



WOMEN'S FOUNDATION OF ALABAMA

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GRANT CYCLE

The initial phase of the grant cycle opens online on Friday, August 2. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, August 23, at 11:59 pm.

For this cycle, we are following a two-stage process (brief proposal and full proposal stages). For applicants advancing to the full proposal stage, site visits will start in October and final decisions will be in December.

- **AUGUST 2-23: BRIEF PROPOSAL PERIOD**
- **SEPTEMBER 9-30: FULL PROPOSAL PERIOD**
 - This stage in the process will only be open to those who have received an approval response from WFA based on their LOI submission.
- **October 14-25: SITE VISITS**
 - Site Visits for Applicants Advancing to Full Proposal Stage
- **December: Final Decisions**
 - **Grant Awards** - All final funding decisions are made by the Foundation's Board of Directors and Grants and Allocation Committee. You will be notified by e-mail of the Board's decision and the follow-up steps needed.

PROPOSAL RESTRICTIONS:

1. **Grant Amounts:** Applicants may request funding up to \$50,000. The total cost and scale of the project should be reasonable, feasible, and sustainable in relation to the applicant's overall budget and activities.
2. **Grant Terms:** Depending on the scale and schedule of the proposal, funds may be requested over a one—or two-year period.
3. **No grants are made to or for:**
 - a. Individuals
 - b. Religious organizations for religious purposes
 - c. National fundraising drives
 - d. Sponsorship of fundraising events
 - e. Political organizations or candidates for public office
 - f. Scholarship or endowment funds
 - g. Debt reduction
 - h. Scholarship or campership programs
 - i. Replacement of government funding cuts

- j. Indirect costs exceeding 10% of the total funding request

APPLICATION RESTRICTIONS:

1. Applicants must be currently designated a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the IRS OR be a 501(c)(3) exempt religious institution OR be a government entity. Private non-operating foundations are not eligible. Applicants may use a fiscal sponsor only if there is a meaningful mission fit and an existing working relationship between the two organizations.
2. Applicants must provide services in Alabama.
3. Large organizations with many branches or departments (e.g. colleges, universities, YMCA, public libraries) must submit requests from the president's office or the development office.

HOW TO APPLY:

Women's Foundation of Alabama utilizes an online grants management system, Foundant. To access the application portal, [click here](#).

COMMON QUESTIONS:

Can I submit under more than one focus area or more than one request?

If you feel your project fits into multiple focus areas, please select the one that best describes your project. WFA program officers can assist if you want to discuss which focus area is the best fit for your project.

We do not have restrictions preventing organizations from applying for more than one grant. You may apply for multiple projects under the same or different focus areas; however, there is no guarantee that we will be able to fund multiple projects.

Can I submit for general operating support and/or staff salaries?

Yes, we are believers that organizations need general operating support. Bear in mind however the metrics you are measuring and communicating must align with our mission and focus areas. WFA will fund staff salaries, but the most successful proposals will include a sustainability plan for staff positions that are grant-funded.

Will you fund my entire project?

In general, the Women's Foundation of Alabama will not be the sole funder of a project.

If I was funded last year, can I apply this year?

It depends. If you received a two-year grant last year, you are not eligible for funding this cycle. If you have already received your final grant payment, you may apply for funding again this year.

If I applied in the past and my project was denied, can I apply again?

Yes, please apply again. If you would like to apply for the same project/program, we recommend you reach out to a program officer to receive feedback on your past proposal.

Do I have to submit a grant report?

Yes, you will submit at the end of your grant period one-year following your grant award

Will the funding be allotted equally between the two focus areas?

No, we acknowledge that organizations of varying sizes may apply for grant requests that differ. The foundation will not limit each focus area to an equal amount.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT A
PHILANTHROPY AND LEARNING TEAM MEMBER:**

Kaitlee Daw, Senior Program Officer

kdaw@wfalabama.org

Elizabeth Hubbard, Program Officer

ehubbard@wfalabama.org