



## Grant Application 2026 FAQ

This FAQ is designed to help organizations preparing to apply for grants. It is not intended to replace the official Grant Criteria and Application Instructions.

### About the Grants

#### 1. Who is eligible to apply?

- Eligible applicants must:
  - Be a tax-exempt organization (generally 501(c)(3))
  - Provide services within Kentucky
  - Have a law-related purpose that advances access to justice or public understanding of the legal system
- Organizations or projects that do not meet these criteria are not eligible.
- Please review the published Grant Criteria for full eligibility requirements.

#### 2. What types of projects or programs are funded?

- Grants typically support civil legal services, law-related public education, and programs that improve access to justice for low-income or underserved Kentuckians. Funding priorities are outlined in the Grant Criteria and may change from year to year. Generally, therapy and building campaigns have not been funded. You may find it helpful to review the [2025 grants](#) awarded.

#### 3. Are grants available for general operating support?

- Some grants fund general operating support, while others fund project-specific initiatives.

### The Application Process

#### 4. Where do I find the application?

- The application and instructions are available on our website at [www.kybarfoundation.org/grants](http://www.kybarfoundation.org/grants). **Starting in 2026, all applications need to be submitted electronically through a Microsoft Word Form.**

#### 5. Is there a deadline?

- Yes. The final deadline to submit a completed application is **March 2, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. ET**. Late applications will not be accepted.
- 6. Can I save my application and return to it later?**
- Yes. The electronic form allows you to save progress and return before final submission.
- 7. May I submit more than one application?**
- Organizations should submit only one application per grant program unless explicitly instructed otherwise.

## Required Information & Attachments

- 8. What documents are required?**
- **2026 Change:** We no longer require any attached documents. The Kentucky Bar Foundation reserves the right to request a copy of the most recent audit or additional financial documentation if needed.
- 9. What financial period should the budget cover?**
- Budgets should reflect the grant period specified in the application instructions and clearly show how grant funds will be used.

## Writing a Strong Application

- 10. What makes an application competitive?**
- Competitive applications typically include:
    - Clearly defined project objectives and budget
    - A realistic timeline
    - Measurable outcomes
    - A well-researched statement of need
    - Evidence of sustainability or long-term impact
  - Reviewers look for clarity, feasibility, and alignment with the Foundation's mission.
  - Strong applications clearly:
    - Align with the grant's stated priorities
    - Demonstrate need and impact
    - Explain how funds will be used
    - Show organizational capacity and accountability
- 11. How detailed should responses be?**
- Clear, concise answers are preferred over lengthy narratives. Answer each question fully, but stay within the space provided.
- 12. Should we assume reviewers know our organization?**
- No. Even if you are a returning grantee, assume reviewers are learning about your organization for the first time.

## Review & Award Process

### 13. How are applications reviewed?

- Applications are reviewed by staff and/or volunteer reviewers and evaluated using the published Grant Criteria. Recommendations are then presented to the appropriate governing body for final approval.

### 14. When will applicants be notified?

- Applicants will be notified after the review and approval process is complete. Notification timelines are included in the application materials.

### 15. If we are not funded, can we reapply in the future?

- Yes. Organizations that are not funded are encouraged to apply again in future grant cycles.

## After a Grant Is Awarded

### 16. What are the reporting requirements?

- Successful grantees are required to submit:
  - An interim report (required of new grantees or those awarded a grant \$5000 or more).
  - A final report
  - The reports should detail use of funds and program outcomes, as outlined in the grant agreement and include at least one success story or impact narrative.

### 17. May grant funds be reallocated?

- Any significant changes to the approved project or budget must be approved in advance by the Kentucky Bar Foundation. Unspent funds may be subject to reimbursement policies outlined in the grant agreement.

## Getting Help

### 18. Can I ask questions before submitting my application?

- Absolutely. We encourage applicants to reach out with questions well before the deadline. Please contact [sduncan@kybar.org](mailto:sduncan@kybar.org) with any questions.

### 19. Where can I find additional guidance?

- Applicants are encouraged to watch the [2025 Grant Application Q&A video](#) and review all posted instructions and criteria carefully before applying.