

# **Volunteer Generation Fund Technical Assistance Webinar FY 26-27**



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# Tips for Participating

- Phones are muted and video is off
- Please put your questions in the chat, we will stop during the presentation to answer questions
- Recording will be made available after the session at:
  - [VolunteerFlorida.org/VGF-Grant-Opportunities](https://VolunteerFlorida.org/VGF-Grant-Opportunities)



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# Volunteer Florida

Volunteer Florida is the Governor's lead agency for volunteerism and national service in Florida, administering more than \$92 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.



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1. **Administers AmeriCorps programs**
2. **Coordinates volunteers and donations before, during and after disasters**
3. **Increases volunteerism through grants, trainings and recognitions**
4. **Manages the Volunteer Florida Foundation**



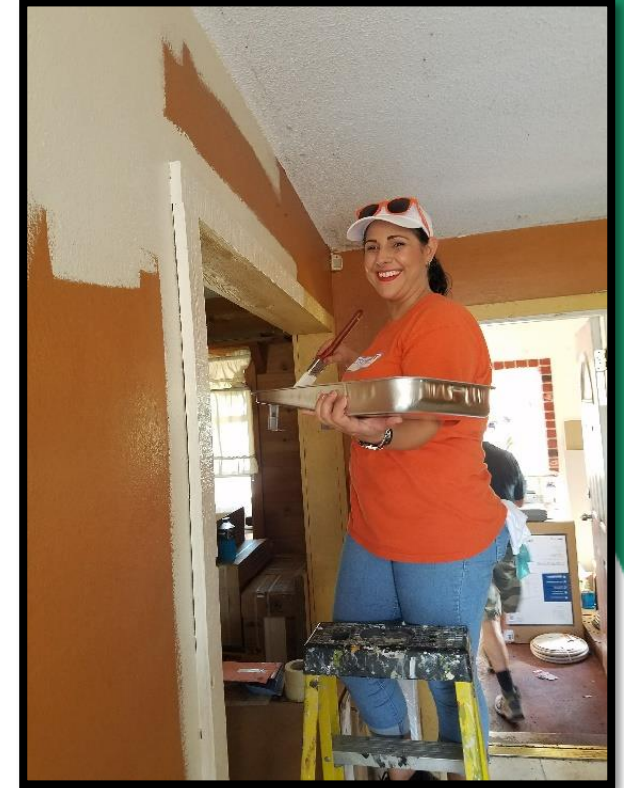
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# Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF)

Volunteer Florida administers the Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF), an initiative of AmeriCorps that focuses on investments in volunteer engagement practices that strengthen entities' ability to increase recruitment and retention of volunteers to meet critical community needs through service.

The grant period is an 11-month period, beginning November 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2027.

Volunteer Florida will make available up to \$300,000 for an estimated 25 sub-grantees serving the needs of Floridians.



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# Volunteer Generation Fund Overview

Volunteer Florida seeks to support two types of organizations through the VGF funding: Long Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs) or similar organizations and organizations engaging Veteran and military family volunteers.

Volunteer Florida seeks to build long-term capacity of nonprofits, Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COADs), Long-Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs), and other volunteer-driven organizations.

Volunteer Florida also seeks to expand the recruitment and engagement of volunteers, including Veterans and military family members, to support community resilience and disaster recovery efforts.



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# Eligibility

## Eligible entities must be:

- Public or private nonprofit organizations, including faith based and other community organizations;
- Institutions of higher education;
- Governmental entities within states or territories (e.g., cities, counties);
- Labor organizations;
- Partnerships and consortia; or
- Indian Tribes.

If another entity serves as the project's fiscal agent, it must be an established 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization that agrees to accept donations on behalf of a group that does not have IRS tax exempt status. The applicant must be a Florida-based organization.



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# Fatal Criteria:

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

- The application is submitted via the [Blackbaud Grantmaking online portal](#) and received by Volunteer Florida no later than **5:00 pm EDT on September 8, 2026**. Proposals will not be accepted via email or hard copy.
- The applicant is a public or private 501c(3) nonprofit organization, including faith-based and other community organization; an institution of higher education; a government entity (e.g., states, cities, counties, school systems, etc.); labor organization; partnership and consortium; or Indian Tribe.
- The applicant mobilizes or will mobilize volunteers to meet the mission of the organization.
- The application includes the selection of relevant performance measures.
- The applicant activities must be in compliance with prohibited activities, including those specified in the regulations at 45 CFR § 2520.65.
- The application requests the allowable grant amount up to \$20,000.
- The application provides 50% match of the grant request.
- The application includes a Budget on the Volunteer Florida Budget Template.



# Budget

Funds awarded to subgrantees are intended to be used for capacity building activities to develop or strengthen LTRGs and skills-based volunteer programs, engaging Veterans and/or military families. Grants will be **cost reimbursement only**, where costs are reimbursed once they are paid and will require supporting documentation such as, but not limited to timesheets, payroll documentation, invoices, and proof of payments. The same documentation will also be required to support the required match portion of the grant.

