

The McConnell Fund 2026

Community Foundation of the North State

Grant Information/Parameters

The McConnell Fund of Community Foundation of the North State was established in 2001. The McConnell Foundation is a private, independent foundation whose mission is to help build better communities through philanthropy. The McConnell Foundation's directors chose the Community Foundation as a funding partner because of its connection and widespread involvement in the communities they serve and to give community leaders the opportunity to be actively involved in local grantmaking.

Funding is provided to five far northern California counties: Modoc, Tehama, Trinity, Shasta & Siskiyou.

Grant amounts: While the upper limits are posted below by County, proposals of all sizes are encouraged:

- Up to \$30,000 (Modoc & Trinity)
- Up to \$50,000 (Shasta, Siskiyou, & Tehama)

The fund awards primarily for the **purchase of durable equipment or building-related projects** in the following areas: arts & culture, recreation, environment, community vitality, social services, health care, children/youth & education.

Eligible organizations include: Nonprofits with a public tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code (501c3 nonprofit/public charity), public entities (ex: schools, counties, special districts, federally-recognized tribes), or projects/programs fiscally-sponsored by a nonprofit or public entity. Non-federally recognized tribes are welcome to apply with nonprofit status or a fiscal sponsor.

Grants are NOT awarded to or for:

- administrative/operating/program expenses including personnel costs and items consumable in nature,
- essential government service (basic equipment or building features required or mandated of a public organization to provide service)
- permanent improvements to buildings or land not owned by the applicant organization (for building or land-related projects with permanent improvements, the applicant org (a 501c3 or public entity) should own the building or land. If the building/land is leased, requested grant items should be removeable should the organization's location change
- reimbursements (costs incurred prior to signing of awarded grant contract)

- equipment that will be stored at personal residences
- building/land purchase
- leases or leased equipment
- planning costs
- budget deficits
- endowment funds or annual fund drives
- sectarian religious purposes
- individuals
- organizations with past-due report(s) to the Community Foundation.

For more detail on allowable costs, please see "Project Budget" section below.

Application Questions

Organization Summary

Under what status are you applying?*

Choices

501c3 public charity/nonprofit

Public entity (ex: school, city, county, special district, federally-recognized tribe)

Project fiscally sponsored by 501c3 nonprofit or public entity

Explain the history and purpose of the organization, including recent achievements and challenges.*

Tell us about your organization from a helicopter level, in case reviewers are unfamiliar, or to update those who may be familiar.

Character Limit: 2000

Please upload a PDF listing of the organization's board members.*

Please include their role/title within your organization (ex: Board president, treasurer, etc.).

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Proposal

Project Name/Grant Description*

At its simplest core, what will be done if the grant is awarded? Most common examples start with "to purchase", "to support", "to provide", "to sponsor", etc.

A good grant description can include:

What – What is the primary purpose of the grant?

Who – Who is specifically meant to benefit from the grant? Where – What geographic area(s) is the grant meant to serve?

Example: to purchase books for learners 0-5 years old in eastern Shasta County.

County of project location*

Choices

Modoc

Shasta

Siskiyou

Tehama

Trinity

What program area best describes your request?***Choices**

Arts & Culture
Recreation
Environment
Community Vitality
Social Services
Health Care
Children, Youth & Education

Which project type best describes your request?***Choices**

Durable Equipment
Building or land-related improvements

Project Summary*

Please briefly describe your project and request in a few paragraphs. Imagine you are pitching your project to someone and have just a few minutes to capture their attention. Include the need for the project and the difference you hope it will make.

Character Limit: 2000

Will volunteers participate in this project? If so, how?*

Character Limit: 2000

Provide a timeline for your project, including key milestones and the estimated completion date.*

Please note, it takes up to 3 months from the application due date for the grant review process to complete. As such, project activity should start a minimum of 3 months from the application due date (in this instance, no earlier than early-June). Reimbursements for costs incurred prior to grant award are not eligible. If awarded, projects must be completed within 12 months of grant award notification.

Ownership for Building or Land Improvements

For building or land-related improvement projects, who/what entity is the building/land-owner?*

Note: For building or land-related projects with permanent improvements, the applicant org (a 501c3 or public entity) should own the building or land. If the building/land is leased, requested grant items should be removeable so that in the event the organization's location changes, the granted items can be moved to the new location.

Character Limit: 250

Project Budget

Amount Requested*

Grant maximum = \$30,000 (Modoc & Trinity Counties), \$50,000 (Shasta, Siskiyou & Tehama Counties)

Total project cost*

This is the cost of the entire project, including the amount requested in this grant application.

Please upload a PDF of the project budget showing all anticipated expenses and revenues.*

Please show all anticipated expenses and revenues and summarize the total project cost and requested amount.

Applications to this fund are more competitive if they show funding from other sources and the request is a "cherry on top" to finish project. If any of the project revenue is planned/pending, please make that clear. We will verify available funds by referencing the organization's balance sheet.

Allowable costs may include (but not limited to): equipment, building-related materials, sales tax, specialized external labor (for construction, installation, etc.), shipping/freight

Non-allowable costs may include (but aren't limited to): administrative, operating, or program expenses, including personnel costs (salaries), items consumable in nature (paper, logo swag, etc.), warranties, subscriptions, vehicle registration and insurance, permits; essential government services (equipment or building-related features required of a public organization); permanent improvements to buildings or land not owned by the applicant organization; reimbursement for costs incurred prior to signing of awarded grant contract; budget deficits; equipment that will be stored at personal residences; sectarian religious purposes; planning costs; building/land purchases; leases or leased equipment; endowment funds or annual fund drives; parking lot paving.

