



NEW HAMPSHIRE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

UP TO THE PROMISE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING TO THE NEIL AND LOUISE TILLOTSON FUND DASH Grants Program 2024

Geographic Area Served

The Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund serves a geography that includes:

- Core area: Coös County, NH and communities that are directly adjacent to Coös County
- Programs, projects or agencies that operate outside the region but offer clear benefit to Coös County's residents or landscape
- MRC de Coaticook, Quebec, Canada

General Eligibility

Organizations recognized as tax-exempt by the IRS or CRA are eligible, including US nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status, Canadian organizations with qualified donee status, tax-exempt public agencies, schools and municipalities. Other community groups and organizations which do not have US or Canadian tax-exempt status may apply for funding if a 501(c)(3) organization, municipality or public agency acts as their fiscal sponsor.

DASH Grants Purpose

The DASH Grants Program supports projects in Coös County, NH and surrounding communities that focus on strengthening communities. This grant program provides rapid grant awards from \$250 up to \$2,000 to eligible organizations. You can apply any time between January 3 and December 15, 2024 through a streamlined application process. Our goal is to establish a quick turnaround – three weeks or less from the time you submit your proposal to the moment the check is mailed. We will work with you to expedite payment if the outcome of the project depends on a more timely process. The DASH Grants Program has an annual grantmaking budget of \$60,000 (\$15,000 per quarter).

Program Details

The next call for grant proposals opens Wednesday, January 3, 2024. Completed applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Requests that support projects and activities focused on the people and places of Coös County and surrounding communities are invited to apply.

Examples of awards:

- to provide marketing materials for a community event
- to sponsor a school field trip
- to provide DEI training for staff
- to hire a consultant to support a project or activity
- to purchase or replace equipment or furniture

This is a single year program although an extension can be granted if the project runs over the 12-month timeframe. If you already have an award from the Large or Local Grants Program, you are still eligible to apply to the Dash Grants Program. There is no limit to how many times you are eligible to apply, but if you apply more than twice for the same project you may want to consider a different funding source.

How to Apply for a DASH Grant

Step 1: Click [here](#) to access the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund's online system to create an account for your organization. If you already have a profile in the system, please log in and update information including contacts, mailing address, mission statement, # of employees, operating budget, and board of directors and click on save. You may register your organization at any time; you don't need to wait until the online portal process opens to begin this step.

Step 2: (Optional) Contact Jean Clarke by phone (603.225.6641 X238 or email (jc@nhcf.org)) to discuss your idea and how it might best fit into the DASH – Grants program.

Step 3: Typically, the written application process takes about 1 hour to complete. Log into the online system and open the Dash Grants docket. The application consists of one question – “Please describe your project including a narrative description, intended outcomes, community partners that might be involved, and any other information that might be helpful.” In addition, you will be asked to upload a project budget (PDF format). Budget line items should not include operational expenses such as salary, benefits, rent, utilities, or capital expenses. Once completed, you should hit the submit button and your application is ready for Tillotson staff to review.

Step 4: If there are any questions about your application, Jean will be in touch to discuss additional questions or concerns. In three weeks or less, you will be notified of your proposal's status (award or decline) and any feedback from Tillotson staff.

Only applications submitted via the Tillotson Fund's online application system will be considered. If you do not have access to the internet or run into challenges, please contact Jean Clarke by phone or email for further assistance.

Eligibility Information and What We Do Not Fund

The Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund awards grants that support organizations, coalitions, and other tax exempt entities (schools, municipalities, religious organizations) to advance the Tillotson Fund's vision to revitalize communities.

Who Can Apply

- Tax-exempt organizations under any part of the section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code
- State or local government agencies or unit of government
- Grassroots organizations, collaborative or coalitions may apply with a tax-exempt fiscal sponsor. Click [here](#) for an overview of what it means to have a fiscal sponsor and the responsibilities involved for both the fiscal sponsor and the grassroots organization.

What We Do Not Fund

- Capital campaigns
- Expenses already incurred
- Out of region projects
- Sectarian or religious programs
- Community Foundations unless they serve as a fiscal sponsor
- Individuals or endowments
- Budget shortfalls
- Support for political activities, i.e., lobbying
- Organizations or projects that discriminate based on age, sex, religion, race, color, creed, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, national or ethnic origin

Reporting

You will not be asked to submit a report at the end of your project year. However, stories, photos, events or news articles relating to your project are always welcome. We also invite you to provide feedback about how the process worked for you and how it might be improved. This a new experiment for the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund, and your experience with the program is important to us.

Other Funding Opportunities

If your projects or activities do not align with the Dash Grants Program, please consider applying for the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund's Large or Local Grants Program. You might also consider applying to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Community or Express Grants Programs. Please contact Jean Clarke by phone (603.225.6641 X238 or email [jc@nhcf.org]) for more information. You can also click [here](#) to schedule a zoom meeting with Jean Clarke.