



Emergency Grants for Organizations

Funding Opportunity Guidelines

Applications Accepted
Rolling Basis

Senior Fund Background

The St. Louis City Senior Fund was created by a voter supported ballot initiative in November 2016. The approved legislation allows the City of St. Louis to levy and collect a property tax of five cents per hundred dollars of valuation, “for the purpose of providing services to persons sixty years of age or older.”¹

Our vision is for the City of St. Louis to be an aging-friendly city where older residents can age in place.

We support this vision by providing grants to local nonprofits and government entities to help older adults continue living in the home and community that best serves their needs and interests. All grants from the Senior Fund are directed to serve residents in the City of St. Louis who are 60 years or older.

Purpose of this Funding Opportunity

The St. Louis City Senior Fund is allocating a small portion of our program investments each year to offer support when organizations serving older adults in the City of St. Louis have an unanticipated event that is beyond the control of an organization, threatens the organization’s ability to operate senior programs and services, cannot be otherwise accommodated from resources available to the organization, and requires urgent or timely action.

Funding may support unforeseen circumstances such as equipment failures and damage due to theft or weather that affect the operations of senior services such as:

- Emergency repairs for facilities located in the City of St. Louis.
- Emergency repairs to vehicles used for delivering senior services.
 - *Note: Replacement of vehicles or purchase of new vehicles is not eligible under this funding category.*
- Repairs or replacement of equipment used for senior services (e.g., freezers).

Organization Eligibility

- An organization that is, or is fiscally sponsored by, a 501c3 or City of St. Louis Governmental Entity.
- Has demonstrated capacity and experience in providing services to St. Louis City residents 60 years of age and older.
- Have policies and procedures in place to manage finances and can provide documentation of past financials when requested (e.g., audited financial statements, IRS 990, other documentation).

¹ City of St. Louis Ordinance Number 70314

- Only one submission, per organization, per fiscal year (July – June).

Funding Requirements

- Request must be for an unplanned need that affects an organization’s operations and can be resolved—at least in part—with support from the Senior Fund.
 - This funding is not intended to make up for the recent loss of a grant or other funding sources, support ongoing services for clients or general operations, or to address long-term financial crises or funding shortfalls.
- Funding may support circumstances that affect operation of senior services such as emergency repairs for facilities located in the City of St. Louis, emergency repairs to vehicles, or repairs/replacement of equipment.
- To fund a range of organizations, most awards will be \$20,000 or less. On rare occasions, Senior Fund may consider higher requests.
- Funding support should be used within three to six months of receipt.
 - Reimbursement of emergency expenses charged to an organization’s credit card within the last 30 days prior to applying will be considered.

Application Process

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until funding budgeted for the fiscal year (July – June) is spent. All applications will be submitted via our online grants management system. You can see a preview of the application and instructions on our website through a link on the [Funding Opportunities](#) page.

We aim to determine funding decisions within 2 weeks after receipt of proposal. Sometimes decisions may take longer depending on amount requested and timing of application submission.

- Grants for \leq \$10,000: We will aim for a two-week decision from time of receipt of application.
- Grants for $>$ \$10,000: We will strive to make decisions as quickly as possible, but decisions may take up to four weeks or longer depending on timing of submission and when an executive board meeting is scheduled.
 - Requests should be submitted at least three business days before a scheduled board of directors meeting to be considered for review at that board meeting. For some circumstances, an emergency meeting may be scheduled if needed. See our website for dates of upcoming board meetings.

Funding requests for eligible organizations are reviewed by Senior Fund staff and board members.

Considerations for Decision

- Urgency – Request is responding to an unanticipated event that requires urgent or timely action. It is a new/unexpected challenge that must be resolved.
- Focus – Emergency need to be addressed must be directly tied to services for older St. Louis City residents.
- Resolution – Need can be clearly resolved within a reasonable timeframe—at least in part—with support from the Senior Fund.
- Effects of Support – If funding isn't provided, there are negative consequences for the organization.
- Organization Budget – Amount of funding support may range based on size of organization and other available funding sources. (i.e., preference for higher amounts of support will be given to organizations with budgets < \$500,000).
- History with Senior Fund – While not required, requests from an organization currently or previously funded by the Senior Fund that is in good standing will be weighed more favorably.

Reservation of Rights

Senior Fund reserves the right to reject proposals submitted, to request additional information or clarification from any or all applicants, and/or negotiate changes with applicants at any time before, during, or after the award process. Grant awards are made at the sole discretion of Senior Fund. No entitlement to funding for any organization at any level is expressed or implied.

Each applicant, in seeking, receiving, or possessing a request for applications and/or in submitting an application in response does release, indemnify, and hold Senior Fund and its various employees, representatives, and agents harmless from and against all claims and demands of any and all loss, cost, damage, or liability of whatever nature, which may be asserted against or imposed against Senior Fund as a result of issuing requests for applications, making any revisions thereto, conducting a selection process and subsequent negotiations, and making a final recommendation and/or entering into a grant agreement. Senior Fund will not be responsible for any expenses incurred in the preparation or presentation of any proposal.

Questions

Please contact us anytime with questions about this funding opportunity or any other information regarding St. Louis City Senior Fund.