

# Mecklenburg County - Community Service Grants (CSG)

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **What is the CSG program?**

The Community Service Grant (CSG) Program is an opportunity for Mecklenburg County to partner with nonprofit organizations by providing a one-year grant that is awarded through a competitive application process.

### **Who can apply?**

Nonprofit organizations offering programs that serve Mecklenburg County residents. Programs must be aligned to one of four focus areas, including: Health Community, Connected Community, Safe Community, and Economic Opportunities.

### **What are the organizational eligibility requirements for the program?**

Organizations must: 1. Serve the residents of Mecklenburg County; 2. Be a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit with the IRS; 3. Have financial statements audited by independent CPA; 4. Documents supporting a diversified workforce (EEO policy); 5. Professional membership that supports organizational sustainability; 6. Active registration with NC Secretary of State.

### **When can organizations apply?**

The application period typically begins in the fall and is open for one month. Interested organizations may attend an information session that is typically scheduled in October or early November to learn more about the program and receive instructions on how to apply.

### **Is there a minimum or maximum award?**

No, there is no minimum or maximum amount that an organization may request. Organizations should be able to clearly identify how awarded funds will be used to serve community needs. A list of currently funded organizations can be viewed here: <https://www.mecknc.gov/CountyManagersOffice/OMB/Pages/Currently-Funded-CSGs.aspx>

### **How are grant awards distributed?**

The CSG program operates on a quarterly reimbursement model, meaning that organizations must submit a summary of actual quarterly expenses to receive reimbursement. Funding is not provided in advance.

### **What kind of reporting will the organization have to do?**

To receive reimbursement, grant recipients will be required to provide a quarterly invoice as well as a report of actual expenses aligned to the budget proposed in the awarded grant application. Recipients are also required to provide quarterly reports on performance measures established during the application process. These items will be reviewed by County staff prior to payment.

### **Is there a limit for how long a program can receive funds?**

Grants last for a period of one year. Programs (not organizations) that are awarded funding for three consecutive fiscal years will be sunset from the CSG program. Sunset programs can be considered as potential vendors that support a Mecklenburg County department strategic plan.

### **Where can an organization go to get more information?**

Questions can be directed to [grants@mecknc.gov](mailto:grants@mecknc.gov). Further information is available here: <https://www.mecknc.gov/CountyManagersOffice/OMB/Pages/Grants.aspx>