

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs): Responsive Grants Program

### ***Who can apply?***

Generally, The Colorado Health Foundation make grants to the following types of organizations:

- Colorado organizations classified as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3)
- Colorado public agencies, including state and local governments

New or emerging organizations without 501(c)(3) status are permitted to apply through a tax-exempt organization acting as fiscal sponsor.

Note: If your organization is required to meet a public support test in order to retain its status as a public charity, it is essential that you ensure the grant funding your organization could receive from the Foundation will not cause it to lose its status as a publicly supported charity.

### ***Will the Foundation fund a 501(c)(3) organization that is headquartered outside of Colorado?***

Occasionally, the Foundation will fund organizations headquartered outside of the state; however, funding must serve Coloradans who have low income and have historically had less power or privilege.

### ***Are current grantees eligible to apply?***

Yes.

### ***Is it necessary for interested applicants to connect with Foundation staff before applying?***

While it's not required, it's highly encouraged that interested applicants connect with our program staff before submitting an application so they can discuss their proposal in more detail. You can connect with program staff by phone at 303-953-3600 or email at [funding@coloradohealth.org](mailto:funding@coloradohealth.org).

### ***Can an organization submit more than one application under the responsive grants program in the same deadline? Can an organization submit an application for the responsive grants program and a funding opportunity in the same deadline?***

Yes.

### ***What is the grant range for awarded applicants? How many years of funding can be applied for?***

The Foundation will primarily consider multiyear grants in the range of \$50,000 to \$1 million, though the Foundation will also consider applications that fall outside of this range. You can apply for a single year, two year or three year grant. If you apply for a multiyear grant, that funding can be divided among that proposed term.

### ***Does the Foundation have specific demographic or geographic focus for the responsive grants program?***

The Foundation expects applicants to demonstrate how their proposed work aligns with our three cornerstones:

- We serve Coloradans who have low income and have historically had less power or privilege.
- We are informed by the community and those we exist to serve.
- We do everything with the intent of creating health equity.



***Does the Foundation support programs or projects that prioritize individuals living on low income, but also provides services for the general population?***

Proposals should demonstrate that they serve individuals who have low income, as this is the first criteria we measure when reviewing grant applications for eligibility. We would consider a program or project that prioritizes individuals living on low income but also offers general services, so long as the proposal demonstrates that the program or project is designed to primarily benefit those who have low income.

***When you say that a program or project must intersect at two or more funding priorities, does this include any priorities outside of those listed on the [responsive grants program page](#)?***

We have three funding priorities open for our February cycle – Children Move More, Healthy Schools and Youth and Young Adult Resiliency – and will only consider applications that demonstrate intersections within these three priorities. We will not consider applications that are at the intersection of priorities outside of these three funding priorities at this time.

Applications for Children Move More and Healthy Schools must be at the intersection of at least one of the other funding priorities open during this cycle; they cannot be applied for independently. For example, a nonprofit organization could submit an application at the intersection of Children Move More and Healthy Schools, Children Move More and Youth and Young Adult Resiliency, or Healthy Schools and Youth and Young Adult Resiliency.

Applications for Youth and Young Adult Resiliency will be considered even if they don't demonstrate intersection with the other open funding priorities.

***Can you share more detail on the three approaches?***

Successful applicants will center on one of three approaches, which are [defined on our website](#):

- Never-before-seen innovative approaches or innovations that use existing resources and tools in a new way; or
- Expansion of programs that have already demonstrated they are successful in the community; or
- Adaptation and deployment of approaches backed by credible evidence of impact in other communities.

Applications considered for funding are expected to demonstrate through their proposal how their program or project will use innovative solutions or ambitious expansion or credible evidence as an approach towards their work.

***If we're launching a new program that leverages the success of an existing program, would we be considered eligible?***

A new program or project that is an expansion or adaptation of current programming would be considered eligible. We encourage you to [review how we define](#) innovative solutions, ambitious expansion and credible evidence on our website.

***What will the Foundation not fund through the responsive grants program?***

The Foundation will not consider core or ongoing funding of existing programs, general operating support and direct financial support of individuals. This program is intended to support innovative solutions or ambitious expansions. Funding for existing programming that does not include a significant expansion of that programming will not be considered for funding.



***Is it possible for organizations to use funds to partner with outside entities that will help support the program?***

We fund a variety of organizations that include partnerships, and recommend that you include detailed information on the partnership in your grant application, such as a description of the roles each partner will play in supporting the work.

***Will the Foundation consider funding evaluation as a part of the grant application?***

Yes, we will consider funding evaluation as long as it's part of the program or project proposed. We generally do not consider stand-alone evaluations if we are not also funding a programmatic component.

***When could an awarded applicant expect funding to begin?***

The Foundation takes about 3-4 months to go through its decision-making process. When planning your program or project, you would want to consider a start date 90-120 days after the application deadline. Our application deadlines are Feb. 15, June 15 and Oct. 15.

***What makes for a strong application?***

We ask that you [review the responsive grants program page](#), [archived webinar](#) and connect with program staff at [funding@coloradohealth.org](mailto:funding@coloradohealth.org) or 303-953-3600, for more in-depth information on the program criteria.

***If I'm not ready to apply for the Feb. 15 deadline, will I be able to apply again?***

Yes. The responsive grants program will be open for our June and October deadlines. Please [view our funding calendar](#) to see what funding priorities will be open for those two deadlines.

