Season for Sharing Grant Cycle

Available: 9am, Wednesday, October 14, 2026
Close Date: 4pm, Friday, November 13, 2026

Introduction

Season for Sharing, the annual holiday campaign of *The Arizona Republic,* and azcentral.com, in partnership with the Arizona Community Foundation and the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, raises awareness and dollars for non-profit 501(c)3 agencies that help the Valley's neediest.

Specific funding priorities

Grants will be made to organizations that match the criteria:

Children & Families

- Support of programs that focus on preventing child abuse, protecting children from abuse, finding permanent appropriate placements and providing support for children in the foster care system.
- Programs that offer access to free or low cost food including food banks and meal programs for children.
- Programs that help people receive emergency short term shelter and long term affordable housing.
- Programs that provide for short term emergency needs including personal care or hygiene items, clothing, rental or utility assistance or disaster relief.
- Programs that help disadvantaged populations with job training and support for the under-employed and unemployed youth and adults.
- Programs that help victims of domestic violence.
- Programs that provide access to healthcare navigation and community health centers, helping individuals and families connect with affordable medical care and preventive health services.

Arts & Education

- Programs that support early childhood education and quality child care for disadvantaged populations.
- Programs that enhance and/or improve K-12 core curriculum including tutoring and academic after school programs.
- Programs that provide for school readiness (back to school clothing, supplies, school food programs).
- Programs that ensure that all students graduate from high school prepared to succeed in college or the workforce.

- Programs that support adult and family literacy programs.

Older Adults

- Programs and services for the elderly including supportive services, assisted living services, Alzheimer's support, access to free or low cost in-home or congregate meal programs and nutrition assistance, and recreational services.
- Programs that address affordable housing
- Programs and services that provide access to healthcare for older adults, including support for individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's disease.

Funding request range

Grants generally range from $7,500-$50,000. Please limit requests to increase grant amounts to no more than 50 percent higher than the last grant received.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Primary geographic focus areas are Maricopa and Pinal counties, and all grants must be for programs in the state of Arizona.
- Agency can apply for **one category only.**

Please note the following are ineligible for Season for Sharing funding:

- Agencies or programs that primarily support a specific disease, disability, illness or addiction and/or whose primary mission is funding medical or scientific research.
- Agencies that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, medical condition, veteran status, marital status, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic protected by law.
- Religious organizations, churches, and programs that are purely denominational in purpose.
- Sports teams or sporting programs or programs that are primarily recreational in purpose.
- Schools, including charter schools.
- Project cannot be a summer camp. Season for Sharing is a collaborative funder for the Summer Youth Program Fund which solely funds summer camps.
- Exclusive support for salaries and capital projects

Timeline for 2026-27 Grant Making

- Grant cycle opens **9 a.m., Wednesday, October 14, 2026.**
- Applications are due by **4 p.m., Friday, November 13, 2026. No exceptions.**
- Giving Committee will make final recommendations by the end of **February 20267.**
- Grant awards and decline letters will be emailed out in **April 2027.**

Grant Deadline

Proposals must be submitted online by **4 p.m. Friday, November 13, 2026. No exceptions.**

How to Apply Online

If your organization has an ACF profile:
Go to the Arizona Community Foundation's grants page at www.azfoundation.org/grants. Click grantee login at the top right corner of the main page to sign in and begin an application. If you need to reset your password please use the "forgot password" link.

If your organization does not have a registered ACF profile:
If your organization needs to be registered, please go to www.azfoundation.org/grants. Click grantee login at the top right corner of the main page. Please click on "Create New Account" to complete the registration process and create your login credentials.

Tips for Submitting

All users will be required to update and complete their organizational profile before being able to submit any grant application.

- Do not wait until the deadline date to apply.
- During the last week of any grant cycle's duration, you will have limited access to ACF technical support.
- It is recommended that the application be prepared offline in a text editor such as Microsoft Word to ensure a duplicate exists.
- Narrative responses are limited to the character count. You do not have to use all the words. Only provide information that is pertinent.
- Be sure to review applications for spelling and grammar errors.
- Be sure to check for an email notification indicating that your application has been submitted.

