

2022 McElroy Trust Grant Application

R. J. McElroy Trust

Letter of Intent

Thank you for your interest in applying to the McElroy Trust. We use the Letter of Intent (LOI) as the first step in our process. The process has four goals:

1. It's a front door to ask for the support you need to begin the process.
2. It's designed to make sure you are eligible to apply.
3. It's for you to decide if your project is a good match with our priorities.
4. It's a platform to share basic information about your project.

If you're invited to apply, you'll receive a link to a short application in the next week.

How can we help you?*

After you complete the Letter of Intent, we'll follow up with you.

Please tell us the type of follow-up that would be the most helpful to you.

Choices

I'd like permission to apply. No other information needed.

I'm not sure if I should apply. I need advice about what the Trust is looking for in an applicant.

I'm just getting started as a grantwriter. I need to know some basics about how to write a grant.

Section One: Eligibility of the project and the organization

Does the project/initiative benefit children or young people?*

Based on our donor's wishes, the McElroy Trust can only support projects benefiting young people (infants - young adults).

Choices

Yes

No

Is the applicant organization a nonprofit or government entity?*

By IRS guidelines, the McElroy Trust can only support requests from a 501(c)3 nonprofit or government entity.

Choices

Yes

No

Do you meet the Trust's guidelines?*

Applicants should meet **all** guidelines to continue in the process.

- The Trust does not make grants directly to individuals, except through the Gold Star and Fellowship programs.
- The Trust does not make grants to religious organizations for religious programming.
- The Trust does not make grants to schools for 1-to-1 technology for students.
- The Trust does not typically underwrite or sponsor fundraising events or place ads.
- The Trust does not typically support endowments.

Choices

Yes

No

Will your project take place in the McElroy Trust's service area?*

The McElroy Trust only supports projects in the following counties in northeast Iowa.

Choices

Allamakee

Black Hawk

Bremer

Buchanan

Butler

Chickasaw

Clayton

Delaware

Fayette

Grundy

Tama

Winneshiek

Northeast Iowa region

Iowa, including northeast region

Optional: If you chose, "Iowa" above, please tell us more.

If you chose, "Iowa" above, please tell us how many young people reside in the Trust's primary counties and the percent of your clients those young people represent.

Character Limit: 200

Section Two: Is your project a good match for the McElroy Trust?

Is the size and structure of a McElroy Trust grant a good fit for you?*

The McElroy Trust doesn't have lots of rules about the size of our grants or how much you can ask for. However, over time there are some patterns in our giving that might help you decide if the Trust is a good match. We decided to be open about these patterns so that you could be fully informed before you decide if you should apply. Your time is valuable.

- The McElroy Trust receives 120 to 150 requests per year.
- The Trust funds 30 to 50 requests per year.
- Only 3 or 4 out of every 10 proposals is awarded a grant.
- The Trust's typical grant for operations/programming is \$8,000 to \$15,000. Grants to capital projects are larger, but usually range from 5 - 20% of the total project budget.

Choices

Yes, the Trust's pattern fits well with our project

I'm not sure, I'd love to have a conversation to make sure

Our request would not fit this pattern.

Section Three: Your Request!

Project Name*

The name of your project will be used several times in the application process. The name you choose doesn't have to be clever or include an acronym. It just needs to be descriptive and specific (examples: Operating Support for 2019 or ABC AfterSchool Program or West Wing Building Expansion).

Character Limit: 250

What type of funding are you seeking?*

All eligible.

Choices

Capital

Operating (as long as the entire organization is aimed at helping young people)

Program

Scholarship

Pilot/innovation

Organizational Capacity Building

Other

Project summary*

In a few sentences, please tell us about your project, organization or idea for which you are seeking funding. This will help us understand if it is a good match for the McElroy Trust. If you're invited to apply, you'll have more room to tell your story.

Character Limit: 400

How much money are you requesting from the McElroy Trust?*

It's okay to estimate. You will be able to change this amount if you are invited to complete a full request.

Character Limit: 20

What is the total cost of the project/program/initiative?*

It's okay to estimate. You will be able to change this amount if you are invited to complete the full application.

Character Limit: 20

Start date*

If this is an on-going project or a request for operating support, please enter the date that you would like the Trust's grant funding to begin.

Character Limit: 10

Other questions or concerns?

Please share other questions, concerns or special circumstances we should know about.

Character Limit: 300

Minutes to complete LOI

Please tell us how many minutes it took you to complete this form. Your answer is used to help us improve and streamline our systems, NOT to judge your request. At the McElroy Trust, we value your time and want to use it wisely. Thank you.

Character Limit: 250

Did staff complete follow-up?

Choices

Yes

Internal Notes (Ignore!)

Have notes or comments? Create a new comment at the top of this page and leave this field blank

Character Limit: 5000