



2026 Field-of-Interest Grant Guidelines

The [Field-of-Interest](#) grant program is an annual grant opportunity made possible by Centre Foundation's Field-of-Interest funds. Each Field-of-Interest fund is designed to support a particular cause, population, or geographic area, reflecting the passions or interests of the donor(s) who created the fund.

This year, over \$200,000 in Field-of-Interest grant funding is available for programs and projects that focus on education, health and social services, the arts, youth development, and more.

Eligibility

- This opportunity is open to qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and governmental units/agencies. Unincorporated groups may apply through a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that acts as a fiscal sponsor.
- 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations must be registered with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations unless otherwise exempt.
- Funding must be used to support programs/projects in Centre County unless stated otherwise.
- Funding must be used to support programs/projects that comply with Centre Foundation's [Nondiscrimination Policy](#).
- If awarded, funding from this grant must be spent by recipient organizations by December 31, 2027.
- Recipient organizations are required to submit a final grant report at the conclusion of the program/project or by January 31, 2028.

Important Dates

- **Tuesday, August 4, 2026** – Field-of-Interest online grant application opens.
- **Thursday, September 24, 2026** – Deadline to submit an application.
- **November 2026** – Notification of grant awards.
- **December 2026** – Grant payments issued; grant period begins.

- **December 31, 2027** – Grant period ends.
- **January 31, 2028** – Final grant reports are due.

Instructions

Centre Foundation's Field-of-Interest funds each support a specific purpose and geographic area.

On the application, you will be required to identify the specific funds for which you are applying. You may apply for any portion of the available grant amount listed for a particular fund. You may combine several funds together if multiple funds fit the scope of your proposal. Please choose only those funds which directly relate to your proposal, based on the fund's stated purpose and service area.

In 2025, grant awards ranged from \$450 to \$36,000. The average award was \$4,000.

Applications must be submitted through **Foundant**, Centre Foundation's online application portal, by 11:59 pm on **Thursday, September 24, 2026**.

For questions, information, or assistance, please contact Krista Williams, Grants and Scholarship Coordinator at krista@centrefoundation.org or call (814) 237-6229.

Foundant Grant Portal

Foundant is Centre Foundation's grant management portal. This portal allows users to view, edit, and submit grant applications and related documents.

Foundant requires all users to create an account in order to access grant information and submit applications. For instructions on creating a new account, please view this **[Applicant Tutorial](#)** which includes a step-by-step guide and video demonstrations.

For additional assistance, please contact Krista Williams, Grants and Scholarship Coordinator, at krista@centrefoundation.org or call (814) 237-6229.

[Click Here to Access Foundant](#)

Fund Name	Amount Available	Purpose	Service Area
Andrew and Madaline Rishel Family Fund	\$1,246	community outreach programs provided by Penns Valley churches	Penns Valley area
Barry and Patti Fisher Fund	\$1,260	programs for children ages 11-17	Centre County
Ben Franklin Fund	\$2,572	programs and projects in Centre, Clearfield, Huntingdon, & Mifflin counties	Centre, Clearfield, Huntingdon, & Mifflin counties
Carolyn A. Petrus Memorial Seeing Eye Dog Fund	\$20,092	programs that raise, train, and match seeing-eye dogs to the people who need them	Pennsylvania
Centre Children's Fund	\$2,185	programs for at-risk children	Centre County
Centre County Medical Society Fund	\$1,389	encouraging active lifestyles for children and/or creating playground equipment or facilities	Centre County
Conner-Grignano Family Fund	\$465	programs that provide services in the area(s) of healthcare and early childhood education	Centre County
Counseling Service, Inc. Fund	\$12,344	direct behavioral/mental health counseling	Centre County
Denny Gioia and Judy Albrecht Endowment Fund	\$5,984	direct services and programs in the areas of housing insecurity, food insecurity, and health	Centre County
Donna L. Litke Occupational Horse Therapy Endowment	\$5,424	the maintenance and upkeep of horses used for therapy	Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Huntingdon, Mifflin & Union counties
Ed and Charlene Friedman Family Fund	\$43,811	health and human service programs that reduce poverty through physical & mental health, food, shelter, clothing, and/or education, particularly in emergency situations	Centre County
Fur-Ever Support for Animals Fund	\$1,995	providing direct services in the area of animal welfare for small volunteer run organizations	Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Huntingdon, Mifflin & Union counties
Howard Area Lighthouse Fund	\$4,679	programs and projects in Howard	Howard Area
J. Alvin and Vera E. Knepper Hawbaker Memorial Fund	\$4,829	health and/or education programs	Centre County
Janet Atwood Fund	\$3,416	arts programs of all types	Centre County
Louis E. and Patricia H. Silvi Fund	\$1,294	early childhood educational programs	Centre County
Mattil Family Fund	\$1,123	animal welfare	Centre County
Patricia Farrell Music Fund	\$10,683	music programs of all types, particularly programs for children	Centre County
Philipsburg Area Fund	\$2,265	programs and projects in Philipsburg	Philipsburg Area
Proud to Be An American Fund	\$1,824	patriotic displays and observances	Centre County
Recovery Support Fund	\$223	programs that focus on research, education or treatment of Substance abuse disorders	Centre County
Ruth E. Rishel Charitable Fund	\$3,068	programs and projects in Penns Valley	Penns Valley area
State College Elks Lodge #1600 Veterans Program Fund	\$5,424	services and programs that support veterans in Centre County and surrounding counties	Centre County

State College Elks Lodge #1600 Youth Activities Fund	\$5,424	services and programs that support youth activities in Centre County	Centre County
Wayne Baumgardner Fund	\$10,366	programs that provide food to the residents of Pleasant Gap	Pleasant Gap Area
William W. and Helen S. Litke Memorial Fund	\$53,296	services and programs for individuals who have hearing loss	Centre County