How to Get Help

Due to the high volume of calls and inquires as the deadline nears, organizations are encouraged to contact staff well in advance of the deadline with any questions. During the last week of any grant cycle's duration, you will have limited access to ACF technical support.

For assistance with technical questions regarding the online registration and application, please contact our Competitive Grants Management Team at grants@azfoundation.org or 602-381-1400.

Pre-Qualifying Questions

*You must agree to **all** to be eligible to apply.*

- My agency is fully authorized by its board and other applicable partners/collaborators to submit this application.
- I understand priority is given to agencies that serve low income and under-served families and children.
- I understand that the primary geographic focus areas for this funding opportunity are Maricopa and Pinal counties, and agree that my agency's program serves residents of Arizona.
- I understand that my agency can apply for only one of the following categories: Children & Families, Education & Arts and Older Adults.
- Is your agency (or fiscal sponsor) a 501(c)(3) organization that operates with fiscal accountability and responsibility? Religious organizations may apply for funding of non-sectarian programs.
- My agency or program is not a sports teams, sporting program, or program that is primarily recreational in purpose.

- My agency or program does not primarily support a specific disease, disability, illness or addiction and/or have a primary mission of funding medical or scientific research.
- I have downloaded the latest guidelines and questions document
- My agency does not unlawfully discriminate against employees, volunteers, board members, or the members, clients, or students it serves on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, medical condition, veteran status, marital status, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic protected by law.
- Have you updated your browser? (We recommend using Google Chrome or the most updated version of Firefox. Please check the grant guidelines, which you can download by clicking on the Preview button above, for more information. It is not recommended that you use Internet Explorer.)
- I understand that my agency must be in good standing with the IRS at the time of review or else my application will be immediately declined.
- Applicant organization understands that Season for Sharing will not fund summer camp programs through this grant cycle. Season for Sharing is a collaborative funding partner for the Summer Youth Program Fund.

Grant Application Questions

Project Overview

1. Project Title
2. Amount Requested
3. Total Project Amount

Project Narrative

4. Please describe the program proposal in detail. Define the need in the community: tell us the goals of the project and how they align with your mission, describe the activities you will undertake, indicate the population served, specify the resources (personnel, partnerships, funding, time, etc.) that will be used, provide a timeline of events as appropriate. When applicable, please present data/evidence that documents the significance of the issue. (Character Limit – **3500**)

   We would love to receive a video to illustrate the program details outlined above. The Video will need to be hosted on a URL that links to a supported video, such as one hosted on YouTube or Vimeo.

5. Although you may have listed your organization's website in your organizational profile, please provide your organization's website in the field below.

6. Have you received funding from Season for Sharing in the last 3 years?(Yes/No)

   (If Yes is selected) Please list the amounts received in the field below.

   (If Yes is selected) Tell us how the most recent funds were used. (Character Limit – **750)**

   (If Yes is selected) If asking for an increase in funding this year, please tell us why. (Character Limit – **750**)

7. Each year, The Arizona Republic and azcentral make every effort to provide our audiences with specific information about how agencies utilize Season for Sharing dollars. These "factoids," which run in the paper and online are brief descriptions of what your agency will accomplish with a Season for Sharing grant. Please provide your summary below, using the following format. (Character Limit - **250**)

   Example for question above:
   Tempe Community Action Agency: *With your gift, Tempe Community Action Agency provided approximately 2,700 hot, nutritious meals and vital wellness checks for home-bound and disabled seniors in Tempe and Scottsdale.*

8. How will your organization recognize Season for Sharing if you are selected as a grant recipient? (Character Limit – **1200**)

9. We may wish to support your program but may not have the resources to fully fund your request. Please state the minimum amount needed to implement your program and what the funds will provide. Please be realistic knowing that we may decline your request if we are not able to fund the amount listed. (Character Limit – **750**)

Project Questions

10. Which of the following best describes the issue your program addresses? (Select ONE)
    - Children & Families
    - Education & Arts
    - Older Adults

(The answer selected above determines the next question)

11. Which of the following best describes the issue your Children and Families program addresses?
    - Support of programs that focus on preventing child abuse, protecting children from abuse, finding permanent appropriate placements and providing support for children in the foster care system.
    - Programs that offer access to free or low cost food including food banks and meal programs for children.
    - Programs that help people receive emergency short term shelter and long term affordable housing.
    - Programs that provide for short term emergency needs including personal care or hygiene items, clothing, rental or utility assistance or disaster relief.
    - Programs that help disadvantaged populations with job training and support for the under-employed and unemployed youth and adults.
    - Support for victims of domestic violence.
    - Programs that provide access to healthcare navigation and community health centers, helping individuals and families connect with affordable medical care and preventive health services.

