

Pohlad Family Foundation
2017 Summer Camp Scholarship Program Guidelines and Request for Proposals

Application Period opens December 28th, 2016. Application Deadline: January 27nd, 2017

INTRODUCTION

The summer of 2017 marks the 19th year the Carl & Eloise Pohlad Family Foundation will provide grants to help send financially disadvantaged kids to camp. The Summer Camp Scholarship Program has provided scholarship funding to over 19,000 youth since its inception in 1999.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the Summer Camp Scholarship Program is to provide families with young people between the ages 7 and 16 financial assistance needed to attend **residential** camping programs intended to enrich a child's life experience. Such camping programs should provide opportunities for social, emotional, intellectual, moral, and physical development. **The program places a high priority on awarding scholarships to youth that have not had a previous residential camping experience.** However, grantees may include a small number of repeat campers for whom a second experience would be beneficial. **This grant does not fund scholarships for youth who have already attended camp twice.**

The Foundation will award up to \$450,000 in scholarship funds to nonprofit organizations that provide direct services to financially disadvantaged children and families in Minnesota.

Organizations awarded grant funds will:

- Have strong relationships with the children and families they serve;
- Ensure that each child and his/her family select a camp based on personal interests OR offer an intensive, small-group, multi-day wilderness trip through approved camps;
- Identify and select potential campers who demonstrate the greatest financial need;
- Assist youth and parents/guardians in choosing and registering for **approved camps***;
- Directly communicate with and submit payment to selected camps;
- Prepare a brief report to the Foundation at the completion of the program;
- Return all unused funds to the Foundation by the scheduled due date.

***Approved camps** are those that provide a **residential** experience of more than 2 nights, and have current accreditation from the American Camp Association. Opportunities to experience Wilderness Inquiry outdoor adventures will also be considered. In rare circumstances, the Foundation will approve additional camps. **However, you must seek written approval from the Foundation** prior to registering a camper at a non-approved camp. You will be required to demonstrate how the camp has met safety and health requirements. To search for approved camps, please visit the following websites: <http://find.acacamps.org> or www.wildernessinquiry.org.

ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS

Organizations eligible to apply are Minnesota-based 501(c)(3) organizations that:

- Provide direct services to economically disadvantaged families and/or youth (e.g. human/social service, affordable housing, education);
- Do **NOT** own or operate residential summer camp programs; and
- Have staff available during the summer to respond to any needs or issues that arise.

Organizations that received grants from the program in previous years may apply, but a grant is not guaranteed. Organizations that demonstrate sound processes for program administration, as determined by Foundation reviewers, staff, and board will receive highest priority for grants.

GRANT

Grants to organizations will range from \$5,000 to \$18,000.

- Administration
Up to 10 percent of grant funds can be used for program administration (e.g. salaries, marketing, overhead).
- Scholarships*
Grantees are required to spend at least 90 percent of the total grant award on camp scholarships and camper expenses. Scholarships cannot exceed \$500 per youth for first time campers and \$300 per youth for campers who have prior camp experience. As stated above, first-time campers are given the highest priority for this program.

1st Time Youth: Scholarships cannot exceed \$500, and at least 60% of total youth sent to camp should be first time campers.

2nd Time Youth: Scholarships cannot exceed \$300, and total youth sent to camp having attended for the second time is limited to 40% of the grantee pool.

*A portion of scholarship grant funds may also be used for travel costs and supplies. Up to \$50 per youth is available to cover expenses such as sleeping bags, other camp-related supplies, or mileage reimbursement for travel to and from the camp. Allocation of scholarship funds for these purposes is determined by the program director. It is not required and should only be awarded when necessary for the student to attend camp.

TIMELINE

Applications must be complete and submitted by January 27, 2017

Reviews will be conducted between January 30 and February 13, 2017

Board recommendations will be made February 15, 2017

Applicants will be notified no later than February 17, 2017

Grants paid no later than April 3, 2017

Final Reports due no later than September 29, 2017

QUESTIONS

Please contact Briana Riley at briley@pohladfoundation.org or (612) 661-3954 with questions.