



## 2026 TAG GRANT GUIDELINES

**Teens Active in Grantmaking (TAG)** is a youth-led committee of the Community Foundation Serving West Central Illinois & Northeast Missouri, designed to encourage and develop the practice of philanthropy in young adults. TAG inspires a lifelong interest and a commitment to serving others in the community, focusing on youth impact.

### **Guidelines and Eligibility:**

Nonprofit organizations and eligible community organizations are invited to apply for a TAG Grant (up to \$2,500) for programs and projects that impact youth in Adams County.

- **Grant applications open:** February 1
- **Grant applications due:** March 2nd (11:59 p.m.)
- **Grant review period:** March
- **Site visits/presentations (if requested):** March
- **Grant award notifications:** April
- **Grant presentation:** May
- **Final grant report due:** By February 1 of the following year

All grant requests must be submitted online through the Community Foundation's grant portal. A site visit and/or presentation may be requested. TAG Grants are project or program specific (no operating/general support requests accepted).

Applicants must have prior-year grant dollars fully used and a final report submitted before reapplying.

### **TAG Grantmaking Priorities:**

- **Youth Initiative**
  - Youth must be directly impacted by the project.
  - Projects may occur in the areas of Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education, Health, or Human Services.
  - **Preference** is given to applications submitted by youth and/or that show strong youth involvement in the project planning process.
  - **Preference** is given to new or innovative projects.
- **Dedicated to Community & Youth (Adams County, IL)**
  - The project must be in response to a demonstrated youth need or direct youth benefit in Quincy/Quincy Area.
  - Demonstrated dedication to positive youth development.
- **Accountability**
  - Non-501(c)3 applicants must have a nonprofit fiscal sponsor.
  - Applications must demonstrate a realistic plan with clear goals.

- Applicants must report changes to their project plans after submission of the application, and the changes must be approved by the TAG committee.
- Applicants should be willing to discuss their grant request with TAG representatives either as part of the application process or as a site visit to evaluate the program or project.
- Applicants should be open to communication from TAG representatives to ensure all questions are answered and application information is understood.
- Applicants who receive funding are expected to complete a grant report on the project's success by February 1 the following year.

**Projects Not Funded:**

While the Community Foundation remains flexible in meeting community needs, TAG Grants may not support:

- Operational/ongoing expenses of established programs.
- Purchase of advertising.
- Annual or capital campaigns.
- Capital or operational debt reduction.
- National fundraising efforts.
- Any political campaign or support attempts to influence legislative issues of any government body.
- Specifically religious purposes, propagation of faith, or programs that require a specific faith for participation.

**TAG Grantmaking Goal:**

Our goal is to assess community youth needs, create clear criteria for grants, and review and evaluate proposals thoroughly. TAG members make grants to support good ideas that will make a difference for youth in our community. Applications are due online by 11:59 p.m. on March 2.

**For more information, contact:**

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