



2021 Grant Program

The Rural Development Finance Corporation (RDFC) is pleased to announce it has approved a 2021 grant allotment of \$2,000 per member-cooperative to be used to support community owned entities, non-profits and community-based projects.

Guidelines

Eligible projects: community owned businesses (café, grocery store, motel, other); community facilities (such as ambulance services, fire districts, recreation, hospital/clinic, community center, etc.); or community-based projects (such as school/youth projects, other) that benefit rural areas and lead to community betterment.

New in 2021: RDFC does not provide funds for medical fundraisers or general operating costs.

Matching funds: \$4 dollars of other funds to every \$1 of RDFC funds. The member cooperative is responsible for verifying the matching funds. The matching funds DO NOT need to come from the utility cooperative. RDFC will not require documentation.

Maximum/minimum grant amounts: The minimum grant amount is \$500; the maximum is \$2,000. The limit is \$2,000 per member cooperative for 2021.

Time frame: February 19, 2021 - December 31, 2021

Process:

1. Let your members know about the grant funds. The application for funds needs to flow through the member cooperative.
 - a. Some cooperatives encourage competition by advertising the availability of grant funds to its members.
 - b. Some cooperatives have employees bring forward projects from their community.
 - c. Some cooperatives have ample requests from which to decide and do not market the program.
2. Complete the application (either by the applicant or the member cooperative)
 - a. A fillable application is attached to this email.
 - i. An unprotected word document is also attached. If you prefer, feel free to place on your letterhead and change the contact information at the bottom. The application should be completed and submitted to RDFC by the member cooperative.
 - b. Some cooperatives designate an employee to sign off on the applications.
 - c. Most cooperatives have the board approve submission of the grant application to RDFC.
 - d. The application can be mailed using the address above or emailed to lcapouch@ndarec.com.
 - e.
3. The RDFC board will make final approval on the grant requests. Once approved, a check will be made out to the recipient entity listed on the application and mailed to the RDFC



Rural Development
Finance Corporation
GROWING COMMUNITIES

P.O. Box 727
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Fax: 701-663-3745

contact person listed on the application. RDFC will provide a brief informational sheet that you can use to promote the donation if you wish.

For an application, assistance or questions contact:

Lori Capouch (667-6444 direct or lcapouch@ndarec.com)

Mary Stumpf (667-6404 direct or mstumpf@ndarec.com)