



2010 Healthiest State Grants 9 Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Must the applicant have 501(c)(3) tax status?**
No, but the applicant does need to have non-profit or government agency tax status.
2. **Can for-profit companies receive WHF grant funds?**
While for-profit groups may not apply for the grants, a non-profit grant recipient may choose to subcontract with for-profit groups for services, materials or other goods related directly to the grant project.
3. **Is it important for applicants to join the Healthiest State in the Nation Campaign?**
Yes. The Washington Health Foundation works with its partners to help make Washington the Healthiest State in the Nation. Only organizations that have joined the campaign as "Participating Organizations" are eligible to apply for Healthiest State Grants. If your organization has not yet joined, we urge you to do so now by logging on to HealthiestState.org.
4. **What is your definition of rural?**
Communities with populations of less than 50,000 are considered rural. Rural communities suffer greater resource constraints than those in which a significant percentage of the population commutes to urban areas to work.
5. **What about collaborations between rural communities and urban agencies?**
We have received inquiries from a number of small communities located close to larger urban areas and major freeways and highways. While we are not excluding applications from these areas we will consider carefully such questions as:
 - 1) Is the project being led by groups based in the small community (as opposed to an agency located in an urban area)?
 - 2) Is the project a high priority for residents of the small community?
 - 3) Are residents of the small community prepared to sustain the effort after funding?
 - 4) Are organizational partners from the urban areas planning to support and build on the project in other small communities in the region?
6. **What is the average amount WHF expects to award?**
 - **Mini Grants** -- We expect most awards to range from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Requests will be accepted for amounts between \$1,000 and \$15,000.
7. **How much organizational match is required for the project?**
 - **Mini Grants** -- No match is required for Healthiest State Mini Grants. Nevertheless, a match contribution – in the form of cash, services or supplies – does demonstrate investment in the project and is one sign that the project may be sustained after the period of grant funding. You may strengthen your proposal by showing match.

- In general, organizations giving the match will be able to tell you its value. If you have questions about how to figure out the value of match being committed, please contact Katharine Sanders by email at KatharineS@whf.org or by phone at (206)285-6355 x 6116.

8. What else are you looking for in applications?

- **Active engagement in the Healthiest State in the Nation Campaign** - Engagement might include use of Healthiest State tools in your current project and promotion of the Healthiest State Campaign, website and tools to individuals and organizations in your community through community newsletters, radio and other media." To strengthen your proposal, specify in which Healthiest State Campaign activities you participated in the past and how you plan to use tools and resources on the Healthiest State website in the future. WHF can work with you on how these opportunities can help to make your project a success.
- **Health Disparities** – Applications submitted by organizations led by and that serve racial and ethnic minority groups are of particular interest to WHF. Proposals submitted from geographic communities which include 10% or greater racial and ethnic minority populations are expected to address health disparities.
- **Evidence of importance and opportunity** – Applications should describe and quantify to the extent possible the issue to be addressed by the proposed project, how many people will be affected and the impact the proposed change will have on individuals, their families and the community. Applications should also describe what combination of events, leadership, resources and other factors make this the right time to embark on the project.
- **Rationale for your approach** – If you are proposing an approach that has proven to be successful in other settings, please refer to it. If you are proposing a totally new approach, explain in as concrete terms as possible what makes you believe it will be successful. We encourage applicants to draw on a variety of resources including My Health Home <http://www.whf.org/my-health>; local community health assessments; State Department of Health plans addressing health issues including physical activity, nutrition, diabetes and prevention of tobacco use www.doh.wa.gov; and national research such as *The Guide to Community Preventive Services* published by Oxford University Press and on the web at www.thecommunityguide.org. We encourage applicants to consult with local public health departments, community colleges and universities in planning the initiative and evaluating its impact.

9. Will you talk with us about our ideas?

Yes! We encourage all applicants to e-mail us proposal ideas before you invest time writing your application. If your ideas appear to fit the guidelines we will set up a time to talk with you. We will not write the application for you; however, we are happy to talk and make suggestions as you write. For more information contact Katharine Sanders: KatharineS@whf.org.