

# Gratitude Grants

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Community  
Investments  
Program





# Important Dates

- Applications opened April 1, 2022.
- Applications will be accepted through January 17, 2023.
- Projects need to be completed, and all funds must be spent, by March 31, 2023.

# General CIP Guidelines

## Grants should follow IRS-defined charitable categories:

- Relieve the poor, distressed or underprivileged
- Advance education and science, but not through scholarships
- Lessen the burdens of government
- Combat juvenile delinquency and community deterioration
- Lessen neighborhood tensions

## Grants may not be used for:

- Fundraisers or memorials
- General community events
- Poster and/or essay contests
- Appreciation meals and/or events
- Youth awards nights or scholarships
- The benefit of Lodge members or families
- Hoop Shoots, State Major Projects, or National Elks Programs
- Salaries for Lodge employees or volunteers
- Projects that have already happened
- Donations to individuals



# Gratitude Grant Basics

- Gratitude Grants are the ENF's way of saying thank you to Lodges who have met the National President's per-member-giving goal in the prior fiscal year
- \$2,000 base grant
- Three \$500 bonuses available
- The Gratitude Grant funds local and charitable activities.
  - Donations of funds or supplies to 501(c)(3) organizations are allowed.
  - Gratitude Grants can be split between multiple projects.



# Gratitude Grant Bonuses

- Three \$500 bonuses available to eligible Lodges
  - Per-Member Giving Bonus
  - Fidelity Club Bonus
  - Chair Challenge Bonus
- Bonuses are automatically added to an eligible Lodge's Gratitude Grant application







## Per-Member Giving Bonus

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- Lodges in which 15% of members donated \$10 or more to the ENF in the prior fiscal year are eligible for a \$500 bonus.
- Lodge status can be checked at the [ENF Member Support Report](#).

# Fidelity Club Bonus

- Lodges in which 5% of the prior fiscal year's donors are signed up for the Fidelity Club are eligible for a \$500 bonus.
- Lodge status can be checked at the [Fidelity Club Goal Progress Report](#).





# Chair Challenge Bonus

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- Lodges that scored 550 points or higher in the prior fiscal year's Chair Challenge are eligible for a \$500 bonus.
- Current Lodge score can be found on the [Chair Challenge Score Report](#).



# Supersize it with a Gratitude Grant

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- Gratitude Grants can be used to supersize a Beacon or Spotlight Grant.
  - Note: the supersized Grant will maintain the original guidelines of the Beacon or Spotlight Grant.
- Supersize in the Budget section of the Beacon or Spotlight Grant application

☒ Yes! Please combine my lodge's Beacon Grant with a Gratitude Grant to increase our maximum grant request to \$6,000.00.

# Final Reporting

- Be sure to keep your receipts!
- For donation receipts, we need either:
  - A copy of the cashed check, which can be acquired through your bank.
  - A thank you letter from the organization that received the donation (typed on official letterhead, with the amount donated specified).



# 2021-22 Gratitude Grant Examples

- San Francisco, Ca., Lodge No. 3 partnered with the East Oakland Collective to host a food drive for community members living below the poverty line in the bay area.
- Distributed over 2,000 hot meals and 100 hygiene kits to community members facing food insecurity.





# Lake Taneycomo, Mo., Lodge No. 2597

- Partnered with the Boys and Girls Club to help purchase items necessary to maintain their community garden.
- The project not only aided in food assistance but had an added educational element as well.



# New Albany, Ind., Lodge No. 270

- Partnered with the Breakaway Recovery Home, a local women's transitional home.
- The initial project was a patio repair for the house, after further inspection it was found that they were more in need of new interior carpeting.
- Able to purchase necessary cleaning supplies for the home with leftover funds.







# Staying in Compliance

- Overdue Final Reports
  - Due 30 days after project completion
  - Out of compliance after 60 days
- Malfeasance
- Delinquent Dues
- Compliance status can be found at the [CIP Participation Report](#).



# Gratitude Grant Toolkit

- Includes
  - CIP general guidelines
  - Gratitude Grant guidelines
  - Sample applications from real Lodges
  - Project ideas
  - Final Report information
  - FAQs



# Questions?

- The CIP office is here to help you throughout the grant process, from the application to the Final Report.
- We can be reached by phone at 773/755-4730, or by email at [LodgeGrants@elks.org](mailto:LodgeGrants@elks.org).

Thank you for using CIP grants to make a difference in your community!

