



Mabel Louise Riley Foundation

GUIDELINES

FOR

GRANT APPLICANTS

General

The Foundation's interests are developed as a result of Trustee field visits and reports from consultants. Grants are usually made to help an organization address an important community-wide concern or a critical issue, or to achieve a broad impact for the public's benefit, rather than to meet routine needs.

Applicants should demonstrate how a proposed program will advance the mutual goals and interests of the applicant and the Foundation.

Program Interests

The Foundation has frequently adopted specific themes which have provided a special focus for support, as exemplified by its work with residents of Boston's Dudley Street neighborhood.

The Trustees' current priorities include:

- Education and social services for disadvantaged children and adolescents.
- Community development that will benefit low-income and minority neighborhoods, including job development and training, housing, historic preservation, the urban environment, and the arts.
- Citywide efforts in Boston and vicinity that will produce cultural improvements and benefits.
- Grants that, despite some risk, offer a potential of high impact or significant new benefits for a community. The Foundation is especially interested in leveraging its grants by funding a new program that can become self-sufficient or may serve as models for other areas.
- Preschool reading programs.
- Improvement of race relations and safety issues.

Types of Support

- Support for new initiatives, pilot projects and capital purposes. Grants which provide multiple benefits, such as, for projects that may be replicated and that serve a broad community, are favored over projects which are narrow in scope.
- Collaboration with other funders.

Funding Availability

- Grants from the Foundation normally range from \$50,000 to \$100,000. Occasionally, when the Foundation decides to pursue a special initiative, the Trustees will consider smaller or larger funding commitments.
- Multiple year funding may be available, if necessary, to fulfill the funding objectives.

Eligibility

- Requests are considered only from corporations organized under the laws of Massachusetts. In recent years, the Foundation's grantmaking has focused on the city of Boston and vicinity with occasional support for projects in other areas.
- Applicants whose formal grant requests have been denied are expected to wait one full year before reapplying. Grant recipients should expect to wait two full years before submitting a new request.

Areas in which Grants are NOT Normally Made

- Charitable activities outside of Massachusetts will not be funded. Support of projects in Massachusetts but outside the city of Boston and vicinity is limited.
- Grants to defray deficits, for regular operating budgets, or as the sole source of support for an agency will not usually be granted.
- Funding efforts that are usually supported by the general public, or which have other sources of funding available, will not usually be granted.
- Grants to governmental agencies and grants on behalf of individuals, for personal needs, travel, research publications, loans or scholarships will not be made.
- Grants for political or sectarian religious purposes will not be made.

Application Procedures

- Applicants are required to submit a brief summary of their proposal (not more than 2 pages) before submitting a formal grant request. This summary should briefly describe the purposes and objectives of the proposal, why it is important, the history of the applicant and the amount requested from the Foundation. There are no deadlines for these proposal summaries; it is an ongoing process. The Foundation will notify the applicant if the submission of a formal grant request is authorized and will be considered by the Foundation at a quarterly grant meeting.
- If the filing of a formal grant request is authorized, it must be made using the Common Proposal Format of the Associated Grant Makers, 55 Court Street, Suite 520, Boston, MA 02108 - (617) 426-2606, and should include a copy of the most recent IRS Form 990, as well as, all other attachments required by the Common Proposal Format.
- Each grant request must contain a clear statement of how the success or failure of the program will be determined.

Proposal Deadlines

- Grant meetings of the Foundation are scheduled for March, June, September, and December. If a formal grant request is authorized, it will be considered by the Trustees at the next quarterly grant meeting. All formal grant proposals must be received at least thirty (30) days prior to the grant meeting.

Contact

- The Foundation has authorized its staff to review all proposals and to represent them in contacts with applicants.
- The Trustees intend to maintain their practice of making selective field visits and/or meetings with the applicants.

***For Further Information,
Please Contact***

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