



# Small But Mighty: Mini and Small Grant Guide

For Troop Leaders, Service  
Unit Managers, and Scouts

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# What Are Mini-Grants And Small Grants?

- Mini-grants are grants up to \$1,000 that you may apply for directly with Council support as needed.
- Small grants are grants up to \$5,000 that you may apply for directly. Typically these grants are more detailed, require more time, & close communication with Council.

# Can I Apply For A Grant Even If I Have No Prior Experience With Grants?

- **Yes!** Grants can be a great option if you have a project that needs funds or supplies beyond your current revenue from dues, cookie sales, or troop sponsorships.
- Each of the ***Small but Mighty*** grants are clear, fit with Girl Scout curricula, and will be easy to work with, even if you have little or no grant experience!

# Why Might I Apply For A Grant?

- You have a big idea for a troop or SU campout, and need more funds to finance it.
- You have a girl in your troop who is working on a service project and needs some supplies/funding.
- You want to host an event to help make the community a better place and need some money to get started.

# How Do I Apply For a Grant?

- First, fill out an application of intent—either a troop/SU application or an individual application—so that GSWNY knows you are interested in applying for a grant. This application does not obligate you to apply for that grant if you change your mind.
- Then, follow the application guidelines for the grant you have selected.
- Contact your Service Unit Support Specialist or other GSWNY staff member if you encounter any problems.

# Some Things to Keep in Mind

- Have fun with the process! Writing a grant can help you clarify thinking, take project ideas further, and build your team.
- Applying for a grant does not guarantee an award, so it's important to keep developing diverse funding sources for your activities.
- Council is your partner! We will assist you as needed and monitor applications across all of our counties to support quality, equity, and good relations with funders.
- If an award is granted, Council will process the award and get it to you within two weeks. You will implement your project and report back on how it goes.

# How Do I Know Which Grant Is Right For *My* Needs?

- Select one of the following to be shown grants related to your activities and see if you are eligible to apply for funding.

Bronze/Silver/Gold  
Service Projects

Troop/SU Service  
Projects

S.T.E.M Focus

Green/Environmental  
Focus

Sports Focus

# Bronze/Silver/Gold Service Projects

- **Youth Microgrant Program** (Applications are due January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1, annually)
  - The Karma for Cara Foundation encourages children up to age 18 to apply for funds to complete service projects in their communities. The foundation supports three goals: supporting youth engagement and service, recognizing unsung heroes in service, and reducing the suffering of cancer patients and their families. The foundation considers service projects such as turning a vacant lot into a community garden, rebuilding school playgrounds, or helping senior citizens get their homes ready for winter.
- **The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes** (Applications are due April 15 annually)
  - The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes celebrates inspiring, public-spirited, highly diverse young people from all across America. Each year, the prize honors outstanding young leaders aged 8 to 18 that have made a significant positive difference to people, their communities, and the environment. The top winners each receive a cash award to support their service work or higher education.
- **Community Service Grants** (Applications are rolling)
  - WaysToHelp.org invites high school students no older than 19 years old (on the day they apply) in the United States to apply for grants to fund their community service ideas across any one of 16 issue areas in four categories: 1) The Environment: global warming, clean water, land preservation, and recycling, 2) Democracy and Equality: education and development, gender equality, homelessness and poverty, and financial well-being, 3) Health: HIV/AIDS, cancer/smoking, organ and blood donation, and general fitness, and 4) Community Issues: drug/alcohol abuse, crime prevention, animal welfare, and senior care.
- **Frank M. & Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation Grants** (Applications are due July 1 annually)
  - The Frank M. & Gertrude R. Doyle Foundation's mission is to promote communities of productivity and prosperity with access to education and advancement. The foundation offers grants in the areas of education, health, and the environment. Previous grants were used to fund elementary and high schools, environmental protection organizations, and Girl Scout organizations.



# Troop/Service Unit Service Projects

- **Civic Engagement and Environmental Impact Grants**  
(Applications are due February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1, annually)
  - The First Solar Corporate Charitable Fund of the Toledo Community Foundation, Inc. focuses its grant making on programs that support green education initiatives, access to clean energy and water in underserved areas, and furthering the development of innovative and sustainable technologies. Priority is given to organizations that make a significant impact in communities that share these giving values.
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# S.T.E.M. Focus

- **ecoTech Grants** (Application is due March 15 annually)
  - CPF is offering grants through a competitive program for schools and nonprofit organizations. Grants are awarded to support inquiry-based projects in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields that leverage technology or use nature-based designs to address environmental problems in local communities.
- **Computer Grants** (Applications are due March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 15 annually)
  - InterConnection offers used desktops and laptops to provide technology training, health care, education, and job training to underserved populations. Interested applicants may request up to 20 computers.

# Green/Environmental Focus

- **Lead2Feed Challenge** (Application is due first Friday in April annually)
  - The Lead2Feed Challenge was created to encourage middle and high school students to hone leadership skills by completing a service-learning project that solves community needs. Full-time students in grades 6 through 12 of a public, private, or charter school, and students aged 11 to 18 who are members of a local club or service organization, are eligible to apply. Entries are to be submitted by a team of eligible students, consisting of at least three students with a sponsoring classroom teacher, or club members with an adult advisor.
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- **GreenWorks! Grants** (Application is due September 30<sup>th</sup> annually)
  - GreenWorks! Grants are awarded for service-learning projects in environmental education. Activities such as school recycling programs, conserving water and energy, establishing school gardens and outdoor classrooms, improving a forest, and restoring a natural habitat are all eligible for funding. Applicants must have attended or be registered to attend a traditional or online Project Learning Tree (PLT) workshop at the time of the application deadline.

# Sports Focus

- **Sports Equipment Grants** (Applications are rolling)
  - Good Sports is a nonprofit organization that partners with sporting goods manufacturers to provide equipment, apparel, and footwear to programs in need that engage disadvantaged young people in sports activities.

Previous recipients have ranged from an eight-member rural youth basketball team to 16,000 children in a Boys and Girls Club program. Good Sports has provided required items for 22 different sports, ranging from basketball to boating, gymnastics to soccer, and volleyball to yoga.

Approved organizations gain access to a catalog of available inventory, which display equipment, apparel, and footwear that are currently available. Grant recipients are responsible for shipping fees and an administrative fee of 10 percent of the retail value of the donated equipment/apparel (an organization receiving a donation of \$2,000 worth of equipment is subject to a \$200 administrative fee) after an application has been approved.