance sheet, a statement of activities (or statement of income and expenses) and functional expenses.