



Phoenix Suns Charities 2020 Grant Cycle

Available: January 23, 2020

Close Date: 5:00pm, March 31, 2020

Introduction

Phoenix Suns Charities announced a new grant application process that affords local nonprofit organizations the opportunity to tell their story with a dynamic video submission to demonstrate the scope and impact of their organization's work.

Local nonprofit organizations are encouraged to apply for funding by submitting an engaging 90-second video to demonstrate how they are improving the lives of Arizonans. The revamped grant application process allows Phoenix Suns Charities to make a greater impact throughout the state by offering unrestricted funding for the first time ever, as philanthropic organizations are able to apply for grants that support their mission and programs to make a positive impact throughout Arizona.

Since its inception in 1988, Phoenix Suns Charities has been focused on making our community a better place through its mission of supporting children and family services throughout Arizona and has distributed more than \$32 million to local non-profits and organizations in need. The entire Suns organization has embedded itself locally by supporting community efforts through hundreds of player appearances and thousands of volunteer hours by Suns players and staff.

Phoenix Suns Charities will accept one grant submission per 501c3 (A submission includes the application narrative and a video submission). Applicant organization must benefit and support children and families in Arizona from the following areas:

- Health/Human Services
- Education
- Sports/Recreation

Funding Request Range

Phoenix Suns Charities will accept only **ONE** proposal per 501c3 organization for the focus areas of: Health/Human Services, Education, and Sports/Recreation. Not one proposal per focus area. Grants are unrestricted and will range from \$2,500 to \$15,000. Employees and Board of Directors will view and vote on submissions. Highest rated applicants will receive most funds.



Eligibility Requirements

- Arizona 501(c)(3) organizations that operate with fiscal accountability and responsibility.
- Organization has been an established 501(c)(3) for at least 3 years.
- Funding cannot be used for a summer camp. Phoenix Suns Charities is a collaborative funder for the Summer Youth Program Fund which sole funds summer camps. To learn more about applying for summer camp funding, please visit www.azfoundation.org/grants.
- Funding must be used to serve only residents within the Arizona geographic boundaries.
- Phoenix Suns Charities does not sponsor tables or events.
- Organization must have a complete and visible profile on ACF's website: www.azfoundation.org (See "How to Apply Online" below). Organizations without a complete organizational profile by the application due date will be declined.
- Organization must demonstrate a non-discrimination policy regarding staff, employment, governing board and service based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability or national origin, and provide evidence of the policy.
- Organization must serve children/youth 18 years of age and under or families.
- Phoenix Suns Charities will accept one grant submission per 501c3 (A submission includes the application narrative and a video submission). Applicant organization must benefit and support children and families in Arizona.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can our organization apply for a Phoenix Suns Charities general grant if we are also applying for the Devin Booker Starting Five grant?

A: Yes, we encourage organizations to apply for both grants. Keep in mind that you must have received a Phoenix Suns Charities general grant in the past to qualify for a Devin Booker Starting Five grant.

Q: What question should the video answer?

A: Answer one question, "How does your mission impact the lives of children and families in need throughout Arizona."

Q: What other content will the review committee members want to assess?

A: The rubric will be based on impact, reach, and if the organization's mission aligns with the Phoenix Suns Charities mission. Some examples: Impact your mission has on the Arizona community. Your organizational reach, including number of kids/families served and geography. Demographics served.



Q: What is the required length of time for video?

A: No more than 90 seconds. If video goes over 90 seconds, it will result in an automatic denial. No exceptions.

Q: How much money should our organizations spend on executing this video?

A: Our hope is organizations will not spend any funds on this video. The sample videos were shot on an iPhone and edited in iMovie. The cost was \$0. Reach out to your networks for assistance. Interns and volunteers are great resources!

Q: Will Phoenix Suns Charities give preference to larger organizations with professional videos rather than the smaller organizations who can't portray services as well over smartphone?

A: No. The committee prefers to view authentic videos that focus on content, rather than production value.

Q: If awarded, can our organization use the grant monies received for overhead?

A: Yes. PSC is choosing to invest in your mission rather than a specific project. Funds are unrestricted.

Q: What are some platforms that can help an organization edit video footage?

