

City of St. Cloud
St. Cloud City Council

CITY OF ST. CLOUD
COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT
PROGRAM



Grants Division – Procurement Services Department
CITY OF ST. CLOUD 1300 9th St. St. Cloud, FL 34769



City of St. Cloud Community Support Grant Program

Grant Guidelines:

The City of St. Cloud's Community Support (SCCS) Grant Program is to provide funding to not-for-profit 501c3 social and human service agencies providing support to the residents of the City of St. Cloud and Osceola County.

Funding provided by the City of St. Cloud for an event, fundraiser, or programming for community organizations are expected to help create a favorable impression of and provide visibility for the City of St. Cloud, provide unique opportunities and experiences for the citizens and support the community as a whole.

The purpose of this policy is to provide grants efficiently and effectively for community organizations in order to:

- 1) Establish mutually beneficial partnerships between the City and the community
- 2) Equitably control the manner in which the City provides event contributions to eligible organizations.
- 3) Create visibility for the City of St. Cloud through prominent acknowledgement of City support and assistance through event publicity and during the event.
- 4) Support the Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan Goals of the City of St. Cloud

Vision:

St. Cloud is a vibrant, progressive and diverse community, rooted in our unique history, offering an exceptional destination to live, work and play.

Mission:

To provide a safe and healthy environment, manage our resources and plan for the future. We are dedicated to cost-effective open government, professional management and quality service

Strategic Plan Goals:

Economic Development: To promote economic development in the City of St. Cloud.

Growth Management: To create a vibrant, progressive and diverse community through collaborative planning.

Infrastructure: To provide safe and adequate infrastructure to meet current and future needs.

Financial Sustainability: To meet the short and long-term financial needs of the City of St. Cloud.

Public Service: To ensure cost effective service while providing a high level of service to our internal and external customers.

Professional Workforce: To attract and retain highly skilled staff in order to provide services to the community.

These grants are intended to:

- ❖ Provide funding to social and human service agencies who serve the City of St. Cloud and whose services are easily accessible to the City of St. Cloud residents.
- ❖ Provide funding to develop new services or expand existing ones to the community's residents.
- ❖ To fund capital improvements to meet the needs of the organization to help facilitate services to the citizens of St. Cloud and Osceola County.
- ❖ To fund programs that have a substantial impact on the community's quality of life.

To be eligible to receive a Community Support Grant, all requested funding must be allocated to one of the following categories: Arts and Culture, Animals, Civic, Conservation, Education, Health and Human Service, or Recreation.



City of St. Cloud Community Support Grant Program

The Community Support Grant Program will not fund:

- Organizations outside Osceola County (unless Osceola county residents receive services that can be documented)
- Individuals
- Deficits or retirement of debt, general operating or maintenance expenses
- Programs or projects promoting a religious doctrine
- Lobbying, legislative efforts, political action committees, causes, campaigns or candidates or projects/programs promoting a political agenda
- Recipients of any other financial or other type of assistance from Council within the same calendar year
- Conduit or umbrella organizations, i.e., organizations or events that pass funds to other organizations
- Projects or programs that are completed or conducted prior to the grant award date
- Travel or conferences for non-profit agency personnel
- Multi-year Projects or organizations that have not satisfactorily fulfilled their obligations following previous fee reductions, waivers, or sponsorships
- commitments
- Organizations that discriminate based on race, ethnicity, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, disability, marital status, genetic information, veteran status or other factors that are protected by law.

Funding Considerations:

Funding for the SCCS Grants are appropriated annually during the budget process.

Funding requests normally range between \$1,500 and \$30,000. No request can be made for more than 20% of the fiscal year's budget for the grant program. Typically the program budget is \$150,000.

All grant awards are allocated and approved by the St. Cloud City Council during a regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

The Grants Division staff will conduct an initial review of the application to ensure compliance with grant guidelines and instructions.

Applicants shall not contact any Council Member, the City Manager or Deputy City Manager during the evaluation process. The evaluation process begins May 1, upon opening of the application window and concludes upon the final approval by Council.

Applicants may attend the Council Meeting on the designated night; attendance is not required.

All agencies who receive a funding award will be required to complete a final summary report of the use of funds. These reports must be submitted no later than 30 days following the event. The Project must be complete and all funds utilized along with a submitted final summary to be eligible for application in the next funding cycle.

If awarded funding, the agency agrees to provide the City of St. Cloud logo recognition on appropriate printed material, online advertisements and public relations activities, name recognition as a sponsor of the program, event or activity, and if applicable, the opportunity to seat a minimum of six (6) city representatives or guests at the event (corporate table or VIP seating). * *City of St. Cloud Logo Use Requirements will be provided upon award.*



City of St. Cloud Community Support Grant Program

Application Considerations:

The application serves the purpose of answering the following questions; please keep these questions in mind when completing your application:

1. Does the proposed project address an important need in the St. Cloud, Osceola County community?
2. What does the applicant intend to accomplish, and how?
3. How well does the project/proposal align with the SCCS Grant Guidelines?
4. If successful, will the program have a meaningful impact?
5. What is the ability of the applicant to deliver what is proposed?
6. Is this the best possible use of SCCS limited resources?

The Application:

THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD WILL ACCEPT COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATIONS ANNUALLY Beginning July 1 with a deadline of August 31 @ 5:00 pm each year.

Applications may be obtained on the City of St. Cloud website: [the City of St. Cloud website](#).

Non-profit, 501c3, social and human service agencies may submit more than one application; however, each application and the required components must be submitted separately.

A complete application requires one (1) **signed** original application with any attachments in a manila folder and one (1) duplicate of application package in a manila folder (no envelopes) delivered to: **Grants Division, City of St. Cloud, 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769 AND** one (1) electronic copy of the application package emailed to the Grants Division at grants@stcloud.org, with a subject line of SCCS Grant Application. All components of the application must be received no later than 5:00 pm on July 31.

Incomplete and/or late applications will not be accepted.

By submission of an application, the submitting agency agrees and understands the following; one and/or both may occur:

1. **Application may require an in-person presentation to Council.** It is the prerogative of the Council to request specific agencies make a 5 – 10 minute presentation to accompany their application. If requested, an additional notification is sent to those agencies.
2. **Application may require an in-person visit to the requesting agency.** It is the prerogative of the Council (and/or their designee) to visit any applying agency in order to familiarize the Council with the day to day activities of the agency.

For questions regarding the application you may call 407-957-7352 or email grants@stcloud.org

Incomplete and/or unsigned applications will not be accepted.