



JCF Grant Guidelines

Effective as of the Fall 2025 Grants Cycle

Thank you for your interest in learning more about JCF Grants available from the Jewish Community Foundation, Inc. (JCF). For questions, please contact the JCF at 856-673-2528 or infojcf@jfedsnj.org.

Overview

JCF Mission: “The purpose of the Jewish Community Foundation, Inc. is to foster and facilitate sustainable philanthropy to support the mission of the Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey and the needs of our Jewish community here, in Israel, and around the world. The JCF seeks to create a climate that supports funding of programs and organizations by involving agencies, synagogues, day schools, individuals, and families in the planning process. It strives to provide long-term funding vehicles for philanthropic action and education on philanthropic needs.” (Approved March 4, 2014 by the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Community Foundation, Inc.)

The Jewish Community Foundation, Inc. has provided Grants since 1999 to a wide variety of Jewish and secular organizations. During this time, the JCF has awarded over \$2 million in Grants to fund hundreds of exciting and important programs and services, benefiting countless community members.

Our volunteer Grants Committee, which consists of approximately 15 members of the local community, reviews every application and deliberates to determine how to award available dollars. Our Grants are made possible thanks to generous donors who have contributed to our Community Endowment Fund or who have established separate funds for Grants. We welcome members of our community to contribute to this process to expand the program.

What Are the JCF’s Goals in Providing Grants?

- **Benefits to the Community:** First and foremost, JCF Grants are meant to provide benefit to community members, not strictly the organizations that are awarded the funds.
- **Launching New Community Initiatives:** We operate in a vibrant Jewish and secular community, and the JCF hopes to ensure this continues into the future. We are thrilled to see programs that we fund grow into larger, ongoing programs for many years. While we don’t expect this to happen to each and every initiative that we fund, we do ask that grantees give it their all when producing a program, and, if it works, it will gain momentum, and, if not, it was worth a try.
- **Marketing Exposure:** The JCF also provides Grants to gain marketing exposure in the community. Our hope is that, when awarding a grant to your organization, the constituents who take part in the program, your existing Board members, and/or your donors, will want to consider endowing the program (or another initiative) to last for future years. The JCF works with donors to establish endowment funds which we manage, and we would be happy to work with you and your donors to discuss this important opportunity to benefit your organization.

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What Does the JCF Fund?

The JCF welcomes applications from any organization that is interested in applying. That said, our typical Grant awards fall under the following guidelines:

- **New Programs:** This type of proposal is the JCF's top priority. Your organization may apply if you are looking to try out a new program (or service) and need seed funding to get it off the ground. It's like having a safety net for your big leap into a new endeavor.
- **Expansion of Existing Programs:** Secondly, if your organization has an existing program that is built into your budget, but intends to expand it in new directions, we welcome your application.
- **Emerging Critical Needs:** Lastly, if your organization is seeing critical issues arising in the community that need to be addressed, you may apply.

Note: The above areas of funding are intentionally broad. We want to allow organizations to be creative but also have some framework to start with.

Additional Funding Preferences

The JCF prefers to fund programs that meet the following additional criteria:

- **Locally-Based:** In most cases, aims to fund programs that will benefit residents of Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester counties. Note that your organization need not be based in these counties to apply.
- **Collaborative Initiatives:** The JCF generally looks favorably on Grant requests where two or more organizations can collaborate to launch a program and meet both organizations' goals while collectively reaching more people and not duplicating efforts.
- **Promoting Jewish Values:** While JCF-funded programs do not need to serve exclusively Jewish participants, we ask that the programs we fund promote Jewish values. Broadly speaking, this means that programs should be inclusive, committed to social and economic equality, and provide *tikkun olam* (repairing the world).
- **"Bang for the Buck":** All things being equal, the JCF would prefer to fund programs that impact a larger group rather than a few individuals.
- **Ongoing Programs:** We generally prefer to fund programs that can become self-sustaining in the future. A maximum of three (3) grant requests will be considered for the same program, and generally funding will decrease for subsequent grants.

