The McCune Charitable Foundation is dedicated to enriching the health, education, environment, cultural and spiritual lives of New Mexicans. Beginning with the 2018 open application cycle, the Foundation moved to a tiered structure to its grants. Details of the various tier opportunities are detailed in this document. All grants will be unrestricted, general operating grants and must benefit New Mexicans. Organizations can apply for only one grant per year, regardless of tier.

## Grant Tiers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier Name:</th>
<th>Cultivate/Continuity</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>Lead</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount:</td>
<td>$10k - $25k</td>
<td>$25k - $50k</td>
<td>$50k - $100k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best for:</td>
<td>Seed or pilot project, On-going support for aligned organization</td>
<td>Established organization, Work highly aligned with Foundation priorities, Demonstrated collaboration with other organizations</td>
<td>Established organization, Work highly aligned with Foundation priorities, Demonstrated supporting role among other organizations, Demonstrated leadership in civic sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Process:</td>
<td>Standard Open Cycle</td>
<td>Standard Open Cycle</td>
<td>Letter of Interest (LOI) to determine eligibility; eligible orgs apply in Open Cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximate Grants in 2018:</td>
<td>70 - 80</td>
<td>50 - 60</td>
<td>1-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Term:</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>12 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consecutive Funding Opportunity:</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cultivation and Continuity

The Cultivation and Continuity tier is intended to provide a basic level of support for: a) innovative, experimental and/or pilot work that requires a relatively low level of funding to get off the ground or test an idea; or b) established organizations or programs that are aligned with Foundation priorities and are working towards increased impact. Applying organizations should specify a specific body of work within their overall mission that supports McCune Foundation priorities and leverage points over the 12-month period supported by the proposed grant.

Most competitive for this tier:
- Work that takes place within a discrete timeframe and is aligned with Foundation priorities and frameworks. (1 - 2 years).
- Start-up non-profit organization or pilot work that could evolve into high impact solutions.
- Established non-profits seeking to pilot or test a new program/idea or building higher levels of alignment with Foundation priorities and other organizations.

Amount Range:
- $10,000 - $25,000

Requirements:
- Standard open-cycle application the first year.
- Mid-year grant narrative report.
- End-of-year financial report.
- Mid-year + financial reports may serve as application for next year funding.
- Maximum of 2 consecutive years, then the applying organization must meet with Foundation staff to discuss on-going eligibility.
- Grant is for 12-month term with no assurance of additional years of funding.
Focus

Focus grants provide support to organizations that align closely with Foundation priorities and values and demonstrate collaboration as a core approach to their work. Applying organizations should specify a body of work within their overall mission that supports McCune Foundation priorities and leverage points over the 12-month period supported by the proposed grant.

Most competitive for this tier:
- Established organizations (at least 1 full-time employee and in existence for minimum of 2 years) that have missions and work that are highly-aligned with Foundation priorities and frameworks.
- Demonstrates active collaboration with other organizations (i.e., actions by organization staff actively impacts or supports partner programs or work).
- Seeking to grow an innovative high impact solution (take on organizational risk that cannot happen at a lower funding category) or work to deepen collaborations with other aligned organizations.

Amount Range:
- $25,000 - $50,000

Requirements:
- Standard open-cycle application first year.
- Mid-year grant narrative report.
- End-of-year financial report.
- End-of-year “Lessons Learned” narrative report.
- Mid-year, “Lessons Learned” + financial reports may serve as application for next year funding.
- Grant is for 12-month term with no assurance of additional year of funding.
- Maximum of 3 consecutive years, then the applying organization must meet with Foundation staff to discuss on-going eligibility.
Lead

The *Lead* grant tier supports established organizations that are proven to play a deep, supportive role to the broader ecosystem of groups working to build resilience and prosperity in New Mexican communities. Lead grant recipients provide critical support (programmatic, administrative or other) to numerous other organizations in alignment with Foundation priorities and values.

**Most competitive for this tier:**

- Established organizations with missions and work aligned with Foundation priorities that demonstrate collaboration and integration with other organizations, and that have been invited to participate in this tier.
- These organizations play a fundamental supportive role within the ecosystems because of programmatic approach, organizational leadership and critical role supporting other non-profits.

**Amount Range:**

- $50,000 - $100,000
Lead continued...

Requirements:

- Submit Letter of Interest (LOI) 1 year before applying; Foundation reviews and determines whether or not organization is eligible.
  
  NOTE: Organizations wishing to investigate Lead Tier eligibility for the 2018 funding cycle should provide by July 31, 2017: a) LOI that details the organization’s role supporting other groups and summarizing alignment with Foundation priorities; and b) letters of support from at least two other organizations substantiating the depth of partnership. Lead tier grants are highly competitive, with between 1-5 granted per year. LOI should be submitted via email to Ernesto Torres at ernesto@nmmccune.org no later than July 31, 2017, for consideration. You should receive a confirmation email that your LOI was received within two business days of submission. If not, please follow up with Ernesto.

- Mid-year grant narrative report.
- End-of-year financial report.
- End-of-year “Lessons Learned” narrative report.
- End-of-year “Next Steps” narrative report.
- Mid- and end-of-year reports may serve as application for next year funding.
- Grant is for 12-month term with no assurance of additional year of funding.
- Maximum of 3 consecutive years, then the applying organization must meet with Foundation staff to discuss on-going eligibility.

NOTE: On rare occasions when a particular project or organization is deemed to play a highly strategic role in supporting Foundation priorities or initiatives, Foundation staff will make exceptions to the maximum consecutive year limitations within each of the grant tiers discussed above.

Organizations seeking smaller grants (offered on a rolling basis) should refer to the Grantseekers FAQ for instructions on how to submit a request.