

The
JOSEPH & VERA
LONG
Foundation

Frequently Asked Questions – Last Updated 12/1/2021

The Staff of the Foundation has created this FAQ file to help prospective grantees better understand the Foundation's processes and priorities. Please keep in mind that we will continue to update this file throughout the year and that the answers provided can change. Also, it should be noted that the following list of questions and answers are *supplemental* to the information provided on the Foundation website at www.jvlf.org. It is highly recommended that you first review the information found on the Homepage, Program Pages and Apply Page before relying on this document.

Do you give grants to individuals?

No, the Foundation only makes grants to eligible institutions.

Do you make responsive grants outside the United States?

No, the Foundation restricts its responsive grant making to organizations located within the United States with projects that benefit the communities of Northern California or Hawaii.

Do you fund capital projects?

The Foundation does fund capital projects with an added preference for projects that will be completed with our contribution.

Where can I find your telephone number?

We do not share this information on our website. Since our small office deals with hundreds of different organizations each year, our preference is to use electronic communication whenever possible.

Do you give grants for general operating support?

The Foundation prefers to make grants for time-limited projects or annual programs. While we do not accept applications for general operating support, there are some occasions when the Foundation chooses to not fund a project or program and elects instead to provide operating support.

How often can I apply for a grant?

To consider as many different organizations as possible, the Foundation limits any organization to a single application each calendar year. There are some cases where different departments of a larger institution may submit different applications within the same year, but this is not common and limited to larger not-for-profit entities such as a university.

Does your staff conduct site visits?

Yes. While we enjoy the opportunity to visit grantees, it is not a requirement for an application or grant. In most cases, we look for mutually convenient times when we can witness how grants have made a difference and learn more about your organization.

How much should we apply for?

We prefer that you determine what your needs are and within your application, explain how the Foundation's contribution will enable your project to be successful along with other funding sources. In most cases, larger amounts are reserved for grantees with an established record for performance. So, if you have not received a grant from this Foundation before, you should request a lower amount.

What types of information do you require for reports/evaluations?

The Foundation does not wish to create additional work for our grantees. Rather, we prefer that you provide information that you are already tracking for your internal purposes.

I researched some of the past grants made by your Foundation and several fall outside your primary funding guidelines. Can I apply for something similar?

Like many other Foundations, our Foundation has evolved our grant making over time and no longer support many of the causes and communities that we once did. In other cases, the board has chosen to make a discretionary grant for which no application is possible.

Can I arrange a time to meet with Foundation staff to present my organization's work to you?

While we enjoy learning about new organizations, our application process is designed to provide a fair and efficient way for prospective grantees to inform the Foundation of their work. Please follow the process as described on the website.

How can we get feedback on our application that did not lead to a grant?

Each grant cycle, we are privileged to receive many more requests than we can realistically advance to the Board of Trustees for consideration. The Foundation does not regularly provide specific feedback on every application that is submitted. If your organization has applied several times without receiving a grant, we would encourage you to look closely at our

guidelines before submitting another one. In some cases, an application that leads to a grant in one period does not lead to a grant in another. It comes down to the quality and quantity of the group of applications received in each cycle... something that we cannot predict. Please keep in mind that our process is very simple and, while we hope that prospective grantees will be thoughtful when they apply, we would like to minimize any time spent which does not directly lead to a grant being considered.

When is the best time to submit an application, relative to the starting point of our project?

The Foundation prefers to make grants that are prospective. Since the time from the beginning of the open period to the date that checks are issued is not short, we recommend that you look for a project that will require funds within the 6 months following the expected window for payment (June or November).

How do you handle multiple application submissions?

If we receive more than a single application from an organization, we will only accept the last application that is submitted before the deadline.