

# Grant Guidelines

2026-2027 Grant Cycle: Vibrant Community



Ramona Community Foundation (RCF) is in its 15th year of grantmaking to enhance the quality of life for those who live, work and play in Ramona, CA. In the current cycle, RCF invites nonprofit organizations to submit project proposals specifically for Ramona that demonstrate the power to build a more vibrant community.

## Focus Area

RCF will only consider projects that clearly address Ramona-specific issues and needs. These projects should be practical, achievable within a 12-month time frame and have prospects for long-term sustainability. Funding may be used to expand existing programs, replicate programs tested in other communities or to launch new efforts. RCF will fund programs managed by nonprofit organizations, schools or government agencies.

## Mission, Vision and Purpose

The purpose and vision of the Ramona Community Foundation (RCF) is to improve the quality of life and meet emerging needs by increasing responsible and effective philanthropy, building a community endowment for the benefit of Ramona, providing funds annually to community organizations and causes, and giving the Ramona community a vehicle for legacy planning and gifts that will benefit Ramona now and forever.

RCF, a proud affiliate of San Diego Foundation (SDF), is committed to the financial support of organizations, projects and programs dedicated to improving the lives of those who live, work and play in Ramona.

## Eligibility Criteria

Projects must clearly address Ramona-specific issues and needs, including activities that promote creativity and enhance civic engagement and must also clearly outline the impact on Ramona residents. These projects should be practical, achievable within a 12-month time frame and have prospects for long-term sustainability. Funding may be used to expand existing programs; replicate programs tested in other communities or to launch new efforts.

To be eligible for a grant from RCF, organizations must have tax-exempt status and provide services in Ramona. An organization may serve as a fiscal sponsor for a charitable organization that does not have tax-exempt status if a cooperative relationship between the two can be clearly demonstrated, and the fiscal sponsor must be willing to administer the grant if awarded. RCF at San Diego Foundation does not make grants to supporting organizations or private, non-operating foundations.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the application deadline?

The deadline for application submission is 5:00 p.m. PDT, Monday, June 15, 2026. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

### How much can we request?

RCF will accept proposals in the range of \$1,500 to \$10,000.

### What is the grant period?

Grants are made for one year. This grant cycle is December 1, 2026, to November 30, 2027.

### What will RCF not fund?

RCF does not make grants for:

- Annual campaigns and fundraising events
- Stipends for attendance at conferences
- Endowments or “chairs”
- For-profit organizations and individuals unaffiliated with a qualified fiscal sponsor
- Projects that promote religious or political doctrine
- Research (medical or otherwise)
- Scholarships
- Existing obligations/debt

### Who can I contact if I have any questions?

For technical questions regarding the application submission, please contact Eve Childs at [echilds@sdfoundation.org](mailto:echilds@sdfoundation.org).

### What is the RCF timeline?

- June 15, 2026 – Grant applications due by no later than 5:00 p.m. PDT
- July 2026 – Review Period
- October 2026 – Selection of award recipients
- November 2026 – Awards Announced

## Application Instructions

San Diego Foundation has a [grant application portal](#). All nonprofit applicants are required to have a user account through the SDF online portal to submit their application for the grant cycle. After creating an account, organizations must click the “Apply” button to access the application. For additional guidance regarding creating a new user account, please [see this tutorial](#). [Register/apply today](#).

Note: SDF highly recommends updating all your organization’s contact information in Foundant including address and EIN # as well as fully updating your profile in [Candid](#).

## Organization Information

- **Type of Organization\***: Which describes your organization?
  - A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
  - Fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)3 organization
- **DBA**: Please provide if the organization name you use is different from your legal name.
- **Mission Statement\***: Describe the organization's mission and goals.
- **Geographic Areas Served (list)\***: Please provide how your project specifically serves the Ramona community.

## Fiscal Sponsor Information (if applicable)

- **Fiscal Sponsor Name\***
- **Fiscal Sponsor EIN Number\***: Please be sure to format it correctly (##-####-###)
- **Fiscal Sponsor Agreement\***: Please upload a letter demonstrating the agreement between your organization and your fiscal sponsor. A letter or MOU will suffice.

## Project Information

- **Project Name\***
- **Amount Requested\***
- **Executive Summary\***: Briefly describe the purpose of the project including goals, impact and how many people will be served. Include how this program addresses identified community needs and provide information about the population served.

## Annual Operating Budget\*

- **Annual Operating Budget\***: Please enter your annual operating budget based on your last fiscal year
- **Project Budget Narrative**: Describe your specific line items.
- **Project Budget**: Please fill in your Project Budget (example below).

Expense Category	Requested Amount	Program Budget
1. Equipment & Project Materials (Example)		
2. Consultants & Contractors (Example)		
3. Curriculum (Example)		
4. Training (Example)		
	<b>Total Requested Amount:</b>	<b>Total Program Budget:</b>

- **Other Sources of Funding**: List other sources of funding secured for this project.