



GUIDELINES FOR CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

As it relates to special grants, such as the 2020 Racial Justice Initiative, these guidelines are intended to only be advisory with potential flexibility on these guidelines solely determined by the Ohio State Bar Foundation's Board of Trustees.

The Ohio State Bar Foundation grant program assists organizations with law related projects that: (1) promote the pursuit of justice; (2) promote public understanding of the rule of law. All grant requests must fulfill one of these two goals. We welcome the opportunity to discuss your project idea.

While maintaining flexibility in considering grant applications, the Ohio State Bar Foundation Board of Trustees sets forth the following guidelines to aid potential applicants. These factors are intended only to be advisory.

- Single project – The project should be clearly defined. Projects that are innovative or address unmet needs will be favored. Single projects may include funding for legal services where such funding would be ancillary to a project that is new, innovative and capable of future replication without the use of OSBF funding.
- Length of OSBF funding – The Foundation generally awards funding on an annual basis. Funding for meritorious projects could be awarded beyond one year in special circumstances.
- Need – The applicant must demonstrate a need. Projects that duplicate similar services or programs already provided in an area may be disfavored. If there is a need for additional services of this nature, the applicant should demonstrate that they have developed means of coordinating with existing services.
- Other sources of funding – Applicants are encouraged to identify other potential sources of funding or have secured such sources to make the project viable.
- Geographic focus – The Foundation strives to fund projects in the state of Ohio with a focus placed on geographic diversity.
- Replication/Dissemination plan - Applications must include a plan to disseminate or replicate the product produced with the Foundation's grant funds.
- Evaluation - Applicants should incorporate a means for evaluating the project and must complete the Foundation's evaluation.

- Resulting products – Copies of data, written materials, audio visual materials or other products developed as a result of the Foundation’s grant must be provided.



The Ohio State Bar Foundation strives to identify and fund projects that most effectively further our mission of promoting the pursuit of justice and public understanding of the rule of law.

Please review our list of recently funded projects to see the breadth of our work in the state of Ohio.

We recognize that much work remains to improve the public understanding of the law. As such, we have determined that our grant funds will not support:

- Individuals, scholarships for individuals, or payment of fees for individuals
- Capital expenditure, construction, renovation, equipment or supplies
- Debt reduction, retroactive funding
- Endowment, endowment campaigns
- Fundraising benefits or mass appeal solicitation
- Political campaigns, election or political activities, propaganda, lobbying activities
- Compensation or other direct or indirect funding of lawyers to provide legal services, except for single projects as described in the Guidelines for Consideration of Grant Applications.

The Foundation discourages applicants from requesting funding for fixed costs such as salaries, employment benefits and operational expenses.

If you have questions about what the Ohio State Bar Foundation might fund, please contact Tiffany Patterson, Grants Manager, at 614.487.4483 or tpatterson@osbf.net.