



Young Women for Change® Grant Review Guidelines for Eligibility

Non-Negotiables:

- Meet at least one of the Funding Priorities in the local community.
- Serve women and/or girls, with priority given to low-income and diverse/undeserved populations
- Demonstrate female staff or board leadership
- Demonstrate an ability to conduct the program as designed
- Serve within the state of Michigan and be tax exempt under IRS code, section 501(c)(3)

Negotiables:

Other things to consider:

- Is the project appealing? Is it creative or interesting?
- Is the goal and timeline realistic?
- How many girls/young women are impacted and what is the level of impact on those girls/young women?
- Are girls involved in planning and carrying out the project?
- Budget/Money issues: is it realistic, are there other sources of funding, do they have plans to fund the project after our grant runs out?



Eight Qualities of EXCELLENT Proposals

ENERGY

- The proposal shines with enthusiasm, urgency, passion.
- It suggests a group of people who can barely contain their eagerness to begin working.
- As a reader you find yourself inspired and excited by their plans.

EXPERTISE

- The proposal's authors know what they are talking about.
- Their plans reflect deep understanding of the problem they are addressing.
- They are aware of similar efforts that have been undertaken in the past.
- Their theory is contrasted with experience from the field.

COMMITMENT

- The proposal reflects the organization's genuine priorities rather than explaining one of the many programs it is currently juggling.
- The grantseekers demonstrate their willingness to invest their own resources in the project.
- The organization is committed to continuing the project rather than moving on to a new endeavor.

CLARITY

- The proposal is clear about what the organization wants to do, why it is important, and how it will be carried out and evaluated.

COLLABORATION

- The grantseeker has formed alliances with other organizations to advance their mutual goals.
- The people served by the proposed project have participated in it's planning.

BENEFITS

- The organization is less concerned with underwriting it's own needs than improving society.
- The project's goals are indisputably worth striving for the target group is appropriate.

COMPREHENSIVENESS

- The problem's complexity is matched by the sophistication of it's proposed solution.
- The grantseekers' thinking reflects a comprehensive strategy, not a piecemeal approach.

EFFECTIVENESS

- A well-designed, ongoing evaluation shows the group's commitment to getting results.
- The project has the potential for achieving a wider impact if it is replicated in the future.