



Denver County Guidelines

2026 SCFD Tier III Grant Application

Multi-County Grant Deadline: 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Denver County Grant Deadline: 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 11, 2026

ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must have received SCFD eligibility prior to submitting a grant application. Eligibility requirements are listed on the [SCFD website](#). Please contact SCFD staff about eligibility questions scfd@scfd.org. Applicants must continually maintain compliance with all eligibility requirements. Eligibility does not guarantee funding.

FINAL GRANT REPORTS

Organizations with any outstanding Final Grant Reports will not be able to submit a new grant application. This is not a requirement for first-time applicant organizations.

HOW TO APPLY

All grant applications must be completed using [SCFD's online grants management system](#). Please read the [Grant Application Directions](#) in their entirety before contacting SCFD. Online Grant Tutorials are provided on the [SCFD website](#) for your reference and are highly recommended.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding, and revisions, amendments, and other required documents will not be accepted after the grant application deadline.

CULTURAL COUNCIL STUDY SESSIONS

The Cultural Council will discuss applications during public study sessions. Applicant organizations are highly encouraged to attend but will not be invited to comment. Further information and schedule will be provided.

TIMELINE FOR USE OF FUNDS

Funds awarded in October 2026 are to be spent between October 2026 and December 31, 2027. A Final Grant Report for funds awarded during the 2026 cycle is due February 9, 2028.

GRANT AMENDMENTS

To request any amendments to your grant as awarded, please see the [Grant Amendment](#) section on the SCFD Tier III web page.

By statute, SCFD funding cannot be used for scholarships, pass-through funding for other entities, capital expenses, to retire debt, or for political or religious purposes. Read [SCFD Statutory Exclusions for Use of Funds](#) for more information.

DEFINITIONS

Activities: events that are open to the public, such as performances, exhibits, or outreach performances. Events that are not considered activities include classes that are not open to the public, rehearsals, and fundraising.

Educational Programming should be inclusive of the community. It does not refer exclusively to Title I schools. This may also include adult education.

Denver County Funding Criteria

Requests are only accepted for General Operating Support (GOS).

TYPES OF FUNDING AVAILABLE

GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT (GOS): An unrestricted grant that helps the organization achieve its mission.

Recipients must be committed to benefitting the broad diversity of Denver tax-paying residents. Organizations should show how they address and support the implementation of Denver's Cultural Plan by referring to the plan's goals and how these are reflected in their mission, programming and initiatives.

<https://www.artsandvenuesdenver.com/about/denvers-cultural-plan>

Minimum Requirements for GOS funding in Denver County:

1. Demonstrate a majority (at least 51%) of activities (as defined above) occur within Denver County.
2. Requests for general operating support must be for a minimum of \$500 and cannot exceed \$90,000. Requests may not be for more than 25% of the organization's prior year expenses or revenues, whichever is less, except in cases in which the request is to meet the minimum of \$500. At the discretion of the Council, awards may exceed the request limits.

For GOS, virtual attendance/activities for most recently completed fiscal year will not be included to determine compliance.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS – Discretionary grants are available to eligible organizations through a separate application process. Please visit

<https://www.artsandvenuesdenver.com/about/denver-county-cultural-council> for guidelines and application form.