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- **Federation Mission & Priorities:** The JCF aims to support programs that align with Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey's Mission and ongoing priorities (see page 7).
- **Programs with Buy-in:** When participants (event attendees, clients, etc.) and/or the applying organization subsidize a portion of the cost, this is a positive sign that there is existing buy-in to make the program happen, and a JCF Grant will help get you closer to break-even.

What Does the JCF Avoid Funding?

Here are elements of your program's budget that we generally avoid funding:

- Capital needs, salaries, or similar expense, that are already included or should be included in the budget of your organization; or for expenses which start before being approved for a JCF Grant
- Security, transportation, general administrative tasks, and/or food, when it is not part of the core program or service
- Sponsorships for fundraising events

Grant Restrictions

Please keep in mind the following restrictions when applying for a JCF Grant:

- **Maximum Funding Amount:** Each JCF Grant award is limited to \$5,000. Any organization may apply for and potentially be approved for more than one Grant per cycle.
- **Reapplying for JCF Grants:** If your organization receives a JCF Grant, it may reapply up to two more times in the future to fund the same program over the course of five years. Please note:
 - Your organization is not eligible to reapply until your previous Grant award has been fulfilled and your Reimbursement Request has been submitted to the JCF.
 - Generally speaking, if reapplying, subsequent Grants after the first year are diminished, in order to encourage your organization to start to fill in funding.
- **"Last Money In":** Your organization may receive other outside income in relation to your JCF-funded program, however, JCF Grants are considered "last money in" so that if your organization profits from the program, we will not reimburse you for expenses. Our aim is to make your organization whole, or as close to it as possible, after paying for program expenses.

Grantee's Organizational Requirements

Organizations that meet the following requirements are eligible to apply for JCF Grants:

- IRS-qualified 501(c)(3) non-profits or incorporated synagogues/churches that may not have a 501(c)(3) designation

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- Organizations must be in existence for at least one year
- For organizations that are “new” to the JCF, we may ask for more information, such as the most recent IRS Form 990, a list of the organization’s Board members, or a copy of a tax exempt form

Grant Application Time Frame

It is important for applicants to understand the time frames for the JCF’s Grant Cycles, as you prepare to submit your application. Please keep these dates in mind as you plan for your Grant application:

- **For Spring Cycle Grants:**

Date (Approximate)	Year	Action
March/April	Current	Deadline to apply will usually occur around this time
Early June	Current	Results of the JCF’s Grants review process will be announced
July 1	Current	Programs funded by the JCF may start
September 30	Following	This is the deadline to spend the funds awarded from the JCF
End of November	Following	Deadline to submit a Reimbursement Request to the JCF

- **For Fall Cycle Grants:**

Date (Approximate)	Year	Action
October	Current	Deadline to apply will usually occur around this time
Early December	Current	Results of the JCF’s Grants review process will be announced
January 1	Following	Programs funded by the JCF may start
September 30	Following	This is the deadline to spend the funds awarded from the JCF
End of November	Following	Deadline to submit a Reimbursement Request to the JCF

(Note: Fall Grant awardees have approximately one year to fulfill their grants; Spring Grant awardees have approximately a year-and-a-half to fulfill their grants)

➔ For specific dates for each Grants Cycle, visit jcfnsj.org/grants



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Marketing & Promotion Requirements

If you are approved for a JCF Grant, please keep the following in mind:

- **Using the JCF Logo:** Grantees must acknowledge JCF Grant funding by incorporating the JCF logo into any marketing or program materials related to a program funded via a JCF Grant. These materials include but are not limited to advertisements, flyers, emails, and webpages. We ask that you also include wording to the effect of “Funding for this program provided (in full or in part) by a Grant from the Jewish Community Foundation, Inc.” in accompaniment of the JCF logo or in text-based materials such as press releases, social media posts, etc.
- **Other Promotional Opportunities:** In addition to using the JCF logo and wording, the JCF also welcomes the chance to briefly speak at your program and/or Board meeting, or other venue
- **JCF Marketing Assistance:** If your organization wishes to have more exposure for the JCF-funded program, please be sure to email the JCF at marketingjcf@jfedsnj.org with any flyers, pictures, etc. for us to publicize on your behalf. We are happy to try and help get the word out for you.

