



2025 Grant Guidelines

The Jones County Community Foundation (JCCF) will annually determine and award grants for the betterment of Jones County and its residents.

JCCF Funding Priorities:

- Improve economic well-being or quality of life
 - Encourage community responsibility for solving community problems
 - Develop leadership opportunities
 - Benefit the community's low- and moderate-income population
 - Ensure equal opportunity in housing, services, and economic opportunity
 - Build capacity for non-profits and civic organizations
 - Reduce food insecurity, homelessness or inadequate housing
- Improve educational opportunities
 - Increase literacy and basic skills development
 - Address the needs of students most at-risk for non-enrollment, truancy or dropping out
 - Support educators and staff through development, promote recruitment and retention
 - Promote inclusiveness and diversity
 - *A special emphasis will be placed on proposals that address Grade Level Reading proficiency
- Address community capital improvements
 - Construction, repair, renovation or other capital improvements to buildings and structures that serve and support the general populace
 - Capital projects that generally lack adequate government funding, including but not limited to libraries, emergency services and recreation
 - Capital projects supporting not for profits providing services that meet other priorities listed here
- Maintain or improving the health of Jones County residents
 - Social service projects that benefit health and well-being, especially those that are most at risk or underserved
 - Develop long term solutions to problems, addresses cause, not symptoms
 - Promote self-sufficiency, independence especially for elderly and disabled
 - Improve access and capacity of health care services
- Promote Jones County tourism and recreation
 - Preserve, develop, and expand attractions and events unique to Jones County
 - Promote creation of public and performing arts and cultural attractions
 - Enhance awareness of Jones County destinations & events
 - Support recreational facilities, parks, trails and playgrounds

Jones County Community Foundation

An Affiliate of the
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER DUBUQUE



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- Maintain Jones County heritage
 - Preserve the history of Jones County
 - Increase access to significant resources highlighting the history and culture of Jones County, especially frequently overlooked or underrepresented cultures and ethnicities
 - Support and encourage lifelong learning experiences
- Support conservation efforts
 - Encourage responsible stewardship and conservation of our natural resources
 - Encourage preservation and protection of critical habitat
 - Promote the recreational use of public areas as deemed appropriate

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for funding, an organization/program must:

- Provide services within Jones County
- Be a Nonprofit 501(c)3, church, school, or government organization
 - For organizations without nonprofit status, partnering with a fiscal sponsor organization will be required; if you need clarification on fiscal sponsorship, please contact Sheila Tjaden at sheila@dbqfoundation.org
- Operate in a manner that no applicable anti-discrimination laws are violated.
- Organizations may not be awarded a grant for two consecutive years.

What we do not fund:

- Inherently religious activities such as religious worship, instruction, or proselytization or activities that promote specific religious doctrine
- Organization's recurring operating expenses (i.e., staffing, building rent)
- Multi-year funding requests

Matching Grant Requirements:

A minimum hard cash match of 25% of the amount requested is required. In-kind matches will not be considered. Example: \$1,000 Grant Request, \$250 or 25% hard cash match, totaling \$1,250 project budget

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Guidelines for Applicants:

- Applications can be completed online via our online grants management system, [GOapply](#).
- Application for grants must be submitted before October 15th, 2025, at Midnight.
- Grants will be awarded late in November 2024 and presented at a celebration on December 2, 2025
- Applicants may be asked to attend a brief meeting to clarify questions from this application.
- All projects must be initiated and completed within one year of the grant award.
- Upon completion of the project, but before December 31st, 2026, the grant recipient will be required to submit a final grant report.
- Maximum grant request amount that will be considered is \$35,000.00.

Grant Considerations:

- Does this project effectively serve a community need or problem?
- What is the overall impact of the project?
- Is the project collaborative and partnering with other local groups/agencies? Does the project build on or avoid duplicating the services of other agencies?
- Are the project goals and outcomes clear and measurable? What is the return on investment?
- Does this project meet the funding interests of the JCCF?
- Is the project budget realistic and thoughtfully completed? Does the project hit the required match amount?