

ROTARY CLUB OF ISSAQUAH 2024 COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM

The Rotary Club of Issaquah is awarding **\$10,000** in grants this Spring 2024 to **local non-profit** groups, schools, churches, and other charitable organizations. Applicants must be organizations that serve youth and their families residing within the Greater Issaquah Community and within the boundaries of the Issaquah School District. (The Issaquah School District spans 110 square miles, supporting approximately 19,000 students living within the cities of Issaquah, Newcastle, Renton, Bellevue, and Sammamish).

At Rotary, we are deeply committed to driving positive change and empowering communities. We understand the vital role that local organizations play in creating a lasting impact. That is why we have transitioned to a grant-based funding model. This approach not only enriches the support we provide but also offers a wealth of opportunities for locally based organizations like yours.

1) Leveraging Rotary's Support and Facilitation:

As a grant applicant, you will have the unique advantage of tapping into Rotary's extensive network, resources, and expertise. We believe in the power of partnerships, and this collaboration enables us to support and facilitate specific needs within your community. Together with you, we are dedicated to amplifying the impact of your projects and initiatives.

2) Crafting Compelling Stories for Celebration:

Your work deserves recognition, and storytelling is a powerful tool for showcasing your achievements. Through the grant-based model, we aim to help you create clearer, more compelling narratives about the transformative work you do. These stories not only celebrate your successes but also strengthen your case when applying for grants, not just from us but also from other funding sources. By sharing your stories, you can inspire others to support your mission.

3) Understanding Needs and Building Community Partnerships:

We recognize that local organizations are intimately connected with the needs of their communities. With our support, you will gain a deeper understanding of these needs and how to address them effectively. Additionally, this model encourages collaboration and partnership-

building within the community. Together, we can forge meaningful alliances, pool resources, and tackle challenges collectively.

4) Ensuring Accountability for Project Success:

Accountability is essential for the success of any project. By applying for Rotary grants, you commit to a higher level of accountability. Grant applications require thorough planning, rigorous evaluation, and transparent reporting. This not only ensures that your projects are executed efficiently but also enhances your credibility and trustworthiness among donors and stakeholders.

Join us in harnessing the power of Rotary's resources, amplifying your impact through compelling storytelling, understanding community needs, and embracing a higher level of accountability. Together, we can make a profound difference in our communities and create a brighter future for all.

In summary, Rotary's transition to a grant-based funding model is an exciting opportunity for local organizations like yours. It signifies our dedication to supporting meaningful change and fostering community empowerment. Together with Rotary, we invite you to be part of this transformative journey.

Apply Now!

The Rotary Club of Issaquah is accepting applications now for the Spring 2024 Community Grant Program! To apply, complete the Rotary Club of Issaquah Community Service Grant Program Spring 2024 application. There are three ways to submit your completed application and any support documents:

- 1) USPS Mail: Rotary Club of Issaquah, PO Box 553, Issaquah, WA 98027
- 2) Email: issaquahrotarygrants@gmail.com
- 3) On-line: 2024 Spring Community Service Grant Application

Deadline: All applications must be received no later than Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at 12:00 midnight PST.



ROTARY CLUB OF ISSAQUAH 2024 COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT PROGRAM <u>FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS</u>

Q1. What is the timeline for the application and awards process?

April 1-30 Grant application period open.May 1-12 Grant application review and evaluation.May 13-17 Notify recipients of award.May 21, May 28, or June 4 *Grant recipients receive awards at club meeting.

*We require that all grant awards be made via a formal in person presentation of a check to the selected organizations at either one of these Rotary club meeting dates.

Q2. How will my grant application be reviewed and evaluated? The following criteria will be used:

Grant Guidelines

1) Community Obsession – serving our community to the best of our ability:

Projects will be evaluated based on their impact on the local community and the extent to which they address the community's specific needs and aspirations. Evaluation criteria may include:

Measurable improvements in the well-being, quality of life, or access to essential services within the community.

Demonstrated engagement and collaboration with community members, ensuring their active participation in project planning and execution.

Evidence of responsiveness to changing community needs and the flexibility to adapt project strategies accordingly.

2) Youth Empowerment and Leadership – guide and mentor our youth to become our future leaders:

Projects focusing on youth empowerment and leadership development will be assessed based on their effectiveness in nurturing the potential of young individuals. Evaluation criteria may include:

The acquisition of leadership skills, knowledge, and personal growth among participating youth. Evidence of mentorship and guidance provided to young participants, fostering their personal and professional development.

Sustainable outcomes that demonstrate how the project contributes to youth becoming active and engaged community leaders.