A: Some examples are: Adobe Premiere Pro, Windows Movie Maker, Magisto, Lightworks, VSDC Free Video Editor, DaVinci Resolve, Filmora, Freemake, iMovie, Clipchamp, HitFilm Express, Blender, Media 100, Hippo Video, Media Compressor, Camtasia, WeVideo, Final Cut Pro X, PowerDirector, and Machete.

Q: Will PSC fund less organizations this year?

A: No. PSC will fund the same amount of agencies as in year's past.

Timeline for 2020 Grant Making

- Grant cycle opens **January 23, 2020**
- Applications are due by **5:00 pm on March 31, 2020**
- Grant awards and decline letters out in **November 2020**



Grant Deadline

Proposals must be submitted online by **5:00 pm on March 31, 2020. No exceptions.**

How to Apply Online

If your organization has an ACF profile:

Go to the Arizona Community Foundation's grants page on their website at www.azfoundation.org. Sign in with your login credentials to begin the application process. Be sure to update your organizational profile by clicking on your organization's name and ensuring the data entered is current. To begin an application, click "Start New Application" and select the grant program you are applying to.

If your organization does not have a registered ACF profile:

If your organization needs to be registered, please go to www.azfoundation.org and select "Grantee Login" to sign up. Once you are registered, you may begin the LOI or application process by starting a new application. You may also edit organizational information once you have logged in and attached your organization to your profile.

For assistance with technical questions regarding the online registration and application, please contact our Competitive Grants Management Team at grants@azfoundation.org or 602-381-1400.

Tips for Submitting

All users will be required to update and complete their organizational profile **before** being able to submit any grant application. If an incomplete organizational profile is submitted before the grant due date, your application will be declined.

- **Do not wait until the deadline date to set up your organization's profile and apply.**
- During the last week of any grant cycle's duration, due to the volume of inquiries, you will likely have limited access to ACF technical support so working in advance is strongly advised.
- It is recommended that the application be prepared offline in a text editor such as Microsoft Word to ensure a duplicate exists.
- There are new fields in the organizational profile to complete. Be sure to update and complete the profile before submitting your proposal.
- Narrative responses are limited to the maximum word count. You do not have to use all the words. Only provide information that is pertinent.
- Be sure to review applications for spelling and grammar errors.
- Be sure to check for an email notification indicating that your application has been submitted.



How to Get Help

Please contact ACF staff to discuss any part of the grant application process. Due to the high volume of calls and inquiries as the deadline nears, organizations are encouraged to contact staff well in advance of the deadline with any questions! During the last week of any grant cycle's duration, you will likely have limited access to ACF technical support.

For technical assistance with the web site, including organizational profile and the online application, please email grants@azfoundation.org or call (602) 381-1400.

Pre-Qualifying Questions

- Is the applicant organization (or fiscal sponsor, if applicable) an Arizona 501(c)(3) organization that operates with fiscal accountability and responsibility?
- Applicant organization understands that Phoenix Suns Charities will not fund summer camp programs through this grant cycle. Phoenix Suns Charities is a collaborative funding partner for the Summer Youth Program Fund (for more information visit www.azfoundation.org/grants)
- If funded, will 100% of those served reside within the Arizona geographic boundaries?
- Has the applicant organization been an established 501(c)(3) for at least three years?
- Have you downloaded the latest guidelines and question document, available by clicking on the Preview button above?
- Have you updated your browser? (We recommend using Google Chrome or the most updated version of Firefox. Please check the grant guidelines, which you can download by clicking on the Preview button above, for more information. It is not recommended that you use Internet Explorer.)
- Can the applicant organization demonstrate a non-discrimination policy regarding staff, employment, governing board and service based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability or national origin, and provide evidence of the policy?
- Does the applicant organization (and fiscal sponsor, if applicable) have a completed, up-to-date, and visible profile on this website? The organizational profile being used to submit the application has been fully updated to reflect the most current information about the applicant organization including a current up to date annual budget.
- Does your organization serve children/youth 18 years of age and under or families?
- Applicant organization agrees to upload a current signed and dated W-9 with the application.



- Does the applicant organization understand that missing or incomplete W-9's will result in immediate declination?

Application Questions

This is the 1st part of Phoenix Suns Charities' new application process. Application questions are to be completed only through the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) Grantee Portal.

Video submission

This is the 2nd part of Phoenix Suns Charities' new application process. A link to the Phoenix Suns Charities website will be sent after 1st part (application questions) has been completed through the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) Grantee Portal.