

2025 Community Partnerships FAQs and Answers

General Questions

1. Who is eligible to apply for a Community Partnership Grant?

All applicants must be a registered 501 c 3 nonprofit with the Ohio Secretary of State in good standing.

Governmental and for-profit entities are not eligible for funding and should not apply.

The intent is to fund innovative projects of organizations that have not received programmatic support from previous Community Partnership grant cycles (i.e. 2023, 2024, and Health Equity).

2. If an organization received a COVID-19 Recovery or COVID-19 Capital Grant from Franklin County, can they still apply for the community partnerships grant?

Yes.

3. On average, how many applications are submitted vs how many are funded?

In 2024, over 180 applications were submitted, and 22 awards were granted. We recognize that many outstanding programs were submitted, and while we are unable to fund every application, we deeply appreciate the passion, effort, and impact represented in each one.

4. What is the total amount of grant funds available for this grant?

Approximately \$3,000,000.

5. What is the maximum amount that can be requested for one year of funding?

Each organization is eligible to apply for an annual amount up to \$300,000.

6. Can an organization submit more than one application?

No. Only one application per organization will be accepted. This also applies if the organization has multiple tax ID numbers.

7. How long does my organization need to be in existence to apply for the grant?

There is no length of time that an organization has been in existence to apply for the grant. However, organizations must include a copy of the notification from the IRS that your organization has been granted 501(c)(3) status to be considered for funding.

8. Can you please tell me if the Community Partnership Grants receive any funds originating from federal sources?

No. All funds for this grant are supported by the County's General Fund.

9. What is the grant's start and end date?

The grant cycle for the first year is July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026. Pending project performance reports, each organization selected for funding will have the option to renew their grant for two additional one-year periods.

10. When will the grant decisions be announced?
We hope to notify awardees shortly after the review process. Those organizations awarded funding will be notified of the process for entering into the grant agreement. Please be patient as we do expect a large number of applications.
11. Can services be provided outside of Franklin County?
Yes, services can take place outside of Franklin County as long as they directly serve residents who live in Franklin County (for example, an educational field trip for Franklin County youth).
12. Our most recent fiscal year was completed, but we will not have our total revenue or expenditures tabulated until after the application is due. Can we use our previous fiscal year information?
If your current year is not available, please use the previous year fiscal information. However, make sure the end date of the previous fiscal year is reflected in the applicable date field on the application.

AmpliFund Questions

1. I am trying to access the application on my iPad, but it seems to not be loading. Does the site require a computer to assess?
If you are having issues accessing the application, email support@amplifund.zendesk.com for assistance. Please cc cpapplications@franklincountyohio.gov on your support email for tracking purposes.
2. When we add users from our team do you recommend adding them as editor or administrator?
Only one user should create your organization's AmpliFund account. Once your account has been created, you can invite and designate users as Administrators or Editors as you see fit. Roles differ as follows:
- Administrator** – Can create, edit, delete, and withdraw applications; create and edit accounts; and add new users.
- Editor** - Can edit applications and update their account settings.
3. Is there an actual RFP to view?
The application can be downloaded in PDF format from the opportunity webpage.



Grant Application

1. What are unallowable expenses for this grant?
Unallowable expenses include, but are not limited to:
 - **Political activities or lobbying efforts.**
 - **Purchase of alcoholic beverages or entertainment expenses.**
 - **Personal expenses for staff or volunteers not directly related to the project.**
 - **Expenses unrelated to the project's objectives or scope as outlined in the grant agreement.**
 - **Investments or financial speculation.**
 - **Payment of fines or penalties.**
 - **Activities or programs that discriminate based on race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or any other protected characteristic.**
 - **Expenses incurred before the grant period or after the grant expiration date unless specifically allowed by the grant agreement.**
 - **Capital expenses.**
2. Do the terms “project”, “program”, and “operations” differ or are the words used interchangeably?
The terms project, program, and operations can be used interchangeably.
3. Do you have any criteria for grant decisions and a scoring grid that you will be using?
Yes. Due to the competitive nature of this process, criteria and scoring metrics will be utilized.
4. Do you have any suggestions or templates for a sustainability plan?
Franklin County Board of Commissioners do not endorse any sustainability planning models or resources, however [here](#) is a sustainability template.
5. Is there a cap on administrative costs?
Yes. All administrative costs are up to 10% of the total grant award.
6. If we are requesting funding from the City of Columbus for our program but have not heard back on whether we will receive it, would it be better to answer no, or answer yes and explain that our request is pending?
Please answer based on the status at the time you submit your application.
7. If we received funds through another governmental source, would that exclude us from Applying?
If an organization received funds from the City of Columbus, State of Ohio, Federal agency, or any other outsource, they are eligible to apply for funding. Organizations are encouraged to identify other funding sources to leverage County funding.
8. We have both a Governing Board and an Advisory Board? Should we report the demographics of both?
The demographics should be provided for the Board that is responsible for ensuring the sound administration of the organization.
9. Is there a minimum or maximum number of goals that should be included?
Each organization should include between one and three goals.