



CARES Act  
Support for People

Non Profit Relief  
Grant Program

## Grantseeker FAQ

### **When is the City of Rochester grant application due?**

The grant application will open on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 9 am, and will close at 5:00 pm on Friday, October 2nd.

### **Is my organization eligible for a grant?**

To qualify, an organization must:

- Have a 501(c)3 nonprofit designation or be fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)3 whose main service areas are NOT entertainment, recreation, or arts.
- Provide significant services to residents of Olmsted County.
- Be in good standing with the Minnesota Secretary of State and Minnesota Attorney General as of March 1, 2020.
- Be current on property taxes (if applicable) for 2019 and all years prior, as of March 1, 2020.
- Have been in operation on or before March 1, 2019.

### **What grant request amounts will be considered?**

Grant recipients may receive up to 50% of your organization's decrease in net revenue from March 1st - June 30th, 2020 compared to the same time period in 2019 or \$25,000, whichever is less. The minimum grant amount is \$1,500 and the maximum is \$25,000.

*For example: If from March-June of 2019, your organization had positive net revenue (net revenue = revenue – expenses) of \$30,000, but in March-June of 2020, your organization had negative net revenue of \$5,000, you would have a net loss of \$35,000. You are eligible to apply for 50% of that loss, or \$17,500. You may or may not receive the full \$17,500 depending on how your organization meets the priority criteria.*

### **What can be funded by a City of Rochester Nonprofit Relief grant?**

Uses for City of Rochester Nonprofit Organization Relief grant funds can include payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility bills, and other expenses incurred in the regular course of business. These funds can be retroactively applied to your budget. All uses must be exclusively for City of Rochester location operations.

## **What will NOT be funded by a City of Rochester Nonprofit Relief grant?**

Requests will not be considered from:

- Organizations whose main service area or mission is related to arts, entertainment, or recreation.
- Political campaigns, candidates, parties, partisan activities, or lobbying efforts.
- Religious organizations whose proposals support theological functions.
- Youth and adult sports leagues.
- Labor or fraternal groups.
- Projects that discriminate in any way.
- Capital campaigns.
- Funding that solely benefits an individual or individual family.
- An organization that has been suspended or debarred, and is not eligible for federal funds. The Federal government has the ability to either suspend or debar persons or entities from federal contracts and from receiving government assistance dollars. This would include organizations that have committed fraud, or falsified documentation against the Federal government.

## **When will City of Rochester grants be awarded?**

Olmsted County Nonprofit Relief grants will be awarded in October, 2020 and must be expended by grantees prior to November 9, 2020.

## **Who decides which applicants are awarded grants?**

The City of Rochester Nonprofit Organization Relief Grant Program will use a scoring rubric and give priority in the selection process to organizations that have certain characteristics. Your organization does not need to meet all of these criteria to receive a grant.

Priority Considerations are the following:

- Organizations with programming focused on health and educational equity.
- Organizations that provide services to underserved and/or marginalized populations.\*
- Organizations that provide services to low to moderate-income individuals and families.\*
- Organizations that employed six people or fewer full-time equivalent as of March 1, 2020.
- Organizations that have not received aid from other government sources.
- Organizations directly impacted by Governor Walz's Executive Orders.
- Organizations that can demonstrate financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, specifically a 30% decrease in net revenue or greater for the time period March 1 through June 30, 2020 compared to the same time period in 2019.

*\*If you respond that your organization serves these groups, you may be asked to provide data to confirm these statements.*

## **What reporting is required if my organization receives a grant?**

Documentation of grant funding expenditures must be reported to Rochester Area Foundation by November 16, 2020.