

2024 Community Conservation Grants - Clean Water Fund

Eligibility Questions

You're applying for a Community Conservation Grant through the Lancaster County Community Foundation's Clean Water Fund.

These are grants of \$1,000 to \$25,000 to support innovative education, outreach, monitoring, or implementation projects that improve Lancaster's water quality through collaboration and creativity.

We encourage you to be brief and specific in all your answers. Bulleted lists are completely acceptable. All questions regarding the fund and application process can be directed to Megan Blackmon at the Lancaster Clean Water Partners (mblackmon@lancastercleanwaterpartners.com).

Is your organization categorized as 501(c)(3) by the IRS or a municipality?*

Choices

Yes

No

Is your organization registered with the PA Bureau of Charitable Organizations (or exempt)?*

Choices

Yes

No

Exempt

PA Bureau of Charitable Organizations Registration Number

Character Limit: 6

Expiration Date

Character Limit: 10

Reason for exemption or non-registration

Character Limit: 250

Is your organization current on paying its payroll taxes?*

Choices

Yes

No

Not Applicable

In February 2022, the Lancaster County Community Foundation's Board of Directors approved two new policies to help ensure all grantmaking programs support community projects that welcome and value

everybody—particularly individuals from historically marginalized, federally-protected classes. We believe our community is strongest when every individual feels valued and supported by our county’s community benefit/nonprofit sector, and these policies will help us direct our grant dollars to organizations and projects also committed to inclusive practices.

1. Anti-hate policy. The Community Foundation will not knowingly make grants that we believe, in our sole discretion, intend to support or engage in hateful activities.
2. Non-discrimination policy. Grant partners must have, and will be required to submit, a non-discrimination policy. It must demonstrate compliance with federal laws--based on your type of organization—related to protected classes of people.

We will review all information provided in this application. We also reserve the right to request additional information as part of our due diligence process. For further information, check out these [frequently asked questions](#).

Upload your organization’s current non-discrimination policy.*

File Size Limit: 3 MB

Does your organizational policy discriminate in serving any of the following federally-protected classes of people:

*

Choices

Race

Color

Religion or creed

National origin or ancestry

Sex (including gender, pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity)

Age

Physical or mental disability

Veteran status

We don't discriminate in any way

For any boxes checked in the previous question, please explain why and if/how your organization is actively seeking to make policy changes. (1,000 characters)*

Character Limit: 5000

If you answered "No" to any of the questions above, please stop here because your organization does not meet the eligibility requirements. Otherwise, continue to the next section. If you have questions contact Megan Blackmon (mblackmon@lancastercleanwaterpartners.com).

Organizational Profile

Mission Statement*

Character Limit: 500

Does your organization have a conflict of interest policy?*

Note: Municipalities are bound by state laws and the State Ethics Commission. Municipalities should answer YES to this question even if the municipality does not have its own conflict of interest policy.

Choices

Yes

No

Project Information

Project Name*

Character Limit: 100

Project Coordinator Information*

The project coordinator is the main contact for this project and will be in communication with Megan Blackmon throughout the grant period regarding project status and reports. List the name and contact information for the person that best fits this role.

Character Limit: 250

Grant Request (Dollars)*

Grant range: \$1,000 - \$25,000

Character Limit: 20

Project Summary*

Summarize the purpose and how your project will provide education, outreach, and engage new audiences to improve Lancaster's water quality through collaboration and creativity.

Character Limit: 1000

Property Information

*This is only applicable if your project will include implementation on a site that is not owned by your organization. If not applicable, please answer "N/A."

If your project will include activities and/or implementation on a site that is not owned by your organization, please describe site and stream (if applicable) conditions. Include address of the site and landowner information.

Character Limit: 1000

Application Questions

Need*

Describe why your project is needed and who it will impact.

Character Limit: 4000

Equity & Inclusion*

The Lancaster Clean Water Partners believes equal access to justice and clean water are human rights. Our vision of clean and clear waterways means healthy local streams for all Lancastrians, but particularly those that have historically had unequal access to it. Our collaborative work is intended to amplify the diverse voices in our community demanding environmental and social equality.