Sample budget:

Budget Example							
Below is a sample budget . Using this layout makes it easy to include expenses for items covered by varied income sources, if it applies to your project.							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * In-Kind includes anything donated including supplies, volunteer time, and vendor discounts. * General Funds are funds used for every day operations and core services. * Community donations/fundraisers for a specific project are designated funds, not general funds. * If the general funds and/or community fundraiser income is pending (not in your bank), please make that clear. * Expenses must equal revenue 							
Organization Name:							
Grant Fund Name:							
Date:							
Project Name:							
EXPENSES		REVENUE SOURCES					
Description	Cost	Current Grant Request	ABC Foundation Grant	General Funds	Community Fundraisers	In Kind Donations	Total Revenue
Two-Stall Climate-Controlled Restroom Trailer	48,000.00	38,000.00	10,000.00				48,000.00
6-person Outdoor Handwashing Station	880.00	880.00					880.00
Site Preparation	3,500.00			1,500.00	2,000.00		3,500.00
Utility Hookups	1,500.00			500.00		1,000.00	1,500.00
Panel Siding & Enhancements	3,000.00			1,500.00		1,500.00	3,000.00
Volunteer Supplies (Tools, Fasteners, Paint)	500.00					500.00	500.00
Total Project Costs	57,380.00	38,880.00	10,000.00	3,500.00	2,000.00	3,000.00	57,380.00

Please explain how the project will be supported once grant funds have been spent.*

Character Limit: 3500

If a similar request is under review by another funder, please share funder name here.

Character Limit: 250

Photo/Video (Visual)

Please provide a related photo as it helps to describe the project or your organizations work.*

A picture is worth a thousand words, especially for visual learners. If a project-specific photo is unavailable, please share a photo that illustrates your organization's good work.

If awarded, this photo may be used for social media/marketing purposes. As such, we prefer high-resolution photo with front-facing people engaged in activity related to the organization's good work.

Please include a line of text to describe the photo context as it relates to your work.

Tip: To upload multiple photos, create a word document, insert 2-3 photos and save as a pdf.

Character Limit: 1500 | File Size Limit: 3 MB

Organizational Financials

This section addresses the financial documents you will be asked to upload to the application. Find the type of organization under which you are applying for your requirements:

- A. 501c3 public charity/nonprofit
- B. Public entity (ex: school, city, county, special district, federally-recognized tribe)
- C. Project fiscally sponsored by 501c3 nonprofit or public entity

A. 501c3 Public Charity/Nonprofit

Please upload a PDF of the organization's Income & Expense Statement.*

This is also known as a Profit and Loss Statement or Statement of Activities. It should represent the closest 12- month time period.

If there is an unusually large net gain or loss (>10% of gross revenue) please explain more in the text box. What caused the large gain or loss? If there is not a large net gain or loss, write "N/A" in the text box.

Character Limit: 1500 | File Size Limit: 2 MB

Please upload a PDF of the organization's Balance Sheet*

This is also known as a Statement of Financial Position. This sheet should have a date matching that of the end date provided on the Income and Expense Statement (time periods should match).

File Size Limit: 2 MB

B. Public Entity

Please upload a PDF of your current year department budget (1-2 page summary)*

File Size Limit: 2 MB

C. Fiscally Sponsored Organization

Fiscal Sponsor Information

Please provide information about the organization fiscally-sponsoring your project/program.

Fiscal Sponsor - Organization Name*

Fiscal Sponsor - Organization's EIN/Tax ID*

This number can be found on Guidestar.

Fiscal Sponsor - Organization's State Corporation Number*

For California organizations, this can be found on the CA Secretary of State Business Search page. For out-of-state organizations, please reference state's business search page.

Fiscal Sponsor - Organization's website***Fiscal Sponsor - Organization's Mailing Address*****Fiscal Sponsor - Organization's CEO/ED Name, Title & email*****How and when did you select your fiscal sponsor?***

Character Limit: 3500

Organizational Financials - fiscally-sponsored project

For fiscally-sponsored organizations, please attach financials for BOTH the organization sponsoring your project as well as for your specific sponsored project, if available.

Please upload a PDF of fiscal sponsor's Income & Expense Statement.*

This is also known as a Profit and Loss Statement or Statement of Activities. It should represent the closest 12- month time period.

If there is an unusually large net gain or loss (>10% of gross revenue) please explain more in the text box. What caused the large gain or loss? If there is not a large net gain or loss, write "N/A" in the text box.

NOTE: This is a request for the financials from the 501c3 organization that is fiscally-sponsoring your project.

Character Limit: 1500 | File Size Limit: 2 MB

Please upload a PDF of fiscal sponsor's Balance Sheet.*

This is also known as a Statement of Financial Position. This sheet should have a date matching that of the end date provided on the Income and Expense Statement (time periods should match).

NOTE: This is a request for the financials from the 501c3 organization that is fiscally-sponsoring your project.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Please upload PDF of fiscally-sponsored project's Income & Expense Statement.

This is also known as a Profit and Loss Statement or Statement of Activities. Statement should represent the closest 12 month time period.

If there is an unusually large net gain or loss (>10% of gross revenue) please tell us more in the text box below. What caused the large gain or loss? If there is not a large gain or loss, write "N/A" in the text box.

NOTE: This is a request for your project's financials (your sponsor's financials are requested above).

Character Limit: 1500 | File Size Limit: 2 MB

Please upload a PDF of fiscally-sponsored project's Balance Sheet

This is also known as a Statement of Financial Position. This sheet should have a date matching that of the end date provided on the Income and Expense Statement (time periods should match).

NOTE: This is a request for your project's financials (your sponsor's financials are requested above).

File Size Limit: 2 MB