



Community Investment Program Guidelines

The Community Investment Program (CIP) was established at the Montana Community Foundation by Grid United. CIP supports communities in Rosebud, Custer, and Fallon County, where Grid United's North Plains Connector – a transmission line connecting U.S. eastern and western electric grids in Montana and North Dakota – will be located. Grid United is dedicated to partnering with these communities; as a result, CIP funds support innovative projects that enhance quality of life while strengthening communities in this corner of Eastern Montana.

Requirements:

Applicants must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit or government entity, such as a local government, tribal government, or school district. Non-501(c)(3) nonprofits may be eligible; please contact Taylor Crowl at (406) 603-4913 or taylor@mtcf.org to discuss eligibility. Individuals and for-profits are ineligible; however, individuals and for-profits may apply through a fiscal sponsor that is eligible.

Applicants that have applied for previous grant cycles may apply for subsequent grant cycles for different phases of their project. Applicants do not need to be based in Rosebud, Custer, or Fallon County, however, grants must be used for projects benefiting communities in these counties. Only one application is allowed per organization.

Grant Amounts:

Grants will be up to \$50,000. For funding needs greater than \$50,000, please contact Taylor Crowl at (406) 603-4913 or taylor@mtcf.org.

Eligible Projects:

- Projects that have a broad impact on the quality of life for a significant number of people in Rosebud, Custer, or Fallon County.
- Projects that propose ways to address community issues and problems.
- Projects that leverage other sources of support.
- Projects that encourage others to get involved in addressing community needs.
- Projects that are creative in their approach to solving problems or capturing opportunities.
- Projects that are responsive to changing and emerging needs.
- Projects that support innovative approaches to economic and community development.

Ineligible Projects:

- Religious, partisan, or sectarian programs or projects.
- One-time events, such as celebrations or social gatherings, that are not part of longer-term economic and community development goals.
- General operating expenses.

Application Process & Deadline:

CIP has two applications cycles each year. The first application deadline is **May 1st at 11:59 p.m.** and the second deadline is **November 1st at 11:59 p.m.**

Only online applications will be accepted and can be accessed here: <https://mtcf.org/grants/apply-for-a-grant>.

All applications are reviewed by Community Advisory Committees, which is made up of a diverse group of leaders and residents in Rosebud, Custer, and Fallon County. The Montana Community Foundation will notify you of the Community Advisory Committees' decision as soon as possible. The Montana Community Foundation cannot guarantee that every proposal will be funded, or that an applicant will receive the full amount requested.

Reporting:

A project report will be due within one year of receiving funds. Project reports must be received before additional grants are made.

For questions about the fund or application please contact Taylor Cowl at (406) 603-4913 or taylor@mtcf.org.