What are your organizational aspirations and current challenges regarding racial equity and inclusion, and/or social justice? Does this work relate to your project? If so, describe.*

Examples: Are residents that may be low income, minority, or otherwise traditionally underserved helping to plan your project or participating? Are you expanding partnerships to include youth organizations, civic organizations, or others that serve general populations and likely have not been closely involved in water quality projects before (i.e. including new audiences)? Are you planning signage, brochures, or other outreach materials that will be available in multiple languages?

Character Limit: 4000

Timeline & Implementation*

Provide a timeline for your project, including major milestones towards the project's completion. Include details about permitting (when applicable), ongoing maintenance and monitoring (after project completion), and when events will be held.

Character Limit: 5000

Project Barriers*

What are potential barriers to this project's completion (i.e. lack of other funding sources, organizational changes, maintenance after project completion)?*

Character Limit: 2000

Matching Funds*

Match is not required but encouraged.

If applicable, describe the source and type of your matching funds or in-kind hours for this project. If match is included, match commitments are required with the application.

Character Limit: 1000

Partners*

List any partners you are collaborating with to implement this project directly. Describe how this partnership enhances the project or will contribute to its success.

Support letters from partners are encouraged.

Character Limit: 5000

Sustainability of Your Project or Program*

How will your planned project or program continue beyond this grant term? Please describe what staff time, tasks, maintenance, or monitoring will be required and who will be doing it.

Character Limit: 5000

Organizational & Community Results*

How will you know if you achieved your goals? Include specific metrics.

Describe the qualitative and quantitative goals of this project.

Character Limit: 2000

Required Attachments

Budget*

Please download the budget template, fill out for your project, and upload a copy here.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Board of Directors Roster*

Upload a current fiscal year board roster that contains at minimum the name and occupation of each member.

File Size Limit: 3 MB

The following attachments are not required for all applications; include if applicable.

Please note that if you do not have access to a scanner, you can use the "Fax to File" tool on the left menu. This tool will convert a fax to a PDF document.

Match Commitment Letter

Match is not required but encouraged.

If applicable, upload a letter from the contributing organization's Executive Director, CEO, President, or Board President that details the source of matching funding for this project. Matching fund commitments must be secured by July 1, 2024.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Maps and Landowner Agreement

***Required for projects that include the implementation of conservation practices.**

If you are proposing to implement conservation practices, please upload a map, landowner commitment (if applicant does not own site), before photos and other details that will help us to better understand your plans. This may include concept or detailed plans and plant lists.

If attachments are too large, please email them to Megan at mblackmon@lancastercleanwaterpartners.com.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Optional Additional Attachment

Feel free to attach photos, support letters (encouraged), plans, or any other documentation that will help to more fully describe your project. If the file size is too large to upload here, please email attachments directly to Megan Blackmon (mblackmon@lancastercleanwaterpartners.com).

*****This could also include a short (under 2 minutes) video. Videos, or other support documentation, should not take the place of information requested in the required application questions, but should supplement what is already provided. Videos do not need to be professional. A home-made video made on your phone is just fine! Please email video, if applicable, to Megan.**

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Electronic Signature

Note to applicants seeking staff feedback:

Staff will review and provide feedback on draft applications submitted through this system by June 3, 2024. Application drafts that are saved but not submitted will NOT be considered for feedback.

On or before June 17, 2024, we'll return your application to "draft" status. You can make any revisions and then re-submit by the final deadline, July 1, 2024.

Are you interested in receiving feedback on your application prior to final submission?*

This option is only available for applications submitted by June 3, 2024.

Choices

Yes, I would like staff feedback.

No, this is my final submission.

Clean Water Partners have provided feedback

I certify that if awarded this grant, no grant dollars will be used to support activities that discriminate against any federally-protected class of person. *

Choices

Yes

No

Signature*

Character Limit: 100

Date*

Character Limit: 10