

CFMC 2022-2023 Competitive Application Process FAQ

Organizations are strongly encouraged to read this FAQ and the Instructions PDF prior to submission.

1. What organizations may submit an application?

- All 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations and 170(c)1 organizations able to receive a tax-deductible contribution, such as schools, faith-based organizations, and other public entities are eligible.
- We are not able to fund individuals or businesses directly, labor unions, or other 501(c) organizations.

2. Is there a maximum amount our organization may request?

- Application requests of up to \$5,000 will be considered.

3. How are applications submitted?

- CFMC uses an online application submission process.
- The link to the application is on the **Grants Program** page [\[Click HERE to access the page\]](#).

4. Is there a geographic focus for this fund?

- Yes, funding requests must directly impact any, some, or all of the fifteen (15) towns of Middlesex County

5. What is the application process timeline?

- Fall Applications are due September 22, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.
- CFMC Grants Committees will review applications during the fall.
- Recommendations will be presented to the CFMC Board of Directors in December.
- Applicants will be notified of the recommendation regarding their application by January 15, 2023.
- The Spring timeline will be posted later in 2022.

6. Is the process restricted to priority needs and issues or open to all requests?

- The process is open to all tax-exempt organizations serving Middlesex County.
- The Community Foundation is interested in requests for funding that address all aspects of the community's well-being, an organization's ability, adaptability, and forward-thinking to serve the community, as well as needs and issues that may be a result of or outcome from the issues directly related to the current pandemic situation.
- Funding requests are to support organizational needs in calendar year 2023.

7. Are there certain items CFMC won't consider supporting:

- Grants made directly to individuals.
- Initiatives that regrant CFMC funds to other organizations.
- Organizations that, in their constitution, bylaws or practice, discriminate against a person or group on the basis of age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation or identification, political affiliation, or religious belief.
- New staff positions or hazard pay expenses (due to the COVID-19 pandemic).
- Recouping lost revenue which occurred during 2020 or 2021.
- Programs or materials that would normally be included in the regular operating budget for municipal/government agencies or schools.
- Annual fundraising campaigns or event sponsorships.
- Payment of debt or legal settlements or Repayment of SBA, PPP, or other COVID-19 related loans.
- Political or partisan purposes, campaigns, or lobbying activities.
- Projects that exclusively serve religious purposes, although religious organizations providing non-religious community services will be considered.
- Endowments, reserve funds, capital campaigns, or annual fund drives.

8. Will applying for or receiving ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funding prohibit an application to CFMC?

- No, this will not impact your application or eligibility for funding.

- However, as part of our due diligence, and to better understand the organization's needs and access to revenue, we do ask the status of any current loans or current funding applications which have been submitted and/or received.

9. Can our organization submit applications for all types of funding in each application process (Fall and Spring)?

- No – one application per organization will be accepted in an application process and the organization will need to determine if the General Funding or Special Initiative Funding opportunity is best suited to the request in mind.
 - However, only one (1) General Funding request may be awarded annually – if an award is received in the Fall, the organization may not submit a General Funding request in the Spring.
- **Example A:**
 - IF your organization chooses to apply in the FALL process for the General Fund consideration, you may NOT also apply in the FALL process for Special Initiative funding.
- **Example B:**
 - IF your organization applies for and receives a GENERAL Funding grant in the FALL process, you may NOT apply for GENERAL FUNDING in the SPRING process
 - However, you may consider applying to the Janvrin Fund or other CFMC Special Initiative Opportunities in the Spring process
 - *As long as your request meets the criteria set forth for the Janvrin Fund or Field of Interest Special Initiative Funding opportunity; AND*
 - *as long as the funding request is NOT associated with the approved General Funding grant awarded in the Fall process*
 - In other words, you may not seek additional funding for a grant award received in the Fall process – this would apply to funding services/programs/projects from any of our Field of Interest Funds participating in the Fall process.
- **Example C:**
 - IF our organization applied for a General Funding award in the Fall process and was denied, you MAY re-apply for General Funding consideration in the Spring process.

10. Our program is collaborative with two or more nonprofits involved – do we submit one application or may each organization apply?

- One organization applies on behalf of all the partners/collaborators – One (1) application per program/project

11. Our organization was a partner on an application (but not the applicant) that received a Janvrin Fund award in Fall 2022. Can we apply for a general funding award in Spring 2023?

- Yes, *as long as* your application is not related to or in support of the program receiving the Janvrin Fund award.

12. Our organization has two programs in mind – one that is collaborative and one that is stand alone and specific to our organization only, may we apply for both?

- No. Your organization must decide which program to submit for consideration.

13. We have an idea but no specifics, no timeline to development and implement the program yet, and no ideas of possible partners, may we apply now?

- If there is no clear program development and implementation plan yet, you should wait for another application process to submit an application.