

# Lake Shore Savings Bank Community Grants Guidelines

Grant funds are distributed on a bi-annual basis in June and December. A grants committee, consisting of members of the local communities, review all grant applications. Except in unusual circumstances, the largest contribution made will be \$2,500 with most of the contributions in smaller amounts. Further consideration will be given to factors like availability of funds, donations to date in a particular category or region, and the impact to the community.

Contributions will be made for one year at a time with no commitment for ongoing projects.

Organizations must have 501C3 status.

Special projects that are sponsored by education or religious institutions will be considered only if they benefit the community as a whole.

Careful consideration will be given to the commitment and composition of the requesting organization’s board, officers, and project leaders. The organization must be able to show that they have the fiscal responsibility, management qualifications and the ability to complete, deliver or provide the services or programs for which the contribution is requested.

- Priority will be given to:**
1. Community development and investment projects serving the needs of the low to moderate income population or geographies.
  2. Projects which have the greatest potential impact on the community.
  3. Projects that will benefit the most number of people.
  4. Programs representing innovative, efficient approaches to serving community needs.
  5. Requests which will assist those citizens whose needs are not met by existing programs or services, particularly low to moderate income recipients.
  6. Projects which promote volunteer participation and citizen involvement.
  7. Community economic development
  8. Financial education

- Applications will normally not be considered for:**
1. Individuals
  2. Capital campaigns to establish or add to endowment funds.
  3. General operating budgets of existing organizations.
  4. Publications of books or programs, conferences will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
  5. Annual fund raising campaigns.
  6. Political campaigns
  7. Supplant tax funds for projects or activities that would ordinarily receive public support.
  8. Government funded agencies and school systems.
  9. Scholarships
  10. Organizations and projects outside the bank’s service area of Chautauqua and Erie Counties, WNY.