

Youth Advisory Committee

2012 Grant application instructions



About the Sparta Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)

The Sparta Community Foundation YAC is responsible for developing grant recommendations for the distribution of the Foundation's Youth Fund. Committee members represent the students of Sparta High School. The YAC is a permanent standing committee of the Sparta Community Foundation. Students meet monthly throughout the school year. They identify issues of concern to youth in the community by surveying their peers make funding recommendations to the Sparta Community Foundation's Board of Trustees. Income from the Youth Fund is distributed on an annual basis to programs that address those specific needs identified by the YAC.

What types of projects may be funded?

The YAC is seeking to fund projects or programs that positively impact youth in the Sparta community. Groups serving youth up to age 20 are invited to apply. The YAC is interested in programs or activities that address:

- Alcohol and drug use (including smoking)
- Time management related to academics, employment, and other activities
- Coping with external pressures from and conflicting expectations of family and peers
- Sexual activity, teen pregnancy, harassment
- Impaired driving
- Increasing awareness of diversity
- Depression, self-esteem, and body image

The projects should be youth initiated and youth driven. There is a total of \$2,000 is available for grants.

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 Sparta. The YAC 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 online grant application can be accessed at www.grfoundation.org/youthlist. Applicants will be notified of the YAC's decision in May 2012.

Helpful hints

- Follow the directions carefully, and respond clearly to each of the questions listed at right.
- The project should have a clear-cut, organized goal with foreseeable long-term benefits for area youth.
- The project should address an identified need and make a significant impact on youth in Sparta.
- The project should have limited funds or lack other resources.
- The proposal should be very descriptive.

Project Budget

The online application includes a project budget. List all expenses and income sources for your project. **Specify EXACTLY how grant funds will be used.** Be as detailed as possible (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.

Additional questions?

For **technical** questions about the online application, call Cris Kooyer at 616-454-1751, ext. 118. For questions related to the content of your proposal, call Blake Schanski, YAC Advisor blake.schanski@staff.spartaschools.org.