Guidelines for Education and Training Grants

vancouver foundation

These guidelines explain what kinds of projects are considered within the field of Education and Training. Reading these guidelines will help you make an informed decision about your application.

==These guidelines were revised 23 Aug 2017== – previous versions no longer apply.

What is the Education and Training field of interest?

The Education and Training field of interest supports projects that use social innovation to build healthy, vibrant, and livable communities across British Columbia.

In this field of interest, we look for projects that influence and change the systems that strengthen schools, neighbourhoods and workplaces through the participation of students, parents, educators and employers. See more about social innovation in the What we fund section of our website, and in our funding guidelines.

We offer three types of grants — Develop, Test, and Grow — for new and existing social innovations that have the potential to address root causes and to contribute to systemic change. See more about the types of grants we offer on our website, and in our funding guidelines.

What outcomes should we work towards?

Although your project will have its own unique outcomes, we are well-positioned to support projects that address underlying systemic root causes in at least one of the following broad outcome areas:

1. **Ensure that children are socially and emotionally prepared to start school**

    - Increase access to high quality early care and learning in both formal and informal settings
    - Increase readiness for kindergarten as described in BC's Early Development Instrument[i]
    - Increase policy and practice development related to this outcome

2. **Prepare young people to transition through and out of the education system**

    - Ensure that there is support for students during transitions from one level of the education system to another
    - Increase primary, secondary and post-secondary graduation rates
    - Increase access to culturally appropriate and intergenerational learning
    - Increase reading, math and language skills to help achieve a well-rounded education
    - Develop students' self-worth, dignity, purpose and an appreciation of their own and others' individual and cultural identities

3. **Increase employment opportunities**

   - Support individuals to increase their economic independence
   - Offer educators opportunities to develop professionally, and to transfer their knowledge and skills to others
   - Encourage community members to become leaders, volunteers and advocates for change

What are the focus areas of this field?

We are especially interested in projects working towards any of the outcomes listed above that also have a focus on:

Aboriginal Learners

Priority will be given to projects that aim to:

- create freedom from discrimination for Aboriginal learners and educators
- question the systems that influence Aboriginal education and then create the capacity to transform these systems
- increase the cultural competency of non-Indigenous educators and administrators
- expand the knowledge and skills of Aboriginal educators

Does dedicated funding support any specific outcome areas?

In addition to the three broad outcome areas listed above, our remaining funding this year will prioritise projects that focus upon one or more of the following:

- Systemic behaviours that impede the education of sick, underprivileged or physically or developmentally disabled children
- Systemic behaviours within early childhood development
- Systemic behaviours that effect access to healthy food for school-aged children
- Employment supports (including financial literacy training) for physically or developmentally disabled youth and adults
- Social innovation projects that benefit inhabitants of the North Okanagan
- Social innovation projects in the Comox-Courtenay region
- Social innovation projects that benefit the German community
- Social innovation projects that benefit people living with mental health challenges, arthritis, blindness, deafness, heart disease or cancer
- Efficacy research related to Employee Assistance Program intervention strategies and techniques in workplace performance
- Systemic behaviours that are creating or holding poverty in place

How is grant size determined?

Vancouver Foundation funds no more than 50% of the budget for a project, due to funding limitations. Both cash contributions and in-kind donations of services or goods for incurred expenses are considered valid matching funds. In most cases, Vancouver Foundation does not expect to be the sole external Funder connected to the project, nor the largest source of funding listed. Generally, grant sizes are based upon:

- grant amounts for past proposals of a similar nature
- the size of the total project budget
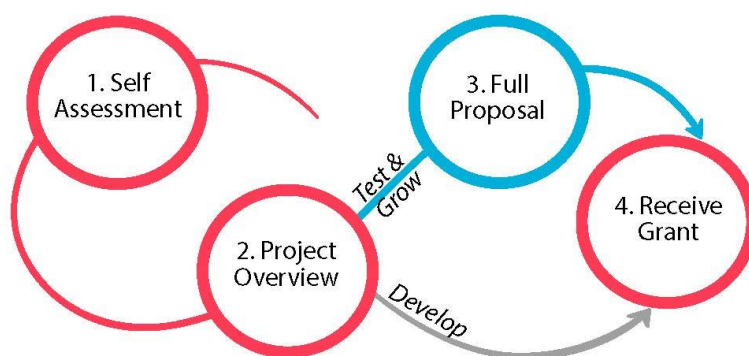- the availability of funds during the current granting cycle

Is my organization eligible?

Please check the eligibility section of our website and then take our eligibility quiz.

How do I apply?

You can apply for a Field of Interest Grant via a simple one or two stage online application process, depending on the type of grant you choose.

Completing a self-assessment prior to submitting your application is the best way to increase your chance of receiving a grant.

1. **Complete your Self-Assessment**
   - ✓ Find out what we fund
   - ✓ Learn about the fields of interest
   - ✓ Choose a type of grant (Develop, Test, Grow)
   - ✓ Take the eligibility quiz

2. **Submit your Project Overview (Online Application Form)**
   - ✓ Select your Field of Interest and Type of Grant
   - ✓ Review the submission deadlines
   - ✓ Read the application guide, to help prepare you to submit a proposal
   - ✓ Answer the online questions and estimate your project budget

If you submit a Test or Grow grant request and are invited forward to the next stage, you will then,

3. **Submit a Full Proposal (Online Application Form + Support Documents)**
   - ✓ Answer additional questions that build upon the information you provided in the project overview
   - ✓ Submit various supporting documents as requested by Vancouver Foundation

4. **Receive a grant decision**

What is the role of Advisory Committees?

We review applications in partnership with our Advisory Committees – experts in this field of interest. Our advisory committee members help us to evaluate proposals and make funding recommendations. Our advisory committee members generously volunteer their time and energy to help shape our work. These advisors also ensure that we remain in touch with the communities we serve. You can view a current list of our Advisory Committee members to find out more.

What about Copyright and Intellectual Property?

All submitted materials become the property of Vancouver Foundation, and may be shared with community advisors and/or other Funders at our sole discretion. A list of approved grants is made public on our website.

How do I find out more about Field of Interest Grants?

You can find out more about Vancouver Foundation's Field of Interest Grants by visiting our website at http://www.vancouverfoundation.ca/grants/field-interest-grants.

Vancouver Foundation Staff Contacts

Niveria Oliveira
Senior Manager
604 629-2708
Niveria.Oliveira@vancouverfoundation.ca

Jill Shouldice
Grant Administrator
604 638-8739
Jill.Shouldice@vancouverfoundation.ca

References

[i] http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/edi/