

2026 Blueprints for the Community Grant Program – Q&A

Q: What changes have been made to the Blueprints for the Community grant program?

A: The main changes include:

- Streamlined application process with fewer questions
- New virtual impact reporting model
- Updated award cycles (3 cycles per year instead of 16)
- Rebranding of "standard" grants to "large" grants

Q: What are the new grant cycles?

A: There are now three cycles:

1. **Spring Small Grants** – February 1 - April 1
2. **Fall Small Grants** – August 1 - October 1
3. **Large Grants** – April 1 - June 1

Q: What are the grant amounts for small and large grants?

A:

- **Small Grants:** Up to \$50,000 (average expected to be \$10,000-\$20,000)
- **Large Grants:** Over \$50,000 (average expected to be \$50,000-\$100,000)

Q: Can organizations apply for multiple grants in a year?

A: Organizations are still eligible for only one grant per calendar year. However, if not awarded in one cycle, they can apply again in subsequent cycles.

Q: How will impact reporting change?

A: The new model will include:

- A minimal written report

- A 30-minute recorded session where grantees can share successes, stories, outcomes, and challenges

Q: Will the Blueprints program be affected by political changes?

A: No, the program has been designed for sustainability and is not expected to be impacted by political changes. The fund is set up to continue regardless of Highmark Delaware's status.

Q: Are there other support opportunities from Highmark Delaware?

A: Yes, including:

- **Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community**
- **Health Equity Fund** (for Highmark Medicaid-specific initiatives, referral only)
- **Networking and connection opportunities**
- **Volunteer Opportunities**

Q: How long will it take to receive grant decisions?

A: Decision timelines may be longer than in previous years due to the new cycle structure. Large grant decisions will be announced by late September or early October. This is a learning year for us so feel free to reach out and we will keep you updated along the way!

Q: Can organizations schedule meetings to discuss potential grant applications?

A: Yes, organizations are encouraged to schedule meetings with Maggie and Natalie to discuss their work and potential grant opportunities.

Q: Will these changes be applied to currently awarded grants?

A:

- **Virtual Impact Reports?** No, virtual impact reports will only be required for new grants awarded in 2025 and beyond.
- **Sustainability Considerations?** If an organization currently has an open grant, they must wait until that grant cycle is completed before reapplying. Small grants will be considered for year-over-year return investment. This is not a guarantee for funding.

For additional information or questions please reach out to:

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