3) *Environmental* – enhance and preserve our beautiful Issaquah:

For environmental projects, the evaluation process will focus on their contributions to the preservation and enhancement of the local environment. Evaluation criteria may include:

Measurable improvements in environmental quality, such as air and water quality, green spaces, or biodiversity.

Sustainable practices and long-term benefits, demonstrating a commitment to preserving Issaquah's natural beauty.

The level of community involvement in environmental conservation efforts and the promotion of environmentally responsible behavior.

Q3: Who is eligible to apply for these grants?

Eligibility criteria may vary depending on the specific grant, but generally, local non-profit organizations, community groups, and initiatives aligned with our mission are encouraged to apply. If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact us via email at issaquahrotarygrants@gmail.com

Locally based non-profit groups, schools, churches, and other locally based charitable organizations are eligible. Applicants must be organizations that serve youth and their families residing within the Greater Issaquah Community and within the boundaries of the Issaquah School District. (The Issaquah School District spans 110 square miles, supporting approximately 19,000 students living within the cities of Issaquah, Newcastle, Renton, Bellevue, and Sammamish).

Q4: How can I apply for a grant?

The initial grant application process is open <u>April 1-30, 2024</u>. <u>Deadline is Tuesday, April 30,</u> <u>2024 at 12:00 midnight PST.</u> To apply, you will need to complete and submit the application form during the designated application period. Detailed instructions and the application can be found on our website: <u>https://www.issaquahrotary.org/</u>

To apply, complete the Rotary Club of Issaquah Community Service Grant Program Spring 2024 application (click the Grant Application below to access. There are three ways to submit your completed application and any support documents:

- 1) USPS Mail: Rotary Club of Issaquah, PO Box 553, Issaquah, WA 98027
- 2) Email: issaquahrotarygrants@gmail.com
- 3) On-line: 2024 Spring Community Service Grant Application

Deadline: All applications must be received no later than Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at 12:00 midnight PST.

Q4: What is the evaluation process like for grant applications?

Grant applications are rigorously reviewed and evaluated based on specific criteria related to the grant's focus area(s). The Rotary Club of Issaquah Community Service Committee is responsible for review and evaluation of all applications. This evaluation process ensures that grants are awarded to projects with the greatest potential to make a meaningful impact in our community.

Q5: When will I know if my organization has been awarded a grant?

Grant recipients will be notified of the awards during the notification period, which typically occurs after the application review and evaluation phase. You can expect to receive a notification via email regarding the status of your application during this time.

Q6: How will the grants be awarded?

Grant recipients will receive their awards during a special presentation at a Rotary club meeting. This presentation includes the awarding of a check to the organization.

Q7: Are there any expectations for grant recipients after receiving an award?

Yes, grant recipients are expected to deliver a speech or presentation during a Rotary meeting or event sometime in the following year. This presentation provides an opportunity to share the results and impact of the project with the Rotary community. By December 31, 2024, grantee will provide a summary on how the grant award was effectively used that year including any statistical information on the number of students or families benefitted from the award along with any other relevant information that would make illustrate the impact of the work of your organization.

We ask that you recognize and acknowledge the Rotary Club of Issaquah for your grant. This may be through the authorized use of our club logo on your website and/or organization's

marketing collateral, print or digital newsletter, social media, or other platforms to allow increased visibility for both of our organizations. We reserve the right to use photos and/or testimonials either in written or video form from your project on our website.

As a grant applicant, you will have the unique advantage of tapping into Rotary's extensive network, resources, and expertise. We believe in the power of partnerships, and this collaboration enables us to support and facilitate specific needs within your community. Together with you, we are dedicated to amplifying the impact of your project.

Q8: How can I find out more information about these grants or get assistance with my application?

For detailed information about each grant, including eligibility criteria, application instructions, and deadlines, please visit our website <u>https://www.issaquahrotary.org/</u> or contact our Community Service Grant Committee at issaquahrotarygrants@gmail.com.

Q9: Can I apply for multiple grants at once?

You may apply for multiple grants if your organization has a variety of different projects or initiatives that align with the Rotary focus areas. If you had applied for a grant during a previous grant application period and had not received a grant, you may reapply. If you received a grant award during a previous grant application period and did not receive the full amount of the requested grant, you may reapply for the balance of the amount.

Q10: How do I stay updated on grant-related announcements and deadlines?

To stay informed about grant-related news, announcements, and application deadlines, please subscribe to our newsletter, follow our social media channels, and regularly visit our website. We frequently update our platforms with the latest information and resources.

If you have any additional questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Community Service Grant Committee for personalized support and guidance at issaquahrotarygrants@gmail.com