



## Gable Grants Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the Lowe's Foundation Gable Grant?

The Lowe's Foundation is developing a community of skilled tradespeople to build and revitalize our homes, communities and infrastructure for the future. This national grant program is a \$50 million commitment over five years that directly supports community and technical colleges and community-based nonprofit organizations to recruit, train and prepare 50,000 new job-ready tradespeople to help fill the skilled trades gap.

### Who is eligible to apply for Gable Grants?

Organizations applying for Gable Grants must qualify as a community-based nonprofit organization or community and technical college in the United States as follows:

A. **Community & Technical Colleges:**

A community or technical college that is a public institution of higher education as defined in Section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act, and at which the associate degree is primarily the highest degree awarded. Also accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association that has been recognized by the United States Department of Education over the course of the grant. Foundations that raise private funds on behalf of community and technical colleges are eligible to apply during this cycle.

B. **Community-Based Nonprofit Organizations:**

A nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. For the purposes of the Gable Grants program, community-based organizations operate in a state, regional or local capacity.

**Note:** The Gable Grants program funds national nonprofit organizations by invitation only. These organizations typically operate with a national or international entity and deliver programming at a state, regional or local level through chapters, members, or other affiliated independent organizations.

**Note:** In addition, organizations must currently offer **sustainable, scalable post-secondary (adult) skilled trades education programs** with an emphasis on appliance repair, carpentry / construction, electrical, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) and / or plumbing.

To expand participation in the skilled trades, the education programs must directly recruit, train and prepare individuals including, but not limited to, women, people of color, individuals living in rural areas and individuals who are participating in second chance programs.



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The decision to award a grant is at the sole discretion of Lowe's Foundation and all decisions are final.

### When is the grant application submission period?

There is one annual application period based on organization type.

- **Community and technical colleges:** March 1, 2024 at 12:00 a.m. EST through March 31, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. EST.
- **Community-based nonprofit organizations:** Aug. 1, 2024 at 12:00 a.m. EST through Aug. 31, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

### What are key program milestones and dates in 2024?

<b>March</b>	Application submission period opens on March 1 for community and technical colleges.
<b>April</b>	Applications for community and technical colleges go through internal review process.
<b>May</b>	Finalists are invited to a virtual Q&A session with Lowe's Foundation Board members.
<b>June</b>	Decisions are made by Lowe's Foundation Board.
<b>July</b>	All community and technical college applicants are notified of approval or denial.
<b>August</b>	Application submission period opens on Aug. 1 for community-based nonprofit organizations.
<b>September</b>	Applications for community-based nonprofit organizations go through internal review process.
<b>October</b>	Finalists are invited to a virtual Q&A session with Lowe's Foundation Board members.
<b>December</b>	Decisions are made by Lowe's Foundation Board. All community-based nonprofit applicants are notified of approval or denial.

The Lowe's Foundation reserves the right to make changes to the grant process and timeline.



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### **Where do organizations go to apply?**

All applications must be submitted through the Lowe's Foundation Gable Grants online portal found [HERE](#). Through the portal, you may create a new application, open an existing application or collaborate with others. We recommend that you bookmark your page or copy the link to a safe place. If you clear your browser history, you will lose access to any applications you have in progress.

Email, fax transmissions and late applications will not be accepted. Lowe's will review each application submitted. Applications that are incomplete or do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be considered for funding.

### **Can a community-based nonprofit organization apply with another community-based nonprofit partner or community college? Can community / technical colleges apply as a consortium?**

Yes, you are welcome to partner together. When applying together, there must be a clear lead organization. The lead organization should apply with their corresponding cohort. For example, if the lead organization is a nonprofit, your application should apply with the nonprofit cohort.

### **Can high school programs that serve K-12 students apply?**

No, Gable Grants directly support nonprofit organizations and community & technical colleges to recruit, train and connect future skilled tradespeople to the workforce. The grants fund post-secondary, adult programs that focus on the 5 key trades areas that cultivate job-ready tradespeople. While we understand the importance of early exposure and awareness, Gable Grants are focused on addressing the worker shortage by focusing on adult populations.

