

EQUITABLE BANK CHARITABLE FOUNDATION GRANT GUIDELINES

Equitable Bank has a rich history of community involvement in the communities it serves. This commitment was recently strengthened with the establishment of the Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation.

Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation provides these guidelines to assist your organization as you prepare your grant proposal. Like most giving programs, Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation receives far more requests for support than it can approve. We encourage all agencies, whether they receive a grant or not, to keep us informed of their activities. This proves to be very helpful for future review and consideration for grant dollars.

Giving Focus

Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation is keenly interested in funding community development via affordable housing, job training, and programs that assist the economically disadvantaged. We believe that education of our youth is our future and special emphasis will be given to educational efforts. Programs providing continued quality health care and supportive human service programs are also a priority. We also will support local cultural groups and institutions knowing these grants will broaden access to cultural and art activities and will enhance the quality of life in the communities in which Equitable Bank operates. Most importantly, your request should be clear, well thought out, and contain realistic and measurable goals.

Restrictions

1. Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation will fund only 501(c)(3) organizations and those with “public charity” status or its equivalent.
2. There will be no funding to political or fraternal organizations or individuals.
3. Organizations will not automatically be considered for funding the following year. Proposals with updated attachments will need to be submitted.
4. In some cases, site visits will be scheduled before funding decisions are made, and the organization may be requested to make a presentation to the Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation Board regarding their grant proposal.
5. Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation’s primary target areas are the communities in which Equitable Bank operates. We are particularly interested in communities with diverse needs as well as areas where Equitable Bank is an integral part of the neighboring business community.

Specific Requirements

Grant requests should include the following information: (Use the Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation *Grand Application Form*)

1. Provide a concise explanation of your organization’s mission. Mention facts that will help us determine your geographic reach, number of clients served, programs in place, etc.
2. Include information on the population that your organization serves, including geographic location, socioeconomic status, demographics and how this population will benefit from the project or grant.
3. Include appropriate supporting materials, i.e. budget, schedules, population reached, proposed outcome/solutions, and proposed method to measure your project’s success.

4. If your organization has received a grant from Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation in the past, provide a brief update on your project.
5. Recommended page limit before attachments is 4 – 6 pages.

Attachments

Proposals should include the following items. **If not available, please explain why.**

1. Copy of requesting organization's Section 501(c)(3) non-profit status exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service.
2. Complete copy of the organization's most current Form 990 and audited financial statement.
3. List of the organization's Board of Directors and their affiliations.
4. List of the organization's most recent fiscal year business contributors and foundation grants including level of support.

Additional Information

Every foundation and corporate giving program has its own unique guidelines and mission. How decisions are arrived at, who makes them, how much to give and to whom, are just a few of the areas that you will find important to research as you negotiate your way through this grant process. Keep in mind that guidelines change and are often flexible.

We hope these guidelines are helpful. If questions still remain, you are welcome to contact Darcy Ray, Treasurer/Secretary of the Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation Board at (308)398-4210. All proposals should be mailed to:

Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation
Attn: Darcy Ray
P.O. Box 160
Grand Island, NE 68802-0160

Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation *Grant Guidelines* and *Application Forms* are also available online at www.equitableonline.com. Click on "About Us," then click on "Charitable Foundation."

Application Submission Deadline

The Equitable Bank Charitable Foundation Board will review grant applications annually with a submission date of:

April 1st

Grant applications must be post marked by these dates. Applications will be reviewed and organizations notified.

Thank you and we look forward to developing a partnership with your organization.