

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ELIGIBILITY

**How do I know if my organization is eligible to apply?**

To qualify for grant funding consideration, your organization must meet the following criteria:

- Be a U.S.-based IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization
- Be physically located in OG&E's [service territory](#)
- Serve communities without discrimination against any individual based on race, creed, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, veteran status, national origin, religion or any other protected characteristics
- Have a method to measure, track, and report outcomes and specific results that demonstrate measurable community impact/Return on Investment (ROI).

The Foundation generally does not fund grants for programs and projects associated with, but not limited to, the following:

- Individual persons or families
- Building, capital investments, or improvements
- Dinners, luncheons or other forms of indirect support
- Organizations that are not currently 501(c)(3) approved
- Organizations located outside of OG&E's [service territory](#)
- Political parties, campaigns, or candidates
- Religious activities to further religious doctrines. However, the Foundation will consider grant funding requests from faith-based organizations that provide services to all clients regardless of denomination
- Sports teams/events such as tournaments (other than Special Olympics)
- Organizations offering goods or services to employees as a benefit of grant approval (e.g., participation in golf tournaments, reservations at fundraising dinners, tables or tickets to special events, etc.)

**What are the Foundation's areas of focus?**

- *Community Development:*

We support programs that build healthy, vibrant, and resilient communities (e.g., housing and financial literacy, business support and development).

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- Culture & Arts:

We support programs that increase the opportunity and accessibility of arts and cultural programs (e.g., artistic and cultural activities, enhancement of educational curriculum, STEM-related activities).

- Education:

We support programs that focus on educational opportunities for youth in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) (e.g., hands-on learning opportunities that demonstrate STEM linkage).

- Environment:

We support programs that focus on making a positive environmental impact (e.g., habitat restoration and conservation, protecting natural resources).

- Health & Human Services:

We support programs that address the most challenging human needs in our communities (e.g., social services that protect, sustain, and enhance lives).

- Public & Civic Affairs:

We support programs that provide civic engagement opportunities, further civic engagement understanding and encourage participation in public life in our communities (e.g., civic learning, service, leadership development, increase civic participation).

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION

### What are the application deadlines?

The Foundation will accept applications according to the schedule below:

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	COMMITTEE MEETINGS
October 1 – January 31	March
February 1 – May 31	July
June 1 – September 30	November

### How do I apply for a grant?

- You can apply for a grant via the [OGE FOUNDATION APPLICATION SYSTEM](#).
- [The application system is accessible at ogeenergy.com \(click on Stewardship/ OGE Energy Corp. Foundation/OGE Energy Corp. Foundation Application\).](#)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What documents are required for processing my application?**

- IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter
- IRS Form 990 or Form 990-N (e-Postcard)
- Program/Event budget (specific use of requested OGE grant funds)
- Organizational budget
- Documents that describe/demonstrate the methodology for measuring the effectiveness of the Program/Event (*ROI*)

### **Once I start an application, can I save it and complete it later?**

You can save an incomplete application and log back in at any time to finish and submit it. You can also log in to update your profile information, view your completed application, or check your application status.

### **Will I be able to print my application?**

Yes, you will be able to log in and view your application or print it at any time.

### **Can I copy and paste from my organizational documents into the online application?**

Yes, the capability to copy and paste information is available.

### **How do I know my application was received?**

Once you submit your application, you will receive an email confirmation of receipt.

### **Can I send extra items such as video/audio tapes, newspaper articles, DVDs, etc.?**

No, only the items specifically requested will be reviewed.

### **If my organization recently received a grant from the OGE Foundation, how long do I need to wait before submitting another grant request?**

The Foundation awards only one grant to an organization per year. Therefore, organizations should carefully evaluate their funding needs and determine which funding cycle to pursue.

### **What is the amount of the average grant?**

Grants in previous years have ranged from \$2,000 to \$50,000. Organizations should request the amount needed to complete their proposed Program/Event.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Are multi-year grants funded?

Grant requests are generally funded for one year.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

### What is the process after I apply?

Once you submit your grant application, it will go through an evaluation process, which will take approximately two to four months:

- You will receive an automatic confirmation of receipt of your application.
- A representative will contact you to review your application.
- Initially, your application will be assessed against the eligibility criteria and a decision made.
  - If funding is denied, you will receive an email informing you as such.
- If your application is advanced for Committee Review, you will receive an email informing you of their final decision.
  - If approved, you will be required to log into your account and given instructions on how to proceed through the funding process.

### If my grant is approved, how long does it take to receive funding?

Once a grant is approved, it can take up to thirty (30) days after we receive all requested documents for the check to be processed.

### What are my obligations as a grantee?

All grant recipients are required to provide an Impact Report of Program/Event accomplishments at the conclusion of the grant cycle. You will receive an email near the end of your grant cycle with instructions on how to complete the Impact Report.

- Electronic submission of the following documents are required as part of your Impact Reporting:
  - Your organization's financial statements, such as the amended budget (if applicable), balance sheet and income & expense statement for the year in which the grant was used
  - Evaluation materials that document outcomes/impacts (e.g., test score results)
  - Documentation of OGE's recognition as outlined in your application (e.g., copy of printed recognition, link to website with logo, etc.)

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- Pictures of your event/project (optional but encouraged)

**If our organization's program serves clients both in and out of OGE's service territory, can we use our grant money for all the clients in our program?**

No. Grantees are required to use the funds to benefit the residents in the approved service territory.

**What if my organization does not use all the funds for the approved Program/Event?**

Grants are provided by the Foundation for the specific purpose stated in your application. The Foundation recognizes that circumstances may change over the grant life, suggesting a need to modify a grant timeframe or other terms. When this occurs, grantees must notify the Foundation and seek advanced written approval to change the grant terms.

**Who do I contact if I have questions about the grant application process?**

If you have questions about the OGE Foundation or the application process, contact us at (405) 553-3493 or by email at [ogecfd@oge.com](mailto:ogecfd@oge.com).