



2026 FUNDING GUIDELINES

For more than 30 years, Nissan Foundation has inspired people to see the world through multiple perspectives. Each year, the Foundation awards grants to nonprofit organizations that unite communities by sharing and celebrating diverse cultural perspectives. Nissan Foundation's singular mission—to build communities by valuing cultural diversity—strives to connect audiences and create spaces where all people feel that they are seen, heard, and valued. Nonprofit organizations that offer programming in support of this mission may submit a letter of intent for consideration of funding.

Please review the following criteria to ensure eligibility.

LETTER OF INQUIRY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Nissan Foundation welcomes new applicants every year through a letter of inquiry process. For the 2026 grant cycle, organizations that operate in the following selected Nissan communities are eligible to submit a letter of inquiry:

- Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas
- Mississippi
- Southeast Michigan

Organizations will be notified of determination in January 2026. Those with successful letters of inquiry will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Nissan Foundation's 2025 grantees in good standing and in eligible operational communities will be invited to submit a proposal for consideration during full application stage.

ORGANIZATIONAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be considered for funding, organizations must:

- have 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.
- been in operations for a minimum of three years.
- serve audiences where Nissan has a significant operational presence, specifically:
 - Dallas/Ft. Worth
 - Middle Tennessee
 - Mississippi
 - Southeast Michigan
- demonstrate history of engagement with populations served; and
- reflect an understanding of the mission of Nissan Foundation.

PROJECT DESIGN CRITERIA:

For a project to be considered for funding, it must reflect Nissan Foundation's mission to build community by valuing cultural diversity. Other considerations include:

- implementation between July 1, 2026—June 30, 2027 (or later).
- authenticity and engagement with the community/communities being served and/or celebrated.
- service to multiple audiences through intentional programmatic design.
- clearly defined objectives toward building community by valuing cultural diversity through offerings such as:
 - celebrations or observances that promote and explore diverse cultural heritages;
 - facilitating or creating educational content that explores cultural differences, customs, values, and traditions with the goal of creating awareness and greater understanding; or
 - producing public events, programs, workshops, etc. that intentionally:
 - promote and encourage respect for others and other cultures;
 - generate alternative ways of thinking about differences;
 - build curiosity, wonder, and excitement about the people and world around us;
 - promote learning about diverse cultural origins, beliefs, and traditions;
 - explore the value that different cultural heritage and customs, values, and traditions brings to society; and/or
 - create opportunities for dialogue about cultural heritage, values, and customs.

Proposed projects may extend beyond June 30, 2027, however, Nissan Foundation does not award multi-year grants at this time. Organizations with successfully funded projects are welcome to apply for funding for the same project in the subsequent grant cycle.

Among the activities not supported by Nissan Foundation funding are:

- disease advocacy
- research
- political activities or advocacy
- endorsement of a particular religion and/or spirituality practice
- fundraising
- capital investments and campaigns
- endowments
- scholarships
- travel-based experiences
- refugee and immigrant resettlement
- social and humanitarian services, including healthcare
- expansion or underwriting of permanent staff
- workplace DEI program implementation
- exhibition construction costs (ex. mounting, crating)
- projects where the primary outcomes are related to:

- arts and culture access and exposure
- artistic work creation
- youth development
- upskilling and/or personal professional development, or
- neighborhood development.

PROJECT FINANCIAL CRITERIA:

Nissan Foundation grant funds must be utilized for expenses related to the funded project. For the 2026 grant cycle, requests must adhere to the following project budget guidelines:

- Funding request up to 50% of the total project budget with maximum requests as follows:
 - Current grantees: maximum request of \$50,000
 - New grantees: maximum request of \$25,000
 - Single day activities: maximum request of \$10,000
- Demonstration of supplemental funding support for the project to ensure implementation and success.

Nissan Foundation requests a project budget as part of the grant submission that denotes allocation of expenses to anticipated program costs. Indirect costs (ex. Rent, utilities, executive salaries or salaries beyond program delivery staff, etc.) are not allowable. The project budget must indicate supplemental funding sources, committed or anticipated, to ensure adequate budget planning to enable successful project implementation.