



Granting Process: How the Granting Committees Help Drive Equity Foundation's Granting Priorities Over the Next Year

What makes Equity Foundation a community foundation?

Equity Foundation is a community foundation—your community foundation—that relies on the community to both donate to the foundation and to help steer our granting programs. In other words, all granting decisions are driven by our community. Equity has regional granting committees consisting of local volunteers from all over the state that review General Cycle Grant applications from their local region and recommend who to fund to the Equity Foundation Board of Directors. Regional granting committees exist in the following regions Portland Metro/Statewide, Central Oregon, Lane County, Corvallis/Albany, Salem, and Southern Oregon.

What happens to grantees after the General Grant Cycle?

1. The Granting Committee reviews proposals and ranks applicants on a score of 1 to 4 with 4 being the highest rank and priority. The final recommendations are submitted to the Board of Directors for final approval.
2. Ranking proposals 4 or 3 opens doors to additional funding sources at Equity Foundation. Proposals ranked 4 receive funding from the General Grant Cycle if approved by the Board. Proposals ranked 3 do not get funding through this granting program, but those organizations are included in Equity Foundation's priority over the next year.
3. Proposals ranked 4 and 3 are submitted to Donor Advisors so the community members that have Donor Advised Funds within Equity Foundation can consider recommending funding from those funds.
4. Organizations with proposals ranked 4 and 3 are automatically placed on Equity Foundation's list of approved organizations in the Workplace Giving Program. This means that Equity Foundation takes these organizations into 20 different workplaces like the State of Oregon, City of Portland, etc. and advocates for the employees of these workplaces to give to the grantees through payroll deductions. Equity Foundation then collects those deductions over the next calendar year and disburses that money to the designated grantees in lump sums. It gives the organizations exposure to thousands of people around the state and brings in more revenue for the grantees. This fiscal year, Equity Foundation has distributed \$118,000 to our grantees through this process.