

## 2025 Centre Gives Nonprofit Participation Guidelines

### Organizational Eligibility

To participate in Centre Gives, an organization must:

- Be a **501(c)(3) public charity** in good standing with the IRS. Organizations must maintain their 501(c)(3) status throughout the event and subsequent grant distribution period and must alert Centre Foundation to any changes in their status as soon as possible.
- Be registered with the **Bureau of Charitable Organizations (BCO)** to raise funds in Pennsylvania. Some types of organizations are exempt. If you are unsure or need to verify your status, contact the Bureau directly at (800) 732-0999 or by email to [ST-CHARITY@pa.gov](mailto:ST-CHARITY@pa.gov).
- Be a local organization whose primary purpose is to serve the local area.
- Agree to use all money raised during Centre Gives – donations, stretch pool funds, and prize money – to serve residents of Centre County through programs which comply with Centre Foundation’s Nondiscrimination Policy.
- Apply to, and upon approval, receive an invitation to participate in Centre Gives from Centre Foundation.
- Complete an organization profile on Centre Gives website.
- Agree to abide by all guidelines, rules, and eligibility requirements.

The following organizations are not eligible to participate in Centre Gives:

- Government or educational entities with taxing authority.
- Organizations designated by the IRS as private non-operating foundations.

### Terms of Participation

1. Centre Gives is a 36-hour online giving event hosted by Centre Foundation which provides discretionary grants to participating charitable organizations in the form of designated donations, pro-rated stretch pool funds, and prizes.
2. Participating charitable organizations are defined as organizations which have applied, been invited to participate, and have executed a Centre Gives 2025 Nonprofit Participation Contract.
3. A donor is defined as an individual or corporation/business. Donors are encouraged to make gifts to multiple organizations. Charitable organizations are prohibited from donating to themselves.

4. For the purposes of awarding prizes, a unique donor is intended to be defined as one individual. The primary method of determining a unique donor is an algorithm that considers many data points, including first and last name, credit card number, and address. Centre Foundation monitors donation activity and reserves the right to make the final determination regarding the number of unique donors to an organization.
5. Centre Foundation will provide a \$200,000 stretch pool to be granted on a pro-rated basis. Participating organizations will receive a share of the stretch pool based on their percentage of total qualifying contributions. The minimum qualifying contribution is \$10.00. The maximum qualifying contribution is \$10,000. Individuals/corporations may give more than \$10,000 to any single organization, but only the first \$10,000 will qualify for stretch pool funds. Additionally, no single organization will be granted more than 10% of the stretch pool.
6. Centre Foundation will provide an additional \$100,000 bonus stretch pool to be granted on a pro-rated basis. Participating organizations will receive a share of the stretch pool based on their percentage of total qualifying contributions up to \$5,000. All other stretch pool terms apply.
7. Credit or debit card donations received through CentreGives.org during the 36-hour period (8 a.m. Wednesday, May 14 – 8 p.m. Thursday, May 15) will be eligible for the pro-rated stretch pools for this event. Additionally, anyone who holds a Donor-Advised Fund at Centre Foundation will be able to recommend distributions prior to the event. Centre Foundation will also accept gifts of stock and Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) from IRAs for the event until April 25, 2025. These distributions will qualify for the stretch pool through Centre Gives. Cash or check donations cannot be accepted.
8. The participation fee, which helps cover both website hosting and (for credit and debit transactions) credit card processing costs, will be 5% of credit and debit card donations, and 2% of stock and QCD from IRA donations. These will be subtracted from the total amount raised.
9. Each gift is tax-deductible and irrevocable. Centre Foundation will provide each donor a receipt indicating no goods or services were provided in exchange for these contributions. As such – donors may not receive anything but a small item or other benefit of token value in exchange for their contributions. Organizations may not offer non-token gifts, memberships in excess of \$75.00 (per [IRS Membership Benefits Exception](#)), raffle tickets, lottery tickets or entries for other games of chance as a benefit in exchange for donations during Centre Gives, as these are specifically excluded as tax-deductible contributions by the Internal Revenue Service.

10. Centre Foundation values donor privacy. Donor names may be recognized in the Centre Foundation publications, websites, or other forms of public recognition – unless the gift is designated as anonymous. Nonprofit organizations receiving donations during Centre Gives will receive the name, email, phone number, billing address, and contribution amount of each donor. Anonymous donors' information will not be shared with the recipient organization. Centre Foundation does not retain credit card information; donors' personal data will not be shared with or sold to any outside vendor or third party, except to provide requested donor services.
11. An organization can win a maximum of one Power Hour prize per day but can be eligible for additional random prizes. Final prize distributions may differ from leaderboard results, as all donations are subject to verification. Centre Foundation will strive to confirm and announce all prize recipients within three business days.
12. Approximately one month after Centre Gives, Centre Foundation will be prepared to distribute payments to participating organizations via check or electronic funds transfer via ACH. Receipt of the payment will occur after the organization returns a fully executed disbursement form, which details the total amount raised by the organization, any prizes awarded to the organization, the share of the stretch pool that the organization earned, and the applicable participation fees charged to the organization.
13. Centre Foundation reserves the right to disqualify any organization from participating in the event and/or receiving stretch pool dollars or prizes at any time before, during, or after the event, if, in its sole discretion, it believes that there has been a breach of rules and/ or deception on the part of the organization.

*Certain other conditions may apply, and determination of compliance with any and all conditions of the grant, interpretation of grant conditions, and determination of the amount to be disbursed to any grantee shall be within the sole discretion of Centre Foundation.*



# Centre Foundation

## Nondiscrimination Policy

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### **Grantmaking**

The Centre Foundation actively seeks to promote access, equity, and inclusiveness, and to discourage discrimination that denies the essential humanity of all people. Therefore, Centre Foundation has adopted this policy regarding grants made from, or approved by, Centre Foundation.

### **I. GRANTS FROM DONOR ADVISED FUNDS, DESIGNATED FUNDS AND OTHER FUNDS WITH RESTRICTIONS PLACED BY DONORS.**

Centre Foundation has an enormous responsibility to respect the expressed wishes of donors. Accordingly, the Centre Foundation will consider grant suggestions from donor advised funds and designated funds that would not otherwise comply with its policy as stated in Section II below.

### **II. GRANTS FROM DISCRETIONARY FUNDS OF CENTRE FOUNDATION.**

Centre Foundation operates under a general principle that programs funded by discretionary grants will be available to all. To affirm this principle and to respond to questions from grant seekers and grant committees, Centre Foundation's board approved the following anti-discrimination in grant making policy:

Centre Foundation's discretionary granting programs will not fund organizations or projects that unlawfully discriminate with regard to employees, volunteers, delivery of programs or services, or clients served based on age, sex, religion/creed, race, color, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, marital status, military or veteran status, pregnancy, or genetic information.

In considering applications for funding from faith-based organizations we will apply the following criteria:

- The program or service to be funded must be open to all members of the community (not just members of the particular faith community applying for funding)
- In the course of providing programs or services, faith-based organizations cannot proselytize, nor require clients to participate in or adopt any specific religious practice or belief.

Approved by the Board of Directors:

1/19/17