COVID-19 Emergency Grant Program

Overview
The COVID-19 Emergency Grant program addresses key areas of impact that the coronavirus crisis is having on the public and nonprofit sectors – both the organizations themselves as well as the services they provide – in the Tri-Cities and surrounding counties. The key areas are: **Health and Safety, Education, General Operating Support** and **Technology**. Past and current grantees of The Cameron Foundation are eligible to apply for this emergency funding to support needs that have resulted from the current crisis. Applicants must meet the Foundation’s eligibility requirements according to its [grant guidelines](#) and must provide a program and budget justification for this emergency need.

To apply, applicants sign in through the “[Applicant Login](#)” link at the top right corner of the Foundation’s website.

Due to the fluid nature of this crisis, the needs of those impacted may change. If a need is identified that is not reflected in this COVID-19 Emergency Grant program, please contact a member of the Foundation’s program staff to further discuss it.

**Health and Safety** will address the needs of safety net providers, public health organizations and nonprofit organizations serving the health and safety of individuals in the community. Examples of priority needs include:

- Medical supplies, medical safety equipment, screening and diagnostic tools for COVID-19 testing as well as associated medical care for medical personnel and clients, including medical transportation.
- Work with chronically displaced individuals who are homeless and challenging to shelter, as this presents a safety issue for them and the community as it relates to the potential spread of the virus. Organizations seeking assistance of this nature will need to access the Crater Area Coalition on Homelessness (CACH) Point of Entry process prior to submitting an application for COVID-19 Emergency Grant funds. Please visit the [CACH website](#) for additional information.
- Other general health, human services and safety needs for organizations that have been impacted by COVID-19, resulting in an increased demand in services or a decrease in the capacity of the organization to deliver services.
**Education** is a key area that will assist organizations addressing the critical needs of students to ensure the education, health and human services needs of the students and their families are supported. Students have varying levels of access in our service area and may be disproportionately impacted, especially in rural communities and communities with high poverty rates. Examples of priority needs include:

- Virtual platforms, distance learning opportunities, as well as the provision of internet hotspots.
- Other general education and safety needs for organizations that have been impacted by COVID-19, resulting in an increased demand in services or a decrease in the capacity of the organization to deliver services.
- School divisions that have received a School System Technology Infrastructure Grant are not eligible for a COVID-19 Emergency Grant, as these are intended to be complementary emergency grant programs in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

**General Operating Support** is a key area intended to address the general operating expenses of nonprofits that have experienced hardship during the COVID-19 crisis. The Cameron Foundation’s eligibility **guidelines** pertaining to general operating grants apply to applicants in this category. Examples of priority needs include:

- Salaries, utilities, rent and insurance costs due to the loss of revenue or delayed federal/state grant reimbursements.
- Establishing and maintaining sanitation protocols to ensure the safety of the clients, staff and office environments.
- Services such as legal expertise, guidance in disaster planning, and expertise in fundraising to limit financial losses during this time.
- Other general operating support needs for organizations that have been impacted by COVID-19, resulting in an increased demand in services or a decrease in the capacity of the organization to deliver services.

**Technology** is a key area that addresses the fast pace of organizations moving to virtual offices as a necessity with the closing of local offices due to the crisis. This grant area will assist safety net organizations and nonprofits with technology needs to help enhance their ability to communicate internally as a workforce with their staff and externally with their clients. Examples of priority needs include:

- Operating system needs, conferencing needs (both audio and video), securing and updating virtual platforms, and ensuring security/encryption needs are in place to keep client data and organization communication confidential.
- Other technology needs for organizations that have been impacted by COVID-19, resulting in an increased demand in services or a decrease in the capacity of the organization to deliver services.
COVID-19 Emergency Grant Guidelines

1. The applicant must adhere to the general grant guidelines of The Cameron Foundation, be a past or current grantee, and meet the current eligibility requirements.

2. There is no application deadline for the COVID-19 Emergency Grant program. The Foundation will consider requests on a rolling basis. Only online requests will be considered.

3. The applicant may apply for the COVID-19 Emergency Grant program once during the current calendar year.

4. Organizations may seek assistance in any of the four key areas: Health and Safety, Education, General Operating Support and Technology.

5. Organizations applying for a COVID-19 Emergency Grant also may have an open grant with the Foundation through one or more of the Foundation’s other funding programs. However, school divisions that have received a School System Technology Infrastructure Grant are not eligible for a COVID-19 Emergency Grant, as these are intended to be complementary emergency grant programs in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

6. In the application, the organization must clearly articulate the need for a COVID-19 Emergency Grant based upon the impact of COVID-19 on the organization itself and/or the individuals served by the organization.

7. The request for assistance cannot exceed $20,000. A project budget and budget justification also must indicate the impact of COVID-19 on the operations of the organization. Additionally, the applicant must indicate what current resources are available and articulate what additional resources will be leveraged to address the problem identified.

8. All applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria: Urgency of Need, Justification of Need, Budget Justification and Past Performance of the Organization.

9. Applicants will receive a response to their request for assistance within two weeks of applying.

10. The effective date of the grant is the date of the award letter, and funds must be expended within six months of that date.
11. A final report, including both a narrative and financial report, will be due at the conclusion of the grant.

12. The timeframe of the COVID-19 Emergency Grant program is for the 2020 calendar year. It may be renewed for 2021 or discontinued at any time by the Board of Directors of The Cameron Foundation.