



Grant Program Specifications

APPLICATION GUIDELINES: All applications are now accepted only through an online application system. Applications are due by 11:59 pm on the date listed as the due date for each grant cycle period. The online system closes at that time and no exceptions are made in order to be fair to all applicants.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS: Applicants must be a non-profit organization with a valid 501(c)(3) status under the U.S. IRS Code or a qualified educational institution or governmental entity. Applicants' 501c3 status will be verified through Guidestar (<https://www.guidestar.org/Home.aspx>). The status of educational and governmental entities will be confirmed as part of the application process.

These guidelines provide general direction for what RDA funds, but do not limit other ideas that improve the quality of life for people in our region.

FUNDED ACTIVITIES

Proposals Types

- **Economic Development:** proposals that strengthen our region's business climate, build capacity for business start-ups/expansion, support an environment for innovation and entrepreneurship, support workforce development, human capital, and leadership initiatives, attend to generational transfer of businesses/assets, and develops tourism, our riverfront, and neighborhoods
- **Arts, Culture, and Heritage:** proposals that enrich our region's artistic, creative, and cultural amenities, advance inclusiveness of diverse ideas and populations, create a sense of place that attracts people to our region, presents a welcoming environment, and highlights our regional history
- **Education:** proposals that expand access to educational opportunities, increase educational attainment, foster parent engagement, and create high quality educational capabilities
- **Human Services:** proposals that address human need among vulnerable populations, engage people in solving community problems, and strengthen organizations in our region's safety net

Support Types

- **Events** draw people to region, create interesting things to do, celebrate regional history, develop our human potential, draw attention to important issues, and raise funds for charitable causes
- **Venues** to engage people, create tradition, innovation, and excitement for our region
- **Projects** invest in opportunities of inclusion and dignity for diverse and marginalized populations
- **Construction/renovations** that develop/ improve/maintain spaces for people to create, celebrate, serve, build community
- **Capital campaign** funding
- **Technology** to connect people, entertain, improve efficiencies, and build skills
- Develop **human capital** through leadership, education, skill-building, creative pursuits
- Create **strategic direction** and/or organizational efficiencies for NP orgs

For questions on application process, please contact RDA at ceo@rdauthority.org or 563.323.5177.