12. Which of the following best describes the issue your education related program addresses?
    - Programs that support early childhood education and quality child care for disadvantaged populations.
    - Programs that enhance and/or improve K-12 core curriculum including tutoring and academic afterschool programs.
    - Programs that provide for school readiness (back to school clothing, supplies, school food programs).
    - Programs that ensure that all students graduate from high school prepared to succeed in college or the workforce.
    - Programs that support adult and family literacy programs

13. Which of the following best describes the issue your Older Adults related program addresses?
    - Programs and services to provide for supportive services, assisted living services and recreational for the elderly
    - Programs and services to provide for Alzheimer's support
    - Programs that provide access to free or low cost in-home or congregate meal programs and nutrition assistance for the elderly
    - Programs and services that provide access to healthcare for older adults, including support for individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's disease.

14. Please indicate if this is a new project, a project expansion or a continuing project.
15. Describe the steps your organization takes to promote environmental sustainability in your operations and projects.
16. Please describe how your organization identifies and addresses the needs of underserved or minority communities in Arizona. What specific programs or initiatives do you have in place to ensure equitable access to your services?

Demographics

17. Select the demographic populations, such as the age group, race, gender, socio-economic status and geographic location of the target population you intend to serve (Select all that apply).

Ages:
- 0 – 5
- 6 – 17
- 18 – 25
- 26 – 65
- 65+
- N/A

Race/ Ethnicity:
- African American or Black
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native American/Indigenous
- White
- Other
- N/A

Gender:
- Female
- Male
- Transgender
- Mixed Gender/Gender Fluid

Socio-Economic:
- Below Poverty Level
- Homeless
- Unemployed
- Working Poor
- N/A

Disabilities:
- Ambulatory Disability
- Developmental Disabilities
- Diseases/Illnesses
- Hearing Disability
- Learning Disabilities
- Mental Disability
- Other Physical Disability
- Self-Care Disability
- Visual Disability
- N/A

Location:
- Apache County
- Cochise County
- Coconino County
- Gila County
- Graham County
- Greenlee County
- La Paz County
- Maricopa County
- Mohave County
- Navajo County
- Pima County
- Pinal County
- Santa Cruz County
- Yavapai County
- Yuma County
- State-wide
- Multiple States
- Nationwide

Populations:
- Animals
- Children & Youth
- Crime or Abuse Victims
- Environment
- Faith Based
- Immigrants & Refugees
- LBGTQ
- Offenders & Ex-Offenders
- Older Adults
- Single Parents
- Substance Abusers
- Veterans & Military

Budget

18. What is your organization's annual operating budget?

19. List your top five corporate or foundation funders with grant amounts.

20. The project budget you enter below should show financial data for the proposed project during the grant period, not the organization's overall operating budget. Please only include revenue and expenses related to the proposed project, such as salaries, fees for services, etc. Please list all other funding sources you have applied to, both pending and secured, for this project. In the comments box, please describe the use of requested funds by providing a timeline, steps and costs associated with successful projection completion.

Documentation

21. Current List of Board Members

Consent for Publication

22. Do you consent to the publication of your video or narrative provided in this grant application?

Reporting

Mid-Term Report - Due October 2026

Please share a compelling impact story resulting from this Season for Sharing grant to date that showcases how your program has transformed the lives of participants or the community? We would love to receive a video to illustrate this story, but you are also welcome to provide a text description of your project.

Final Report – Due April 2027

Please share a compelling impact story resulting from this Season for Sharing grant that showcases how your program has transformed the lives of participants or the community? We would love to receive a video to illustrate this story, but you are also welcome to provide a text description of your project.

Do you consent to the publication of your video or narrative provided in these reports?