

# Youth Grant Committee

## 2012 Grant application instructions



Grand Rapids  
community foundation  
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### About the Grand Rapids Community Foundation's Youth Grant Committee (YGC)

The Grand Rapids Community Foundation's YGC is responsible for developing grant recommendations for the annual distribution of income from the Foundation's Youth Fund. This Fund was established by a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and is held in permanent endowment for projects and programs that benefit youth. YGC members identify issues of concern to youth in the community by surveying their peers and prepare a grant application that addresses the identified issue areas. Finally, members review the grant proposals received and make funding recommendations to the Grand Rapids Community Foundation's Board of Trustees.

### What types of projects may be funded?

A total of \$45,000 is available to assist with the enhancement or implementation of youth-serving programs. Primary consideration will be given (but not limited to) programs or projects that **address these issues faced by youth:**

- **succeeding academically and getting into college**
- **coping with family issues such as divorce or job loss,**
- **feelings of depression, not "fitting in," low self-esteem**
- **engaging in risky behavior (including sexual activity and use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs).**

Average size of grants awarded is \$3,000. In a survey of conducted in the fall of 2010 by members of the YGC, the types of programs that youth identified as most helpful in addressing these issues were:

- Competitive sports
- Arts, writing, or music-focused activities
- Jobs and career options; career preparation
- Navigating the path to college
- Outdoor activities, camps, challenge courses
- Service opportunities and volunteering

### Who is eligible to apply?

Student groups and local non-profit organizations (including churches, schools, government agencies, and community groups with a 501(C)(3) non-profit status) may apply for grants for programs that benefit youth in the Grand Rapids area. The YGC values projects that promote inclusiveness and that do not discriminate in hiring of staff or providing services on the basis of race, gender, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, age, national origin or disability. Applications from religious organizations for a non-religious purpose will be considered.

### When are proposals due?

Grant applications must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, February 13, 2012. The on-line grant application can be accessed at [www.grfoundation.org/youthlist](http://www.grfoundation.org/youthlist). Decisions will be announced in May 2012.

### What makes a good grant proposal?

Historically, the Youth Grant Committee has looked more favorably on proposals for projects that:

- Have a clear-cut, organized goal with foreseeable long-term benefits for youth in the greater Grand Rapids area.
- Are original, unique, well-written and CREATIVE!
- Involve youth in program development and/or implementation.
- Address a need area identified in our survey, and benefit a significant number of youth.
- Have limited funds and lack of other resources.

### Project Budget

The online application includes a project budget. List all expenses and income sources for your project. **Specify EXACTLY how requested grant funds will be used.** Be detailed (i.e.; 25 calculators @ \$10 each=\$250.00)

### The deadline to submit all application materials is 11:59 p.m. on Monday, February 13, 2012.

For questions related to the content of your proposal, call Cris Kooyer at 454-1751, or [ckooyer@grfoundation.org](mailto:ckooyer@grfoundation.org). For technical questions about the online system, call Ann Puckett at 616-454-1751, ext. 111 or [apuckett@grfoundation.org](mailto:apuckett@grfoundation.org).