



Program Guidelines

www.oregoncf.org/Nike

The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF)

Created in 1973, OCF is the largest foundation in Oregon, with assets of \$2 billion and annual distributions of more than \$100 million. OCF's endowment comes from thousands of individuals, businesses and organizations that have created permanent funds from which grants are distributed to support the critical work of Oregon's nonprofits. OCF is governed by a statewide board of directors and relies on nearly 2,000 volunteers around the state to provide local perspective on community needs.

Nike Global Community Impact

Nike believes in the power of sport to unleash human potential and build community, and fuels this belief through Made to Play, its commitment to getting kids moving through play and sport so that they can lead healthier, happier and more successful lives. Together with community partners and our employees around the world, Nike is designing innovative solutions to get more than 14 million kids playing, running and jumping their way to a brighter future. Find out more about Nike's commitment to getting kids moving and providing opportunities for equal playing fields for all at community.impact.nike.com

Nike Community Impact Fund

The Nike Community Impact Fund (NCIF) supports grassroots organizations (nonprofits, community centers and local schools) to get kids moving, bringing the benefits of sport to their communities, giving kids an opportunity to fall in love with sport and physical activity, and creating stronger communities where play, sport and physical activity are a highly-valued part of everyday life. NCIF is an innovative approach to grant-making that engages a committee of Nike employees to advise where grants are awarded where they live and work. The committee dedicates volunteer hours reviewing applications and then offer recommendations for organizations to receive cash grants via our administrative partner, The Oregon Community Foundation

Questions?

OCF-NikeFund@oregoncf.org

[ONLINE APPLICATION LINK](#)

Funding Priorities & Calendar

Two Grant Cycles / Year	Application Opens	Application Closes at 11:59 p.m. (Due Date)	Grant Decision & Payment
Cycle 1	April 16	June 1	September 30
Cycle 2	October 15	December 1	March 30

Funding Priorities

- 80 percent of grant awards support projects that promote sport or physical activity in the community (about 40 grants per year)
- 20 percent of grant awards support organizations and projects that address community challenges through innovative or proven community-based solutions (about 10 grants per year)
- Emphasis is placed on inclusive programs that serve underrepresented populations

Geographic Focus & Organizational Requirements

- Grant applications are accepted from nonprofits and schools in the Portland metro area, specifically Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Yamhill, Columbia, and Clark Counties
- Applications accepted from organizations that are a 501(c)(3) public charity; an IRC 7871 Federally-Recognized Indian Tribe; or a government entity (such as a school)

Strong Proposals

Competitive grant proposals demonstrate the following:

- Emphasis is placed on inclusive programs that serve underrepresented populations
- Employs a creative approach to, or a proven method for, addressing local needs
- Reflects careful planning, clear goals, and a plan for sustainability
- Project budget is reasonable
- Need is clear and well established
- Resources have come from a variety of sources and may include dollars, in-kind donations, or partnerships
- Amount requested in proportionate to the likely impact on the community

NOT Eligible for Funding

- Organizations which discriminate based on age, ethnicity/race, political affiliation, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, physical or other disability, or national origin
 - Individuals (including scholarships, stipends, fellowships, and personal assistance)
 - Group or individual travel
 - Research or project planning activities
 - Support for elite or private sports camps, programs, or teams
 - Publications or audio-visual projects
 - Endowments, memorials, budget deficits, or fundraising activities
 - Religious organizations whose programs do not have a secular and community focus
 - Lobbying, political, or fraternal activities
 - Capital projects unless Nike's award would be the final funding needed
 - Projects and events that occur prior to a Nike grant award
 - One-day events, unless the focus of project is on program(s) leading up to a culminating event
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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How are Nike employees involved with the Nike Community Impact Fund (NCIF)?

A: Nike employees are selected for a one-year commitment to sit on an advisory committee and are trained to by OCF to review grants and develop funding recommendations.

Q: Does the NCIF award grants for operating support?

A: Yes, but applicants must demonstrate a compelling need for support and detail how funds will be raised the next year.

Q: Can schools with relatively few low-income students apply for grants?

A: Yes, but competition for NCIF grants is robust and projects that serve high-need children and youth are more compelling. Applicants serving a general population may apply but their projects should be innovative, show strong financial support from the community, and address an important need to be considered for funding.

Q: If we are a local nonprofit, may we apply for funding to support international programs or must our project focus on local populations?

A: Your project must focus on local populations.

Q: Can we apply for a grant if we do NOT have federal tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(3) public charity, an IRC 787 Federally-recognized Indian Tribe, or a government entity?

A: Yes, but only if you have a fiscal sponsor who does have appropriate tax-exempt status. If you are expecting to be granted nonprofit status soon and do not have a fiscal sponsor, you are not eligible to apply. Organizations that are fiscal sponsors for another entity can submit their own proposals to NCIF in the same grant cycle.

Q: Will you review a draft of our proposal and give us suggestions for improvement?

A: No. Staffing is limited, and reviewing some proposal drafts and not others would create an uneven playing field.

Q: Can we apply for more than one grant at a time from NCIF?

A: No, though you may apply for other kinds of OCF grants.

Q: How often can we apply for an NCIF grant?

A: You may apply for one grant per funding cycle, and you may receive only one grant per year.

Q: If we receive an NCIF award for one year but the project still needs support the next year, can we apply for another NCIF grant for the same project?

A: You may apply for the same project every third year but not more often. (If funding is being sought in order to create the same program at a new site, that will be treated as a new project.) If you wish to apply for a different project, you could apply sooner.

Q: Does NCIF support projects to improve a nonprofit's fundraising, marketing, or staff/board infrastructure?

A: No. NCIF is interested in using its funds for projects that more directly improve the community.

Q: If a grant proposal to NCIF is declined, can we resubmit the same project later?

A: Yes, but the project may not be competitive unless key components have been strengthened.

Q: Do we need to know a Nike employee to apply to the NCIF program?

A: No.
