# McCune Charitable Foundation
# Open Application Cycle Overview

The McCune Charitable Foundation is dedicated to enriching the health, education, environment, cultural and spiritual lives of New Mexicans. Details of the various open application grant 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 category.

## Grant Categories

| Name: | Cultivate | Focus | Lead |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amount: | $10k - $25k | $25k - $50k | $50k - $100k |
| Best for: | • Seed or pilot project<br>• On-going support for aligned organization | • Established organization<br>• Work highly aligned with Foundation priorities<br>• Demonstrated collaboration with other organizations | • Established organization<br>• Work highly aligned with Foundation priorities<br>• Demonstrated supporting role among other organizations<br>• Demonstrated leadership in civic sector |
| Application Process: | Standard Open Cycle | Standard Open Cycle | Letter of Interest (LOI) to determine eligibility; eligible orgs apply in Open Cycle. (see p. 4) |
| Reporting Requirements: | • Mid-year narrative report<br>• End-of-year financial and "Lessons Learned" report | • Mid-year narrative report<br>• End-of-year financial and "Lessons Learned" report | • Mid-year narrative report<br>• End-of-year financial and "Lessons Learned" report<br>• End-of-year "Next Steps" report |
| Approximate Grants : | 50 - 60 | 50 - 60 | 1-5 |
| Grant Term: | 12 months | 12 months | 12 months |
| Consecutive Funding Opportunity: | 2 years | 3 years | 3 years |

# Cultivate

The *Cultivate* grant 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 alignment. 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 category:

- 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.

### Requirements:

- Standard open-cycle application the first year.
- Mid-year grant narrative report.
- End-of-year financial and "Lessons Learned" report.
- Mid-year report 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.

### Amount Range:

- $10,000 - $25,000

# Focus

*Focus* grants provide support to organizations that align closely with Foundation priorities and values and demonstrate shared work 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 category:

- Established organizations (at least 1 full-time staff member or contract position and in existence for a 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.

### Requirements:

- Standard open-cycle application first year.
- Mid-year grant narrative report.
- End-of-year financial and "Lessons Learned" report.
- Mid-year report may serve as application for next year funding. Maximum of 3 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 year of funding.

### Amount Range:

- $25,000 - $50,000

# Lead

The *Lead* grant gategory supports established organizations that are proven to play a supporting role to the broader ecosystem of non-profits by providing critical supports to numerous other organizations in alignment with Foundation priorities and values. Lead grantees often operate in the background, providing specific, critical programmatic or operational supports to help make other groups more impactful.

### Most competitive for this tier:
- Established organizations with missions and work aligned with Foundation priorities that demonstrate shared work 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.

### Requirements:
- Letter of interest [*for complete LOI details --- click* *here*].
- If invited, complete Focus Application during an open application cycle. Mid-
- year grant narrative report.
- End-of-year financial and "Lessons Learned" report.
- End-of-year "Next Steps" report.
- Mid-year report may serve as application for next year funding. Maximum of 3
- 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 year of funding.

### Amount Range:
$50,000 - $100,000

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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 some of these requirements.

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