Youth Engaged in Philanthropy (YEP) Grant Guidelines

Youth Engaged in Philanthropy (YEP) is a DeKalb County Community Foundation initiative designed to stimulate and develop the spirit of philanthropy in young people and to inspire a lifelong interest and a commitment to serving others in its youth members.

Guidelines and Eligibility:

Grant applications are due on February 1 of each year and will be reviewed by members of the YEP committee. All requests must be submitted online. A site visit or applicant presentation is required for all applicants. YEP grants are project or program specific and expected to be completed within one year.

YEP Grantmaking Priorities:

- Be a Youth Initiative
  - Youth must be directly involved in the development and/or implementation of the project. Projects may occur in the areas of Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education, Environment & Animal Welfare, or Health & Human Services. Preference will be given to innovative programs or projects.
  - Grant awards are limited to a maximum of $2,500 per project.

- Respect Equal Opportunity
  - Projects must respect diversity and inclusiveness.

- Dedicated to Community
  - The project must be in response to a legitimate need in the community and benefit youth in DeKalb County.

- Have Accountability
  - Applicants must have a nonprofit fiscal sponsor and demonstrate a realistic plan with a clear set of goals.
  - Applicants will need to report any alterations of their project plans after submission of the application and the changes will need to be approved by the YEP committee.
  - Applicants should be willing to meet with YEP representatives either as part of the application process or for a site visit to evaluate the project.
  - Applicants will be expected to complete a grant report on the success of the project.

- Show Promotion of the 40 Developmental Assets™
  - The projects must be consistent with the YEP’s dedication to youth empowerment, promotion of youth leadership, and the strengthening of youth involvement in the DeKalb County community as reflected in the Search Institute’s Developmental Assets™ framework. The grant application requires knowledge of the 40 Developmental Assets™. For more information, visit: https://dekalbccf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/40AssetsList.pdf
Projects Generally Not Funded:

While the Community Foundation remains flexible in meeting community needs, Youth Engaged in Philanthropy Grants generally do not fund:

- Operational phases of established programs
- Personnel and/or administrative costs associated with programs or projects
- Religious purposes (however, grants can be given to religious organizations for non-religious purposes, or facilities such as day-care centers that have non-profit status independent from a sponsoring church or religious organization)
- Purchase of advertising
- Capital or operational debt reduction
- Any political campaign or to support attempts to influence legislative issues of any government body
- Specific individuals
- Consumable items

YEP Grantmaking Goal:

Our goal is to assess community youth needs, create clear criteria for grants, and review and evaluate proposals thoroughly. YEP members make grants to support good ideas that will make a difference in our community.

All applications due online by 11:59 p.m. on February 1.

For more information, contact:

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