

# Partners in Community Impact

Supporting organizations creating stronger communities for everyone.

## Grant Guidelines

### ACKLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTS - 2021

SNAPSHOT		
APPLICATION OPENS	MAY 15, 2021	This document provides the necessary details about this specific grant opportunity, including deadlines and eligibility requirements. For information about accessing the online grants management site, tips on grantwriting, and more, visit the Grantseeker Resources section of our website ( <a href="http://www.cfneia.org">www.cfneia.org</a> ). If you have any additional questions, please contact Program Manager Dotti Thompson at 319-243-1358 or <a href="mailto:dthompson@cfneia.org">dthompson@cfneia.org</a>
APPLICATION DEADLINE	JULY 15, 2021	

#### About the Ackley Community Foundation

The Ackley Community Foundation is an affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, created by and for the people of Ackley for the purpose of generating both endowed and unrestricted funds to support charitable capital projects, activities, services, programs, and organizations that will improve the quality of life for the residents of Ackley, Iowa.

#### What We Fund

The Ackley Community Foundation will provide grants to improve life in Ackley, Iowa. The Foundation wants to help develop a community where people want to live, work, play and stay. Areas of giving are:



Arts & Culture



Community Betterment



Education & Youth Development



Environment & Animal Welfare



Health



Human Service

#### Eligibility to Apply

Organizations must provide benefits to the people of Ackley **and** must meet the following criteria in order to apply for a grant:

- Be classified as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or be a government entity. Tax-exempt organizations classified as *other* than 501(c)(3) are also eligible **if and only if** the project is deemed charitable; please contact our office to discuss the project's eligibility prior to submitting a proposal.
- Be current with all state and federal reporting requirements, such as filing of 990 forms.
- Must not have any past due grant reports for previous Ackley Community Foundation grants.

For groups, projects, or initiatives that do not meet the above eligibility requirements, the Community Foundation will consider your requests if submitted through a fiscal sponsor. Fiscal sponsors must be classified as a 501(c)(3) or a government entity. The Foundation prefers that the fiscal sponsor's mission closely align with the sponsored project.

**Fiscal Sponsors will be legally and financially responsible for any grant funds that are awarded by the Ackley Community Foundation.**

## Restrictions

In addition to the eligibility requirements, the following restrictions also apply:

- **Applications for fireworks or related projects are not eligible.**
- One application per organization: exceptions may be made for government entities or Fiscal Sponsors. Government and school departments must submit applications through the main account for their city/school.
- Only one application per city/school department may be submitted. *Please contact our administrative office to determine if an account has been created.*
- **Minimum request amount is \$500.** Most grant amounts range from \$500 - \$3,000.
- Inherently religious activities such as religious worship, instruction, or proselytization or activities that promote specific religious doctrine are not eligible.
- Requests for funds that are to be re-granted or re-distributed by the applicant will not be supported.
- Requests for political/lobbying activities or for debt repayment/reduction are not eligible.
- **Late, incomplete, or hard copy applications will not be considered.** Incomplete applications are those that are in DRAFT mode at the time of the application deadline.

## Review Criteria

Applications will be reviewed and scored on the following elements:

- **Organization** – The overall health of the organization and how the application reflects the organization’s capability for completing the project.
- **Feasibility** – The probability the project will be successful, including the organization’s level of staff/volunteers and collaboration with community partners.
- **Community Need and Outcomes** – The need for the project and how the proposed outcomes impact the community/county.
- **Collaboration** – The level of collaboration for the project’s success with other organizations, community members, and/or government entities.
- **Project Budget** – The details of the budget and the ability to secure and/or leverage other funding sources, including in-kind services.

## Funding Priorities

The ACF Committee places **high priority** on funding projects that:

- Address a community-based need, demonstrate broad community support, and benefits the community as a whole.
- Show the organization’s ability to leverage funding and support from other sources, with budgets clearly showing all matching funds for the project.
- Maximize community resources through cooperation and collaboration with other organizations in the community and avoid replication of services, programs, or projects.
- Reflect organization and staff’s capacity to achieve the desired results of the project.
- Show sustainability without additional long-term financial commitments from ACF.

## Grant Selection Committee

The Ackley Community Foundation is made up of community volunteers from throughout Ackley. This committee is responsible for making funding recommendations to the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa’s board of directors. The Committee carefully reviews and considers all eligible applications based on the guidelines stated herein. The 2021 Governing Committee is:

Paula Abbas	Barry Hofmeister	Matt McNeal
Sheryl Arends	Becky Jansonius	Taresa Trueblood
Jason Gabel	Darren Janssen	Lowell Young
Owen Heetland	Doug Lindaman	

## How to Apply

Applicants interested in seeking grants from the ACF should fully review these grant guidelines prior to submitting an application to ensure all eligibility requirements are met. Applications must be submitted through the foundation's online grant management system, which can be located at [www.ackleycf.org](http://www.ackleycf.org). Also located on the website are helpful resources for logging in and navigating the online grants system.

## Important Dates

- **The grant application deadline is 5:00pm on July 15, 2021.**
- All applicants will be notified of the results of the grant process in mid-September 2021.
- Grants will be awarded in October 2021.
- Grant reports, for successful proposals, will be due on **October 31, 2022.**

## Conditions

Awarded applicants are required to:

- Sign a Terms of Grant agreement which clarifies legal parameters for use of the grant.
- Submit a Grant Report to show the results of the project and to show that all the funds have been spent as intended. (If the project takes longer to complete, the Community Foundation will consider a request to extend the Grant Report deadline.

## Questions

Applicants, in particular first-time applicants, should contact the Program Manager, Dotti Thompson, at 319-243-1358 or [dthompson@cfneia.org](mailto:dthompson@cfneia.org) with specific questions regarding eligibility and/or general application questions.