Florida Disaster Fund

FY 2019-2020
Request for Applications

Technical Assistance Call

volunteerflorida
Volunteer Florida

Volunteer Florida is the Governor’s lead agency for volunteerism and national service in Florida, administering more than $43 million in federal, state, and local funding to deliver high-impact national service and volunteer programs in Florida.

Volunteer Florida promotes and encourages volunteerism to meet critical needs across the state. Volunteer Florida also serves as Florida’s lead agency for volunteers and donations before, during, and after disasters.
Florida Disaster Fund (FDF)

The Florida Disaster Fund provides financial assistance to qualifying organizations to meet disaster-caused needs in Florida with a focus on support for disaster response and long-term recovery activities.

Volunteer Florida seeks to support organizations to increase their ability to respond and recover from disasters.

Grant period is a twelve-month period, beginning September 30, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020.

Volunteer Florida will make available approximately $8 million for subgrantees serving the needs of Floridians.

- $3 million available for Hurricane Michael
- $5 million available for Hurricane Irma
Eligibility

An organization applying for a FDF grant must:

1. Respond to a need created by a qualifying disaster in the geography specified by the disaster declaration;
2. Classified by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt, 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, a faith-based entity headquartered or registered in the State of Florida, a municipality or local government acting as a fiscal agent, or an organization making use of a fiscal agent with such a designation; and
3. Complete an online application.

Previous grant recipients are eligible to apply for FY 2019 – 2020 grants if they have completed all close out paperwork on the previous grant. Current FDF grant recipients are not eligible to apply for FY 2019 – 2020 grants unless they have expended at least 75% of their funds from any previous FDF grant award prior submitting a subsequent application.
Funding Priorities

Preference will be given to projects that meet needs not covered through other sources, such as FEMA Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs, Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program, other state disaster recovery funds.

**Stronger applications will:**

- Demonstrate the integration of volunteers
- Be initiated within 30 days of contract execution
- Show measurable impacts within 12 months

An organization may submit two applications, one for Hurricane Michael and one for Hurricane Irma, however two separate applications must be completed.
Fatal Criteria:

Proposals will not be reviewed for funding unless all of the following criteria are met:

The proposal was submitted in the Blackbaud online portal and received by Volunteer Florida no later than Friday, August 23, 2019 by 5:00pm EST. Note: Proposals will not be accepted via email or hard copy.

The proposal must include:

1. A completed application
2. A detailed budget
3. A task list

The application includes an approved Volunteer Florida budget template and task list.
Q & A

E-mail- Katie@volunteerflorida.org
Budget

Funds awarded to sub grantees are intended to be used for disaster response and long term recovery activities.

The maximum grant request is $2 million.

Grants are cost reimbursement only.

Grantees may submit an advance payment request. Advance payments can not exceed 30% of the award. After the initial advance, remaining payments will be made on a cost reimbursement basis.

Grantees are required to provide a 100% in kind and/or cash match. The use of volunteers can be used toward match.

FDF monies can be used to support a salaried position.
Other Requirements

All applicants are required to submit their most recent audit report including the management letter and the schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Quarterly Reporting:
Successful sub-grantees will report to Volunteer Florida on a quarterly basis via Blackbaud. Performance measures could include number of volunteers engaged, hours served, households impacted, trainings conducted, etc.
  • Anecdotal, testimonials, and pictures are strongly encouraged.

Financial Reporting:
Successful sub-grantees will report to Volunteer Florida on a monthly basis with submission of a Volunteer Florida Monthly Invoice and appropriate supporting documentation of expenditures AND match.
  • After submission of an invoice, Volunteer Florida has 45 days to reimburse the organization.
FDF Anticipated Timeline

Application opens – August 12, 2019

*Application technical assistance call – August 16, 2019 - 10:00 AM*

Application due to Volunteer Florida – August 23, 2019

Internal programmatic and budget review – Aug 26, 2019 – September 6, 2019

**Notification of Award – September 15, 2019**

Contracts provided to successful applicants – September 30, 2019

Letters to applicants not receiving funding (as applicable) – October 1, 2019

FDF contract overview conference call – October 7, 2019 (tentative)
Q & A

E-mail- Katie@volunteerflorida.org
Application Instructions

Complete the following steps to submit the Florida Disaster Fund application.

Review the Application Instructions and Scoring Criteria (within the application) to align submission response accordingly.

Open this website in either Internet Explorer or Mozilla Foxfire: www.GrantRequest.com/SID_2153?SA=AM

Download instructional Blackbaud screen shots here: https://www.volunteerflorida.org/grants/
Q & A

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