



Bayou Community Foundation 2024 Grants Program Guidelines

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Since 2013, Bayou Community Foundation (BCF) has awarded 274 annual grants totaling over \$2.3 million to qualified nonprofits serving Lafourche, Terrebonne and Grand Isle as part of the Foundation’s annual competitive Grants Program.

In 2024, BCF’s Grants Program will continue to fund impactful nonprofit programs that fill critical unmet needs in our service area, with special consideration of needs identified in our [2023 Community Needs Assessment](#).

All grant applications are submitted and managed through BCF’s [online grants portal](#).

Deadline to apply for the 2024 Grants Program is Friday, March 1, 2024.

Applicants are encouraged to visit the portal for account log in instructions and to access the application process **before** March 1.

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Grant Request Timeline:

The program includes a two-phase application process that is managed through BCF’s [online grants portal](#):

Phase 1: Letters of Intent (LOI), January 12 - March 1, 2024

Initial grant requests are accepted on [BCF’s online grants portal](#) **through 5:00 p.m. CST on Friday, March 1, 2024**. Following this initial Letter of Intent (LOI) phase, selected organizations will be invited to participate in the second phase of the application process.

Phase 2: Full Grant Application, April - May 2024

Organizations selected to participate in Phase 2 of the application process will be notified by April 26, 2024, via email, with submittal deadline for applications expected in May 2024. Organizations not selected to move on to the second phase will be notified as well.

Grants Awarded by July 31, 2024, to fund programs through June 30, 2025.

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Eligibility:

- Federally approved tax-exempt 501c3 nonprofit organizations and other tax-exempt public education/government institutions in good standing serving residents of Lafourche Parish, Terrebonne Parish, and/or Grand Isle are eligible to apply. “Good standing” means that the IRS currently acknowledges the organization as tax exempt and state registration is current.

Eligibility Continued:

- Applicants must be operational with services provided in Lafourche, Terrebonne and/or Grand Isle for at least one full year by March 1, 2024
 - Only one grant request will be accepted from each organization (based on Employer Identification Number).
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Grants Program Description:

Grants will fund the delivery of new, continuing, or expanding nonprofit programs that address critical community needs in Lafourche, Terrebonne and/or Grand Isle.

Special Consideration will be given to programs addressing needs identified in [BCF's 2023 Community Needs Assessment](#), such as but not limited to:

- Housing affordability, availability, homelessness
- Mental and Behavioral Health
- Substance Use Disorder
- Food insecurity and Quality Nutrition
- Enrichment and other services for at-risk youth
- Early Childhood education
- Workforce development/training
- Health equity/access to health care
- Nonprofit Collaboration and Integrated Community Resources

To be considered, programs must serve residents within Lafourche, Terrebonne and/or Grand Isle. Grants will not be awarded to support programs outside of these specific communities.

Maximum Grant Requested Accepted: \$20,000

Applicants will be required to submit an itemized budget to justify grant request in Phase 2 of the application process.

Grant funding period is July 1, 2024– June 30, 2025.

Grants may fund tools, equipment, supplies, resources, capital improvements and other measurable costs necessary for the delivery of a nonprofit program.

In 2024, grants may also fund the delivery of programs that serve residents impacted by Hurricane Ida, or programs that fill a need related to Hurricane Ida impacts.

Grants are **not intended** to fund general operating expenses, political campaigns or activities, fund-raising events, re-granting programs, endowments, scholarships, scientific/medical research, or programs serving private clubs/organizations/institutions.

Grants Program Description Continued:

Mid-Year and end-of-year reports will be required of all grantees.

This is a competitive grants program. Grantees selected, the number of grants awarded and grant amount awarded to each recipient are at the discretion of the Bayou Community Foundation Grants Committee and Board of Directors, and dependent on BCF funds available.

Grant evaluations and decisions are based on merit and completeness of request/application, critical need addressed, population served, overall impact of grant, and justification of grant budget, among other considerations. (*see below*)

Special Consideration may be given to applicants that:

- Serve a significant population in high need or address a high need in the community, such as needs identified in [BCF's 2023 Community Needs Assessment](#);
- Partner/collaborate on the grant request or program execution with other organizations having similar missions in our region;
- Rely primarily on charitable donations and grants for funding, as compared to millages, dedicated tax revenue, or government appropriations;
- Exhibit strong leadership at the staff and Board level including fund development support from Board members;
- Demonstrate sound fiscal management;
- Maintain a public office or service location in Lafourche, Terrebonne or Grand Isle;
- Operate primarily in the local region rather than statewide or nationwide; and/or
- Participate in BCF workshops, conference and other nonprofit development opportunities.

Grant requests and subsequent application are evaluated based on criteria such as:

- Does the program and/or organization meet eligibility requirements and is it aligned with BCF's grants program description?
- Does the program address a clearly articulated need? Are realistic goals identified? Is the program proposed for the grant well thought-out and strategic?
- Does the program and/or organization have a track record of success?
- Is the grant request clear and realistic, and is it directly linked to program objectives?
- Does the grant budget clearly justify the grant request?
- Would a grant from BCF make a significant positive impact on need to be addressed?
- Are there other appropriate and/or significant resources for program funding?

Questions?

Contact Community Impact Officer Kati Callais at (985) 219-0046 or Kati@BayouCF.org