



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

First Bank is committed to the vitality and success of the customers and communities it serves. The Board of Directors and management understand the need to maintain strong ties at the community level and the responsibility to invest in and serve the customers and markets that provide its sources of funding.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Grants will be awarded to qualified organizations that support the revitalization of communities, expand affordable housing and economic opportunities and improve community facilities and services, *principally to benefit low- and moderate-income individuals in designated distressed and underserved rural communities throughout southeast Alaska*. Requests will not be considered from individuals or organizations outside of Alaska.

TYPES OF SUPPORT

Within these general guidelines, we consider the following requests:

A) GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT

We consider general operating support requests from organizations that:

- deliver effective programs with measurable outcomes in response to community needs
- are financially stable
- receive and provide strong leadership
- collaborate to maximize effectiveness
- involve constituents in planning

B) PROGRAM AND PROJECT SUPPORT

We consider requests to support programs that are highly effective or innovative and do not duplicate other programs or services.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Through First Bank Community Development, we support the creation of economic opportunity through grants to organizations that provide affordable housing, encourage self-sufficiency, and assist economic development.

A) ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

1. Affordable Housing

We support:

- organizations that support the preservation, rehabilitation and construction of quality affordable housing that assists low- and moderate-income populations
- programs that provide home buyer counseling and related economic education to individuals and families with low and moderate incomes

2. Self-Sufficiency

We support:

- programs that assist low- and moderate-income individuals in development of work and life skills essential to self-sufficiency, with a focus on work-entry programs, specific skills training, employment retention, and personal financial management training
- broad child-care and transportation initiatives designed to help people transition from welfare to work

3. Economic Development

In low- and moderate-income areas and distressed and underserved communities, we fund programs that support small business development and expansion, commercial revitalization, and job creation.

B) EDUCATION

We support:

- innovative programs that help low-income and at-risk students succeed in school and prepare for post-secondary education
- financial literacy training
- effective mentoring programs

Priority is given to programs that reach a broad number of students, bring together community resources, support curriculum innovation, and can, if successful, be replicated.

C) HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

We support:

- programs that assist with maintaining and lowering health-care costs
- programs that expand or improve health care and social services in distressed and underserved rural communities

Priority is given to programs that reach seniors, youth and disabled individuals.

D) CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC ENRICHMENT

We fund organizations and programs that:

- build audiences for the arts, especially among underserved populations
- bring select and limited civic amenities to distressed and underserved, rural communities
- promote the arts in education

INCOME CATEGORIES DEFINED

For the customers and communities served by First Bank the Area Median Income (AMI) per household is currently **\$71,900**. As a percentage of that income figure the categories are defined as follows:

- Low Income – income is less than 50% of AMI
- Moderate Income – income is at least 50% and less than 80% of AMI
- Middle Income – income is at least 80% and less than 120% of AMI
- Upper Income – income is 120% or greater than AMI

Priorities are given to incomes less than the equivalent of Middle Income as defined here. Other income-based categories are common, but if possible, should be related to the categories defined here.

HOW TO APPLY

A First Bank Community Development Grant Application must be completed with any required attachments. The application may be obtained at any First Bank branch or office location, downloaded from the bank's website at www.firstbankak.com, or contact Michael Medford, Vice President of Community Development at 907-228-4222 or michael.medford@firstbankak.com.

Follow the application submission option on the application form or return the completed application and attachments to any First Bank branch or office location.

Application Deadlines: Last business day of February, April, June, August, October and December. Applications will be accepted at any time but will be held until the end of business of the next deadline date for scoring and final decision making. Please allow up to 30 days from each deadline date for decision notification.

NOTIFICATION

Each organization will be notified of the outcome of a submitted application. Grant awards are based on funding availability. First Bank reserves the right to deny applications that are not consistent with the bank's community development objectives or to organizations whose practices are not in keeping with equal opportunity policy. First Bank may also revise and place conditions upon approved grants to maintain such consistency.