



GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Mission

The mission of CoVantage Cares Foundation, Inc. (The Foundation) is to provide funds to non-profit organizations that provide assistance to individuals, especially those experiencing significant financial challenge, and to non-profit organizations working to enhance the quality of life of residents living in the communities served by CoVantage Credit Union.

The Foundation fulfills its mission by providing grants that:

- Align with the Foundations mission and support basic needs, financial literacy and education needs, and community enhancement. These areas are generally defined as:
 1. **Basic Needs:** the essential requirements for human survival and well-being, such as food, water, shelter, clothing, and healthcare.
 2. **Financial Literacy and Education:** refers to the knowledge and skills that enable individuals to make informed decisions about budgeting, managing debt, saving, spending wisely, and understanding financial products/services.
 3. **Community Enhancement:** involves activities, projects, or initiatives that improve the quality of life, strengthen social bonds, and create a positive, indelible mark on the community.
- Prioritize projects and programs that create a lasting impact and impression while showcasing significant capacity and credibility.
- Have a geographic focus in the areas that CoVantage serves, especially near office locations.
- Include significant collaboration and community buy-in.

Examples of requests not funded by The Foundation:

- Requests that would primarily benefit sole individuals or would directly benefit CoVantage Credit Union; religious organizations solely for religious purposes; trips or travel; or requests that are not in alignment with the Foundation mission.
- For events and sports/club related requests and sponsorships, please consider partnering with your local CoVantage Credit Union branch.

Application Deadline: Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on the first working day of March, June, September, or December.

Application Review and Notification: Requests will be reviewed in January, April, July and October and feedback will be provided within 5 working days of the Cares Foundation quarterly review. Please reach out to the CoVantage Cares Foundation team at covantagecares@covantagecu.org with questions.

Grant Funding Sources:

- In alignment with CoVantage Credit Union's mission, CoVantage Credit Union's board of directors periodically approves funds for The Foundation.
- Donors like you! Contributions from businesses, organizations, staff, CoVantage members and community members who believe in The Foundation's mission and see The Foundation as a way to leverage their charitable giving.

Nondiscrimination Policy:

The Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations, and will only consider applications from organizations that similarly do not discriminate.