



GRANTS POLICY

The purpose of the Grants Policy is to ensure that all Catholic Community Foundation of Minnesota (“CCF”) grants are made in a manner consistent with donor intent and the mission of CCF, which is to support financially the spiritual, educational and social needs of our Catholic community. The policy also ensures that Donor Advised Funds are administered in a way that provides donors the opportunity to make grantee recommendations while ensuring CCF retains the final authority to determine the use and distribution of the grant.

GUIDELINES FOR GRANTMAKING

Potential grant recipients will be evaluated with adherence to CCF’s Grantee Screening Procedures to ensure:

1. That the recipient is a qualified tax-exempt charitable organization.
2. That the grant will not fund programs or activities antithetical to Catholic Social Teaching.

All distributions will be made in accordance with any donor-imposed restrictions.

Consistent with CCF’s Mission:

1. At least 50% of the grants awarded by CCF in any three-year period should be made to organizations within the state of Minnesota.
2. At least 50% of the total amount of grants awarded by CCF in any three-year period should be made to Catholic organizations or those that are intrinsically aligned with the philosophy and teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.
3. If the total grants fall below 65% in either category the Grants Committee will make a recommendation to the Board about taking steps to reconnect donors and mission.
4. Extraordinary grants can be exempted from the calculation with approval of the Grants Committee

FUND CATEGORIES

A. DONOR-DIRECTED FUNDS

1. **Community Endowments** are funds whereby the grant distribution is made to one named organization or multiple named organizations, as specified by the donor when the fund is established. Specified distributions may include unrestricted grants to CCF or one of its Fully Discretionary or Field of Interest Funds (see CCF-Directed).
2. **Beneficiary Endowed Funds (aka Institutional Endowments)** are legally the asset of the Foundation and the grants are distributed only to the organization that established the endowment. These funds begin issuing annual distributions only if the value of the historical gift or combined with appreciated value reaches \$50,000. (Note: These funds are carried as a liability on the Foundation's Statement of Financial Position)
3. **Donor Advised Funds** are established by written agreement whereby the donor (or the designated recommending body) has the privilege to make recommendations as to the charitable beneficiaries of grant distributions. The recommendations are advisory only. Donor Advised Funds may be non-endowed (provisional) or endowed. If non-endowed, the grant distribution may include income, principal or both from the fund. Endowed Donor Advised Funds will follow the CCF Endowment Spending Policy.
4. **Institutional Advised Funds** are legally the asset of the Foundation and the grants are distributed only to the organization that established the endowment, but unlike Beneficiary Endowed funds, grant distribution may include income, principal or both.
5. **Field of Interest Funds** are established by written agreement whereby an Advisory Committee appointed by CCF according to the guidelines of the fund has the privilege to make recommendations as to the charitable beneficiaries of grant distributions within the specified field of interest. The recommendations are advisory only.

B. CCF-DIRECTED FUNDS

1. **Field of Interest Endowment Funds** (including but not limited to Tuition Assistance Funds, Community Priorities Fund, Family of Faith Funds, and Growing in Faith Fund) are funds whereby the grant distribution is made within the field or area of interest as specified in the fund agreement by the donor or campaign.
2. **Fully Discretionary (Impact) Funds** provide the Foundation with the flexibility to direct grants to current needs. They come from direct gifts or distributions from endowments or Donor Advised Funds where the donor has put no restrictions on the charitable use of the grant. The staff will make recommendations to the Grants Committee for use of these funds, according to the goals and directives of the Grants Committee and the Board.
3. **Unrestricted Funds** are completely unrestricted and are granted at the President's discretion, such as the President's Fund and the Opportunity Reserve Fund. See individual fund agreements for process restrictions.

APPROVALS, RATIFICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Approvals

The Grants Committee shall approve all grant recommendations, including Field of Interest Funds (which includes Tuition Assistance and Community Priorities) and Fully Discretionary Funds.

Donor Advised Fund Ratifications and Delegation

1. Donor Advised Fund grants of up to \$50,000 must be approved by the President or Vice-President of Development & Donor Engagement. Donor Advised Fund grants over \$50,000 must be approved by two of the following: President, Grants Committee Chair, or Vice Chair of the Board.
2. All Donor Advised Fund grants must be submitted to the Grants Committee for review and ratification of the decisions of management at its next regular meeting or by email if there is no meeting within a quarter.

Recommendations

The Grants Committees shall review and recommend for Executive Committee approval:

1. Redirection of designated beneficiary, per fund agreement or donor request, with input from CCF Staff
2. Changes to the Grants Policy