

Baton Rouge Area Foundation



Powell Group Fund Information for Grant Applicants

Purpose

The Powell Group could serve as a case study for the American dream. From a commitment to innovation and responsive management, a family enterprise that began a century ago as a timber, grocery and dry goods firm has evolved into a thriving, multifaceted operation which continues to pioneer new opportunity for technological advancement and economic prosperity into the next millennium.

The Powell Group is comprised of a number of related companies that work in a coordinated effort to maximize their diverse and ever-growing achievements. It established a Fund at the Baton Rouge Area Foundation in appreciation of the fine employees of the Group whose productivity make it possible for the Company to give back to the community.

The Powell Group believes communities are strengthened when people begin to see themselves as resources, and find successful ways of marshalling their talents and the talents of local people and organizations to solve problems. The purpose of the Fund is to support nonprofit organizations that can demonstrate that they have planned their projects with respect to the community's greatest opportunities. Grant applicants should keep in mind that priority is given to projects that build on strengths and assets of individuals, organizations and institutions.

A Powell Group Fund committee meets on a semi-annual basis to review grant requests in the program areas of arts and humanities, community development, education, environment, healthcare and human services. It will provide program grants to support new, creative or beneficial programs; capital fund grants for new construction or major renovations; seed money grants to help start a new organization which responds to an important opportunity in the community; and operating funds to sustain organizations pursuing asset based community development.

Eligibility

The Fund will support nonprofit organizations in the greater communities of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Lake Charles, Louisiana; Le Mars, Iowa; and Sioux City, Iowa.

The organization must have a non-discriminatory policy. It must demonstrate that it manages its business wisely and that an appropriate percentage of the grant will go to programs rather than administration.

Organizations eligible for funding should have values consistent with those of the Powell Group:

- A top priority of everyone is to honor commitments, both personally and professionally.
- The workplace atmosphere is one of openness and fairness where everyone communicates directly and honestly, and is governed by the same rules.

- A goal of everyone is to grow, personally and professionally, and to contribute to the achievement of the organization.
- The importance of innovation is recognized and peak performers are rewarded.
- The value of excellence in product quality, customer service and financial performance is stressed.

Grant Procedure

Organizations applying for grants should include the following information in their proposals.

Proposal Summary: Every application must include a typed summary which provides the following information, in the following order:

- Organization name
- Executive Director
- Brief summary of the project (50 words or less)
- Project director
- Address
- Phone number
- Compelling reason for the project (50 words or less)
- Amount requested
- Area of interest
- Mission statement
- Service area

Narrative Section: The application should be concise and should include the following information:

- Concise history of the organization with an overview of current programs and activities.
- Description of the challenge to be met by the project.
- Detailed description of the project, including strategies, measurable objectives and a timetable.
- Plan for continuing the project once the Foundation's funding ends.
- Plan for evaluating the project.

Attachments: Attachments should include the following information and should be no longer than ten pages:

- Names and qualifications of persons responsible for carrying out the program.
- Detailed project budget and budget narrative, including income sources and expenditures, as well as a list of other requests for funding, including those pending or approved.
- A list of the organization's board members including the board members' principal occupations, a description of the term of office and the rotation schedule for the board.
- Financial statements, including the organization's operating budget, balance sheet and statements of support, revenue and expenses for the last completed and current fiscal year.
- Statement from the organization's board of directors authorizing the request and agreeing to implement the project if funded.
- Copy of the Internal Revenue Service notice stating that the organization is tax-exempt or a copy of the organization's fiscal agent's 501(c)(3) with a letter from that organization stating its willingness to serve.

Applicants should submit their completed proposal (including supporting material), without stapling or binding, to:

Grantmaking Programs
Powell Group Fund
Baton Rouge Area Foundation
402 N. Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Grantmaking Schedule

Grant requests should be received by 5:00 pm (4:00 pm on Fridays) on the deadline date. If the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, requests are due on the weekday immediately preceding that weekend or holiday. The deadline and notification dates are:

Application Deadlines:

February 1, August 1

Notification Dates:

April 15, October 15

Reporting Requirement

If a grant is awarded, the Foundation requires that the funded organization submit both fiscal accounting and narrative reports on the use of its grant and the impact that the grant may have had on the community it serves. Reporting guidelines will be established in the letter of award.

For Further Information

For information about grant guidelines and deadlines for other funds administered by the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, please call (225) 387-6126 or toll free (877) 387-6126.