Grant Guidelines

The Sunwest Bank Charitable Foundation builds prosperous communities by fostering philanthropic corporate culture and advancing the impact of effective charitable organizations. Through its Community Grants program, the foundation provides annual cash grants to nonprofit organizations benefiting the communities served by Sunwest Bank. These grants are aimed at addressing the unique needs of our communities.

Community Grants are awarded through an open application process to eligible organizations. All organizations interested in applying for a Community Grant must apply through the Sunwest Bank Charitable Foundation's online grant portal, which is linked via the Sunwest Bank website. Incomplete applications or those that fail to comply with the Grant Guidelines will be disqualified. Submission of an application does not guarantee funding.

While not an exhaustive list, the foundation generally does not fund the following:
- Arts
- Scholarships
- Endowments
- Political campaigns or candidates
- Events (e.g., fundraisers, conferences, workshops)
- Individual assistance (e.g., emergency aid, medical expenses, tuition, financial support, etc.)
- Hospital foundations
- Large, national nonprofits

Organization Eligibility
- Be a nonprofit with a 501(c)(3) U.S. tax filing status or equivalent.
- Align with our mission and vision.
- Operate in communities served by or receive services from Sunwest Bank.
- Submit a complete grant application.
- If awarded funding, complete the required grant report.

Grant Process and Timing
- **Complete and submit an online application.** During the process, the application can be saved as a draft and revisited later. Once submitted, the application cannot be edited.
- **Application received.** When the application is submitted, a confirmation email will be sent to the organization's primary contact.
- **Application reviewed.** The foundation will review the application to confirm all the required information has been completed. If any additional information is needed, you will be contacted.

- **Site visit.** Applications requesting $10,000 or more may be contacted to schedule a site visit as a part of the application due diligence process.
- **Decision.** Most applications are decided upon during a committee meeting after the application is reviewed and a site visit has been conducted. Committee meetings usually take place quarterly, and site visits may require additional time. Therefore, applicants can expect to receive a response to their application 6-8 weeks after the end of the quarter in which the application was submitted. We provide a response to each application, regardless of the decision.
- **Approved applications.** Decision letters will be sent via email. Read your letter as the contents will provide specific details about your grant, which may differ from your request, and additional requirements, including reporting instructions.
- **Reapply.** Applicants are allowed to apply for one grant per calendar year regardless of the grant decision. Grants are not automatically renewed, and previous funding does not guarantee future funding.

Useful Tips
- Submit your application with ample time to allow the grant process to take place. Urgent requests cannot often be accommodated.
- Political campaigns or candidates
- Events (e.g., fundraisers, conferences, workshops)
- Individual assistance (e.g., emergency aid, medical expenses, tuition, financial support, etc.)