



Rotary Club of Fort Myers

Trust Fund Committee

RE: GRANT GUIDELINES

-PURPOSE -

The Trust Fund Committee is responsible for reviewing requests for the Club's grants. The Trust Fund Committee reviews grant applications and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors acting as Trustees of the Trust Fund.

-ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS-

Grants are limited to tax-exempt organizations (school programs, government entities or 501(c)(3) non profit corporations). To be eligible to receive a grant, an application must be completed and electronically submitted to the club. Incomplete applications will not be considered. The Rotary Club of Fort Myers and the Trust Fund Committee reserve the right at their sole discretion to make the final determination of the eligibility of each application.

-WHAT WE FUND-

The trust fund prefers to make grants to fund specific projects and equipment that will be used in helping an organization achieve its mission.

Typical grants are for \$5,000 or less to recipients that improve the quality of life in the greater Fort Myers community. Organizations may apply for a grant once in any twelve-month period.

Projects will be well regarded if they can show the effort:

- Is likely to make a substantial difference in the quality of community life.
- Will strengthen families and the community.
- Can facilitate collaboration among relevant groups and organizations, with emphasis on regional cooperation across geographic boundaries.
- Will seek to build partnerships between agencies, local government, or public institutions in order to create positive change.
- Has the ability to expand meaningful civic engagement and build social capital.
- Will help nonprofit organizations build capacity and become more effective.
- Will leverage change in the capacity of community-wide systems rather than individual organizations.

-WHAT WE DO NOT NORMALLY FUND-

Multi-Year Projects
Capital Campaigns
Individuals
Travel
Normal Operating Expenses
Event Sponsorships
Annual Campaigns/Membership Drives

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Rotary Club of Fort Myers

Endowments
Debt Retirement
Professional Conferences
Sports Teams
Political Campaigns
Research
Sectarian purposes (i.e. programs that promote a religious doctrine)
Fraternal Organizations or societies

-APPLICATION PROCESS-

Grant applications must be completed and submitted on-line. Grant applications may be download from the Club's web site at www.rotaryfortmyers.org.

-GRANT CYCLES-

Grants are typically approved on a quarterly basis. Quarterly grant application deadlines are January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15.

As more fully noted in the application form, The Rotary Club of Fort Myers reserves the right to audit the disbursement of the funds to ensure that they are used per your application.

-FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS-

What is the process to apply?

A Grant Application may be filled out and submitted on-line to:
Office@Rotaryfortmyers.org.

How long will it take?

The grant cycle is normally 60 days. The Trust Fund Committee views the merits of each and every application, prior to submission to the Board of the Directors. The Trust Fund Committee may be in touch with you for further clarification.

When will I know if I have been approved?

The Rotary Club of Fort Myers has Board Meetings in August, November, February and May. Written notification of the decision will take place following the respective meeting. A letter will be sent to each applicant with the Board's decision. Please do not call the office for an update.

May I apply for consecutive years of funding?

Our preference is to benefit as many worthy organizations as possible; therefore, our preference is to award grants to new and different organizations. However, you may apply every other year.

Is there a way to appeal a rejection?

Decisions by the Trust Fund Committee and Board of Directors are final. You may re-apply the year following the rejection if you meet the necessary qualifications.