### **What is the length of the grant period?**

The grant period is 24 months. Your program or initiative must start the following semester, program term, or student enrollment period. All funds must be used during the 2-year grant period.

### **What are the funding guidelines for Gable Grants?**

Grant awards are needs-based and range between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000.

Funds must be used for program-related expenses for sustainable, scalable skilled trades workforce development including instructors, program materials, new or remodeled training space, equipment, capacity building, etc. This may also include stipends for students and indirect costs. Grantees are required to measure impact and provide periodic reporting throughout the 2-year grant funding period.

### **Can grantees reapply for funding?**



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Yes, grantees are eligible to reapply after their grant period is complete.

### Can I reapply for funding if my organization does not get selected?

Yes, Gable Grant applications may be submitted annually and are limited to one application per organization type per application period.

### How can I check the status of my application?

Once your application has been submitted you may not make any changes or revisions. You will see the following message displayed on your screen:

 Success! Thank you for your submission.

In addition, you may print or save (by clicking “print to PDF”) the read-only version of your application that is displayed below the message. **It is recommended to save your application for your records, as it cannot be accessed by you through the system after this point.** You will also receive an email confirmation of your application submission from “[noreply.grants@benevity.com](mailto:noreply.grants@benevity.com).” *Please note - we recommend that you add this sender to your approved distribution list to ensure it does not end up in your junk mailbox.*

All notifications will be sent via email to the primary contact information provided on the application.

### What is the grant selection process?

All applications are thoroughly evaluated during a review process to ensure programs directly recruit, train, and prepare the future skilled trades workforce. This includes increasing the skilled trades workforce talent pool by actively recruiting women, people of color, individuals in rural areas and / or individuals who are justice involved and / or participating in second chance programs. See timeline above regarding key milestones and dates. All decisions to award or not award grants are made at the sole discretion of the Lowe’s Foundation and are final and not appealable.

## Questions Specific to Community-Based Nonprofit Organizations

### What qualifies as a Community-Based Nonprofit Organization?

A nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. For the purposes of the Gable Grants program, community-based organizations operate in a state, regional or local capacity.

**Note:** The Gable Grants program funds national nonprofit organizations by invitation only. These organizations typically operate with a national or international entity and deliver



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programming at a state, regional or local level through chapters, members, or other affiliated independent organizations.

### **Can my organization apply if we do not have a recognized 501(c)(3) status?**

No, Gable Grants are focused on directly supporting 501(c)(3) organizations. Non-charities, including organizations recognized as 501(c)(4)s, (c)(6)s, and (c)(19)s are not eligible at this time.

### **Can my organization apply if we do not offer skilled trades training?**

Gable Grants will fund programs focused on supporting workforce development in appliance repair, carpentry/construction, electrical, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) and/or plumbing. The grant application process is highly competitive and will prioritize an organization's demonstrated ability to deliver skilled trades training.

## **Questions Specific to Community & Technical Colleges**

### **Can community college foundations apply?**

Yes, follow your normal grant funding process based on your organization type. For example, community and technical college foundations, applying to fund college programming should apply during the community and technical college grant cohort.

### **Can 4-year universities or private institutions apply?**

No, Gable Grants are focused on directly supporting public institutions including community and technical colleges, in which the associate degree is the highest degree awarded.

### **Are programs that do not provide an associate degree eligible to apply?**

Yes, Gable Grants aim to connect graduates with direct employment opportunities. This includes certificate programs, apprenticeships and industry credentials.

### **Who can I contact with questions or additional support?**

For all program guidelines and information visit [lowes.com/foundation](https://lowes.com/foundation). If you need additional support, please contact us directly at [Foundation@lowes.com](mailto:Foundation@lowes.com).