



Youth Engaged in Philanthropy **YEP GRANT GUIDELINES**

Youth Engaged in Philanthropy (YEP) is a youth-led committee of the DeKalb County Community Foundation, designed to encourage and develop the practice of philanthropy in young adults. YEP inspires a lifelong interest and a commitment to serving others in the community with a focus on youth impact.

Guidelines and Eligibility:

Nonprofit organizations and eligible community organizations are invited to apply for a YEP Grant, up to \$2,500, for programs and projects that impact youth in DeKalb County. Grant applications are due on February 1 of each year and are reviewed by members of the YEP committee. All grant requests must be submitted online. A site visit or presentation is required for all applicants. YEP Grants are project or program specific. A grant report is due by February 1 of the year following the receipt of funding. Grant reports not completed on time may affect future funding for your organization. If an extension is required, please contact us.

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 is given** to innovative programs or projects.
 - **Preference is given** to applications submitted by youth applicant or that show strong youth involvement in the project planning process.
 - **Grants are limited to a maximum of \$2,500 per project.**
- Respect Equitable Opportunity
 - Projects must respect diversity, equity, and inclusion.
 - **Preference is given** to programs or projects that work to strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion among youth in DeKalb County.
- Dedicated to Community (DeKalb County, IL)
 - The project must be in response to a legitimate youth need or direct youth benefit in DeKalb County, IL.
- Have Accountability
 - Applicants must have a nonprofit fiscal sponsor and demonstrate a realistic plan with a clear set of goals.
 - Applicants need to report any alterations of their project plans after submission of the application and the changes 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 program or project.
 - **Applicants who receive funding are expected to complete a grant report on the project's success by February 1 the following year.**
- Demonstrate Promotion of the 40 Developmental Assets™
 - The projects should be consistent with the YEP's dedication to youth empowerment, promotion of youth leadership, and the strengthening of youth involvement 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, in general, YEP 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.
- 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.

Applications are due online by 11:59 p.m. on February 1.

For more information, contact:

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External Assets

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| Support | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family support—Family life provides high levels of love and support. 2. Positive family communication—Young person and her or his parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek advice and counsel from parents. 3. Other adult relationships—Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults. 4. Caring neighborhood—Young person experiences caring neighbors. 5. Caring school climate—School provides a caring, encouraging environment. 6. Parent involvement in schooling—Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school. |
| Empowerment | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Community values youth—Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth. 8. Youth as resources—Young people are given useful roles in the community. 9. Service to others—Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week. 10. Safety—Young person feels safe at home, school, and in the neighborhood. |
| Boundaries & Expectations | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Family boundaries—Family has clear rules and consequences and monitors the young person's whereabouts. 12. School Boundaries—School provides clear rules and consequences. 13. Neighborhood boundaries—Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior. 14. Adult role models—Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior. 15. Positive peer influence—Young person's best friends model responsible behavior. 16. High expectations—Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well. |
| Constructive Use of Time | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. Creative activities—Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts. 18. Youth programs—Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs, or organizations at school and/or in the community. 19. Religious community—Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in a religious institution. 20. Time at home—Young person is out with friends “with nothing special to do” two or fewer nights per week. |

Internal Assets

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| Commitment to Learning | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 21. Achievement Motivation—Young person is motivated to do well in school. 22. School Engagement—Young person is actively engaged in learning. 23. Homework—Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day. 24. Bonding to school—Young person cares about her or his school. 25. Reading for Pleasure—Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week. |
| Positive Values | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 26. Caring—Young person places high value on helping other people. 27. Equality and social justice—Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty. 28. Integrity—Young person acts on convictions and stands up for her or his beliefs. 29. Honesty—Young person “tells the truth even when it is not easy.” 30. Responsibility—Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility. 31. Restraint—Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs. |
| Social Competencies | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 32. Planning and decision making—Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices. 33. Interpersonal Competence—Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills. 34. Cultural Competence—Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds. 35. Resistance skills—Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations. 36. Peaceful conflict resolution—Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently. |
| Positive Identity | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 37. Personal power—Young person feels he or she has control over “things that happen to me.” 38. Self-esteem—Young person reports having a high self-esteem. 39. Sense of purpose—Young person reports that “my life has a purpose.” 40. Positive view of personal future—Young person is optimistic about her or his personal future. |