

Con Alma Health Foundation: Annual 2022 Grant Opportunity

Frequently Asked Questions

Questions About the Con Alma Health Foundation (CAHF) Grant Cycle

1. When can I apply to the CAHF grant cycle?

Answer: CAHF grant applications are accepted annually though the dates vary slightly from year to year. In 2022, the grant cycle is expected to OPEN in late May/Early June and CLOSE on Thursday, June 30, 2022.

2. Once the CAHF grant application is open how long do I have before it closes?

Answer: Once the grant cycle opens, applications are typically accessible for a 6-week period. Be sure to check the closing (deadline) date listed on our website and published on the CAHF Guidelines.

3. What is the amount of grant awards?

You will have the opportunity to apply for \$15,000; \$20,000; or \$25,000.

4. How many grants do you expect to award?

Answer: Typically, the Foundation awards anywhere from 15 to 20 grants in any one grant cycle.

5. How much funds do CAHF award each year?

Answer: CAHF will award up to \$315,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations that engage in health systems strategies to address the needs and build on the strengths of the diverse communities of New Mexico.

Questions about eligibility to apply for a grant

6. Are CAHF grants geographically restricted?

Answer: Yes. Grants through from CAHF must benefit people living in New Mexico.

7. Can I apply to CAHF if my organization is not located in New Mexico?

Answer: Yes. However, to be eligible the work you are seeking support for through CAHF must benefit people living in New Mexico.

8. If my organization has applied in the past to CAHF, are we eligible to apply again?

Answer: Yes. Currently you can apply annually (whether you received an award or not). However, we highly recommend you avoid requesting funds in support of the same project or towards the same purpose.

9. If I'm currently funded by CAHF, can I apply again?

Answer: If you have current funding and have met all the grant requirements to date in a timely fashion, you may submit an application for consideration. If you have had problems meeting requirements for your current grant, it is best to discuss your project with our Program staff before applying.

10. Can a new organization apply?

Answer: Yes. Organizations that are newly formed may apply; however, an organization must have an Employer Identification Number (EIN) and have a 501c3 designation from the IRS to be considered. If you do not have either of these, an organization may still apply through a Fiscal Sponsor. Please refer to the Guidelines for more details.

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11. Can we submit more than one application for funding if we have several different things that need support?

Answer: No, only one application to CAHF will be considered in any one year. An organization that is serving as a Fiscal Sponsor for a project/group, may submit its own application as the role of Fiscal Sponsor will not disqualify the Fiscal Sponsor from submitting its own application for consideration.

Questions About Funding

12. When will I know if the application submitted will be funded?

Answer: Decisions are typically made early during the fourth quarter of the year by the Con Alma Health Foundation Board of Trustees based on recommendations from the CAHF Grant Making Committee. Organizations will typically be notified by mid-November.

13. If my application is successful, when will we receive the funds?

Answer: Funds will be disbursed in late November/early December.

14. Can these funds be used to support salaries?

Answer: Yes. We recognize the importance of providing support for those who will accomplish the key activities outlined in your application. The project budget template includes salaries (personnel) as an option; be sure to include the rationale. As noted in the Guidelines “show association between proposed expenses/costs and the desired outcomes.”

15. We are thinking through a coalition proposal with several key partners. Can each organization submit an individual proposal for their piece of the work, or would a joint proposal be better?

Answer: Submission of a single, joint proposal is recommended – submitted by the ‘lead’ organization identified by the coalition or collaborative. Doing so will ensure the application reflects the coalition’s vision, goals, activities, and outcomes. The proposed budget may include resource needs of coalition partners for their participation.

16. Why does CAHF only fund 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations?

Answer: Different types of foundations are set up to operate in various ways and fund various purposes. Based on New Mexico state law and IRS regulations governing CAHF, we can only make grants to 501(c)(3) organizations.

Questions About The Application

17. Do I need to use a budget template?

Answer: Yes. The online application requires completion of a project budget template that includes the project’s total revenues (secured and pending) and expenses (for the full project and for costs specifically requested from CAHF).

18. Will I need to upload the organization’s annual operating budget?

Answer: Yes. In addition to completing the project budget you are asked to “upload a copy of the organization’s general operating budget, showing all revenue sources and major expense categories, for the most current fiscal year.” Please refer to the Guidelines for more details.

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19. If I'm applying through a Fiscal Sponsor, whose operating budget do I upload?

Answer: Even when applying through a Fiscal Sponsor, you will still need to upload the full operating budget for the organization (or group) "showing all revenue sources and major expense categories, for the most current fiscal year". Do not upload the Fiscal Sponsor's operating budget. Please refer to the Guidelines for more details.

20. How many letters of support will we need?

Answer: We do not require letters of support unless you will be working within the jurisdiction of a Sovereign Nation. If you propose to work within a Sovereign Nation, you must upload a letter of support from an existing community group that is based within the tribal community or from a tribal governmental entity (department / agency) as an attachment to the application. Please refer to Guidelines for more details.

21. When are the Tribal letter of support due?

Answer: Tribal letters of support are due at the time you submit the application. If additional time is needed to secure the letter(s), upload a document stating the reason for needing additional time, with your application. Please refer to the Guidelines for more information including the extension date by which the letter(s) must be uploaded.

22. What social determinants of health should our organization consider addressing in its application?

Answer: As noted on our website, community self-definition and self-determination are core values of the Foundation. As such, we expect organizations to identify needs and solutions that reflect and engage the community. Please review the Guidelines to determine if this grant opportunity is a good fit for your organization and the communities you serve.

23. Is partial funding ever awarded? Or is it all or nothing?

Answer: Whenever possible, the Foundation and the CAHF will award the full amount requested.

About Con Alma Health Foundation

24. How did Con Alma Health Foundation start?

In 2001, policy makers and health-consumer advocates collaborated to establish Con Alma Health Foundation as the best way to invest more than \$20 million from the sale of Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico. State law required that its assets be set aside for a nonprofit dedicated to health in New Mexico.

For over 20 years, we have invested more than \$14 million in nonprofits improving health in New Mexico and bringing people together to work toward health equity.

25. What is Con Alma Health Foundation's mission and values?

Answer: Con Alma Health Foundation is organized to be aware of and respond to the health rights and needs of the culturally and demographically diverse peoples and communities of New Mexico. To fulfil this mission, the Foundation is guided by six core [values](#) that guide its grants, contributions, and program-related investments.

CAHF's assets go beyond the dollars with which it makes grants. The Foundation advocates for health policy and brings people and organizations together, acting as a catalyst for improving health, especially for the underserved.