

Grantmaking

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WELCOME!

We're committed to using our funds to benefit young people who have the potential to make a difference in their community and the lives of others. We prioritize Skagit County initiatives that align with these principles.

We want individuals with no or little grant application experience to feel comfortable applying!

MISSION

Connecting people with programs, projects, or experience ideas that will enhance academic, athletic, and cultural activities for the children in Skagit County.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Individuals (no grant experience needed!)
- Youth with an adult co-applicant
- Charitable groups or nonprofits 501(c)(3)
- Public schools or educational programs
- Government or public entities

WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE?

- Projects without clear youth or community benefit
- Routine operating or budgeted expenses
- For-profit, political, or lobbying activities
- Religious programs focused on proselytizing
- Discriminatory organizations
- Debt reduction or endowment

HOW DO I APPLY?

- ✓ Submit your application through our online grant portal.
- ✓ You may be invited for a presentation, interview, or site visit.
- ✓ Applications are accepted year-round.
- ✓ Reviews take about 6-8 weeks.
- ✓ All applicants are notified by email.



WHAT TYPE OF FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?

MICRO GRANTS

- \$100–\$5,000 to help remove barriers to youth participation in academic, athletic, or cultural activities.
- **Support individuals, families, and nonprofits with one-time or time-sensitive needs** such as start-up costs, equipment, transportation, or special opportunities.

MAJOR IMPACT GRANTS

- \$5,000+ major community projects that create long-term benefits in Skagit.
- Often involve partnerships to maximize impact.
- **Applicants should connect with the Club Leadership** to discuss process, timelines, and presentation opportunities **before applying.**

Strong vs. Weak

GRANT APPLICATION GUIDE



This is a guide to help us to help you fund your project or program.

ASPECT	STRONG	WEAK
SKAGIT ROTARY ALIGNMENT	Understands our mission, values & guidelines supporting youth	Generic, lacks alignment clarity, "copy pasted" application
NEED	Clear, Concise Problem Statement, well defined objectives	Vague, anecdotal, no specific location or target area
GOALS	Clearly stated, realistic, measurable, time-bound & relevant to Rotary's goals.	Vague, unmeasurable & unrealistic
PLAN	Strong description, logical, realistic, easy to follow, evidence based	Unclear, overly ambitious, poorly scoped
IMPACT	Short-term outcomes, long-term outcomes, who benefits & how, equity/inclusion	Vague, generic, "hopeful" rather than "purposeful"
ORGANIZATON *OR* INDIVIDUAL	Individual applications: Are encouraged, experience preferred not required, clear concept and plan Organization applications: proven track record, qualified staff, partnerships/collaborations, previous successes, systems for managing funds/results	Unclear how grant funds will make the 'dream' a realistic achievement. Lacks experience or realistic systems for stated objectives, lacks necessary collaborations, previous unsuccessful grants/results history.
COMMUNITY	Youth centric, community/schools partner engagement,	Unclear youth benefit, lacks definition or relationships
BUDGET	Detailed, justified, aligns with narrative	Unrealistic, lacks clarity or details, misaligned
SUSTAINABILITY	Clear long-term vision, plan for the future, has way to evaluate plan	One-off project with no future plan or means to evaluate

By focusing on the STRONG POINTS and avoiding the weak ones, you increase your chances of submitting a winning grant!