

GUIDELINES FOR GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS



To safeguard the deductibility of your gift to the Community Foundation Serving Greeley and Weld County - and our charitable status - we must comply with IRS regulations on charitable giving. Please help us by keeping the following guidelines in mind when you recommend grants from your fund.

No Pledges, Please!

We *cannot* make a grant from a donor-advised fund to fulfill a pledge or other previous commitments. If you want an organization to receive multi-year support, please contact the Community Foundation first. You *can* recommend that your donor-advised fund make a multi-year commitment and we will be happy to work with you to structure a multi-year grant from your fund.

Likewise, we ask that when you respond favorably to a telephone or other solicitation that you tell the solicitor that you intend to recommend a grant from your fund at the Community Foundation.

Grants to Individuals Not Permitted

No grants to individuals may be made from a donor-advised fund, nor can we approve a grant from a donor-advised fund to an organization that will benefit an individual you have identified. For instance, please do not recommend a grant to a school when the grant is designated to provide tuition assistance to an individual whom you have identified. This would be interpreted as a grant to an individual, and would not be approved.

Tickets and Memberships: Caution

We *cannot* make a grant from a donor-advised fund that will result in a tangible benefit to you. This includes events, dinners, or memberships that provide substantial benefits or services.

A donor-advised fund *can* support the deductible portion of an event or membership contribution. (Organizations are required to indicate on invitations or solicitations what portion of the amount is deductible.) So if you recommend a grant from your fund to support an event or membership, please indicate in writing on the recommendation form that you will personally assume the non-deductible portion.

Majority of Grants in Colorado

We ask that the majority of grants from your donor-advised fund be distributed to organizations based in Colorado.

Minimum Grant Size

Please do not recommend grants under \$100.

Out-of-Guidelines Recommendations

When we receive a grant recommendation that does not meet these guidelines, staff will contact you.

Research on Recipients

Community Foundation staff performs due diligence on every organization recommended to receive a grant. We ascertain that the organization has been awarded 501(c)(3) status under IRS regulations and we gather basic information - such as an annual report - to keep on file.

If you would like additional staff assistance in researching organizations for possible grant recommendations, please contact Lauren Weber at lauren@cfsgrc.org or (970) 304-9970.

Why do I see the word "recommend" when I make a grant?

When you made your gift to establish your fund, you received a tax deduction. Your gift became the property of the Community Foundation and subject to its legal control and variance power, required by federal law. Variance power means the Community Foundation's Board has the authority and responsibility to exercise complete oversight and discretion when approving grants. This ensures that your tax deduction will be protected and that grants from your fund will best fulfill their intended purpose. Hence, when you want to make a grant from your fund, you "recommend" it to the Board for their approval.

For More Information

If you have questions about these guidelines, please feel free to contact us at any time.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you in your charitable giving.

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