Grant Reimbursement Process

Once you are approved for a JCF Grant, here is the process for getting reimbursed:

- **Reimbursement Request Form:** Grantees shall complete a brief form that provides the details of your program, income and expenses, the number of people benefited, copies of receipts, copies of marketing and program materials showing JCF acknowledgement, and a program recap
- **Keep Receipts:** Save receipts/invoices for your program expenses! The JCF reimburses for these expenses, up to the amount agreed upon in the Grant Contract. If you spend less than the amount agreed upon, you will not receive the remaining balance of the awarded Grant.
- **Evaluation:** When submitting your Reimbursement Request Form, please include an evaluation of the program, such as a survey of attendees. This is helpful for the JCF, particularly if you decide to reapply for a JCF Grant for the same program in the future.
- **Extensions or Programming Changes:** After receiving your JCF Grant contract, you may find that you need more time to enact your program, or you may wish to make changes to the program compared to what was originally agreed upon. For either circumstance, please email a brief summary of your request of your time extension or programming change to infojcf@jfedsnj.org. The JCF will let you know as soon as possible if the Grants Committee approves your request.
- **Incomplete Programs:** If an organization is awarded a JCF Grant, incurs expenses for the program, but ultimately does not follow through and run the program, the JCF reserves the right to decline reimbursement for the expenses incurred.



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About our Grants Endowment Funds

The bulk of the JCF's Grant dollars comes from the JCF's Community Endowment Fund. We are grateful for the many donors who have donated funds to the JCF for our Grants program. In addition, several donors have established their own endowment funds to provide Grants, with their own criteria. Below are the criteria for each Grants fund:

JCF Community Grants Fund

Fannie & Meyer Adleman Family Endowment Fund

Fred & Florence Bryen Community Endowment Fund

Bush Refrigeration Camden Development Endowment Fund

Glenn Cohen Memorial Music Endowment Fund

Keren Ami (My People's) Endowment Fund

Larry Lerner Memorial Endowment Fund

William & Bertha Remer Community Endowment Fund

Stella Schaevitz Community Endowment Fund

Louis Silverman Community Grants Endowment Fund

Leonard & Norma Zelnick Community Endowment Fund

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About the Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey

- **Mission:**

The Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey (JFSNJ), with our family of agencies, supports those in need, enhances Jewish life, and ensures the continuity of a vibrant Jewish community locally, in Israel and around the world.

- **Areas of Impact:** Learn more at jewishsouthjersey.org/aoi

- Older Adults
- Disability Services
- Global Connections
- Community Engagement
- Families & Youth

Priorities of the Jewish Federation for FY 2025 - 2026

1. Increase focus on relationship-based engagement (in no order):
 - a. Within our community:
 - i. interfaith families
 - ii. Israelis
 - iii. Orthodox Jews
 - iv. young adults (20s and 30s)
 - v. families with young children
 - vi. individuals who are not affiliated with our community's Jewish institutions
 - b. Community members who currently reside outside of South Jersey:
 - i. young adults in NYC
 - ii. constituents in FL
2. Identify ways to more efficiently and cost-effectively provide services, including building on and leveraging JFed's relationships with synagogues
3. Identify new ways to engage with Israel
4. Expand JFed's revenue opportunities through offering programs & services
 - a. Princeton-Mercer Bucks
 - b. Atlantic and Cape May Counties
5. Saltzman Foundation-focused priorities:
 - a. Security
 - b. Jewish at-risk youth
 - i. mental and behavioral health
 - ii. financial assistance for services & programs
 - c. Older adult programs