

Dickinson County Endowment Fund (DCEF)

Fact Sheet – 2010 Grant Making Cycle

How Much Money is Available for Grants?

For fiscal 2010-11 grant cycle, the DCEF was awarded \$129,091 from state gambling revenues. State legislation requires that 75 percent be awarded in grants and 25 percent be placed in permanent endowment. We now have a small endowment from four years of state revenues. Interest that accrues from that is available for distribution or for reinvestment in the endowment portion.

Approximately \$100,000 will be available to distribute in the 2010 round of grant making.

Who is Eligible?

501(c) (3) tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations

170(b) units of government organizations

A charitable organization without the above designations may apply through a qualified fiscal agent

What We Will Fund:

The funds must be used for grants to charitable organizations for educational, civic, public, charitable or patriotic uses. Grants can be made to religious organizations possessing a 501(c) (3) status if the use of the funds will be to serve the wider community (e.g. daycare, housing) without religious proselytism (teaching or conversion).

The DCEF offers grants in the following areas:

Family Services, Youth Services, Economic Development, Housing, Natural Resources/Park & Recreation/ Conservation, Transportation

What We Will Not Fund:

Examples: For-profit organizations, annual campaigns, money to retire existing debt, budget deficits, endowments, individuals, scholarships or organizations who do not serve Dickinson county residents.

How Much Can Be Funded?

Minimum Request: \$500

Maximum Request: No limit (Applicants should be mindful of the total dollars available).

Evaluation Criteria:

- Completeness of Application
- Applicant's ability to carry out project
- How the project meets the needs in Dickinson County
- Partnerships and matching funds (leverage)
- Broad impact
- Budget- Applicant Organization and Project Budget required
- Evaluation and Sustainability

Who Reviews the Grant Applications?

The full Advisory Council of DCEF reviews grant applications according to the scoring matrix which matches the criteria above. The Advisory Council then submits recommendations for funding to the Minnesota Foundation for final action and disbursement of funds.

Grant Cycles- 2010 Timelines:

May 1, 2010 – Applications Available
June 30, 2010 – Applications are due by 4:30 P.M.
September 1, 2010 – Announcement of awards
June 1, 2011 – Project Progress will be checked

When Must the Award Be Spent?

Funds awarded must be spent by applicant within one calendar year of distribution.
Example: If award is on September 1, 2010, funds must be expended by September 1, 2011.

Is There a Final Report Due?

Yes, a final report form is mailed out with the award letter to successful applicants. We strongly encourage applicants to submit final reports with receipts earlier than the September 1, 2011 deadline, if possible, especially if they anticipate requesting funds in the next round. A sample of the form is available for view and downloading on the website.

Will the DCEF Consider Multi-Year Funding?

The Advisory Council prefers not to commit to multi-year funding in its initial years, but applicants may reapply in the following year. If this is a repeated event, you must give evidence of previous success and explain the reasons for repeating, extending or enhancing the on-going project.

Will the DCEF Consider Partial- Award Funding?

The Advisory Council has made awards that were less than funds requested for a project. An applicant can accept or reject this partial funding.

Will There Be an Application Workshop for Potential Applicants?

Yes, there will be an application workshop scheduled sometime between May 1 and June 15, 2010. Details will be posted on the website and in the Lakes News Shopper.