City of Brantford Community Grants Program "City Grants"

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between the City Grants Program and the Brant Community Foundation Grant Program?

The City of Brantford Community Grants ("City Grants") are open to non-profit organizations that serve the City of Brantford. Applicants do not need to be registered charities or incorporated, as long as they can provide the required documentation. The City Grants support programming, projects, and/or events that benefit the Brantford community. City Grants run twice a year (typically Round 1 occurs in October / November, and Round 2 occurs the following March / April).

The Brant Community Foundation Grant Program ("BCF Grants") are open to charities in Brantford, Brant County, the Six Nations of the Grand River, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The Foundation is a 360-degree granter and makes grants to benefit a wide variety of causes. Applicants must be registered charities or non-qualified donees sponsored by a registered charity in good standing with the CRA. BCF Grants run once a year (typically September – October).

Do organizations need to be registered or incorporated to be eligible?

Applicants do not need to be a Registered Charity or an Incorporated Not-For-Profit to be eligible for the City Grants program, as long as they can complete the online application and provide the necessary documentation, including:

- List of board of directors, steering committee, or volunteer committee members.
- Most recent financial statements (do not have to be audited).
- Annual budget for the current year.
- Budget for funding request (specific to project/program/event being applied for).
- By-laws, terms of reference, or other governance documents.

When does a granting year run for the City Grants?

The granting year for the City Grants runs from Fall to Spring. Round 1 of the City Grants takes place in the fall, and Round 2 takes place the following Spring. For example: Round 1 runs from October - November 2026. Round 2 runs from March – April 2027 (exact dates may vary).

How do I know which stream to apply to?

Applications for the operational costs of launching new programs, ongoing operations of existing programs, or the expansion of existing programs should be submitted to the Operational Stream. All applications for the expansion or renovation of a facility owned by the applying organization

AND/OR the purchase, replacement or repair of equipment required to start-up a new program or expand an existing program should be submitted to the Start-Up / Capital Stream. All applications for new or annual community events should be submitted to the Event Stream. Specific examples of eligible and ineligible funding requests are available in the Full Guidelines on the BCF Website.

How many times per granting year can the same organization apply?

There are three grant streams – Operational, Start-Up / Capital, and Event. Applicants can only submit one application per grant stream within a grant year (a grant year runs from Fall – Spring). For example – if an applicant applies in the Operational Stream in Round 1, they cannot apply in the Operational Stream in Round 2.

Do other sources of funding need to be secured at the time of applying for a City Grant?

Applicants must demonstrate that the City Grant would not be their only primary source of funding, and that other sources of potential funding have been explored. However, this does not mean that funding has to be secured at the time of applying for a City Grant. Applicants must demonstrate they have researched other sources of funding by listing potential funding sources other than the City grants, and the amount of funding that will be sought from each source.

Can organizations based outside of the City of Brantford apply for funding through the City Grants program?

If an applicant's organizational mandate extends beyond the municipal boundaries of the City of Brantford, they must demonstrate that at least 75% of the individuals and/or groups they will serve through the requested funding are Brantford residents. The application must be clear and specific about how the funds will be used to benefit Brantford. For example: stating that an event will be held in Brantford is not enough detail. Specific information about venue, dates, anticipated attendees, etc., is required in order to ensure that the funds will be used to benefit Brantford.

Can applicants work on grants offline and then transfer it to the online portal?

Applicants can write answers in a Word document and copy / paste the text into the text boxes on the online portal. A list of application questions are available on the Brant Community Foundation website on the City of Brantford Grants Program page.

What happens if my project changes after receiving funding?

The Foundation must approve changes in writing before they are implemented, including budget allocation and changes to compensation. Approval for redirection of funds needs to be obtained from Anne Marie Peirce, Executive Director of the Foundation.