Examples of eligible capacity building activities may include:

- Strategic Planning
- Board Development
- Grant Writing and Resource Development
- Volunteer Management Software
- Donation Management Systems
- Case Management and Project Tracking Systems
- Website Development,
- Volunteer and Donation Management Planning,
- Community Needs Assessments
- Development of Volunteer and Donations Management Plans
- Development of Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Procedures

- Risk Assessments
- Cybersecurity Improvements
- COAD Development,
- LTRG-to-COAD Transition Planning
- Volunteer Recruitment and Retention
- Community Outreach/Preparedness
- Resilience Activities
- EM Planning and Coordination Activities



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# Budget

Applicants must only include costs in the following allowable Budget Categories:

- A. Personnel Salaries**— Funds may be used to hire new personnel or support existing personnel for up to two (2) personnel positions to develop or augment a volunteer program, engage in grant writing, board development and the transition from LTRG to COAD.
- B. Employer Paid Fringe Benefits** - Costs can include the following: FICA, Health Insurance, Workers Compensation, Retirement, Life Insurance, Dental Insurance, and Unemployment.
- C. Software** - Funds may be used for software which is directly related to tracking donations and the recruitment, support, management, and retention of volunteers and tracking volunteer demographics and activities. Funds may also be used for the creation of a volunteer website for use of promoting volunteer opportunities, organizational information and any required volunteer forms.



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# Budget

Applicants must only include costs in the following allowable Budget Categories:

- D. Training** - Funds may be used to purchase memberships, subscription services, materials or other training opportunities/resources specifically to strengthen the organization's capacity and ability to engage volunteers (staff training) or properly train volunteers to support the applicant's programming (training for volunteers).
- E. Community Outreach** - Funds may be used for organizational and community resilience activities designed to strengthen preparedness, recovery, and volunteer coordination capacity. Examples may include the following: community outreach and volunteer recruitment campaigns; mass notification and volunteer communication systems; disaster preparedness and resilience training for staff and volunteers.



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# Budget

- Pay attention to the Budget requirements in the NOFO and be sure you are including all required information with your Application.
- Please round all calculations to the nearest dollar
- Please include all calculations in an equation format in both the Budget Narrative and on the Budget Template for all reimbursement and match expenditures being included in the budget. VGF Column (reimbursable) Grantee Share (match)
- All costs should be listed separately and be itemized and be included in both the Budget Narrative and the Budget Template. Do not include any miscellaneous costs or fillers.
- See Pages 6-7 (VI and VII specifically) in the NOFO regarding the Scoring Criteria to ensure you have answered and included all requested and required information in your Application Budget Narrative and Budget Template.



# Budget

## VI. Budget Narrative (15 points)

1. The budget narrative describes the different types of grants (local, state, or federal) the organization has received and managed.
2. The budget narrative is detailed and provides a full explanation of associated costs, including their purpose, justification, and the basis for the calculations.
3. The budget narrative calculations are presented in an equation format, identifying the number of persons involved, cost per unit, etc. All costs should be listed separately or individually.
4. The budget narrative includes a 50% match and clearly explains the source of funds, the type of contribution (cash or in-kind), the amount, and the intended purpose of the match.
5. The budget narrative provides the organization's current budget, percentage of the budget this grant would represent, and how it will comply with fiscal compliance oversight.

## VII. Budget (15 points)

1. The proposal includes an approved Volunteer Florida budget template.
2. Budget is submitted without mathematical errors, and proposed costs are allowable, reasonable, and allocable to the award.
3. The Budget includes the required 50% match.
4. The Budget contains only allowable expenses in the budget categories listed and meets both federal and State of Florida cost allowance guidelines.



|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          |                  |               |              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| LEGAL APPLICANT (LEAD AGENCY):                                                                                                    | Volunteers R Us     |          |                  |               |              |
| PROGRAM:                                                                                                                          |                     |          |                  |               |              |
| PROGRAM YEAR: 2026-2027                                                                                                           | VGF BUDGET TEMPLATE |          |                  |               |              |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | VGF Share        | Grantee Share | Total        |
| 1. Personnel Expenses <i>(list each employee by last name, first name initial and position title)</i><br><i>Max 2 individuals</i> | Annual Salary       | % time   |                  |               |              |
| 1 Gavin, J - Volunteer Services Director                                                                                          | \$ 75,000.00        | 25%      | \$ 9,375.00      | \$ 9,375.00   | \$ 18,750.00 |
| 2                                                                                                                                 |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| 1. Personnel Expenses Subtotal                                                                                                    |                     |          | \$9,375.00       | \$9,375.00    | \$18,750.00  |
| 2. Personnel Fringe Benefits- Max 2 individuals                                                                                   |                     |          |                  |               |              |
| Individual #1 (NAME)                                                                                                              |                     |          |                  |               |              |
| FICA (Social Security and Medicare)                                                                                               | \$ 18,750.00        | 7.65%    | \$ 717.00        | \$ 717.00     | \$ 1,434.00  |
| Health Insurance                                                                                                                  | \$1,080 per mo      | 25%      | \$ 2,970.00      | \$ -          | \$ 2,970.00  |
| Workers' Comp                                                                                                                     |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Retirement (14%)                                                                                                                  | \$ 75,000.00        | 25%      | \$ 2,625.00      | \$ -          | \$ 2,625.00  |
| Life Insurance                                                                                                                    |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Dental Insurance                                                                                                                  |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Unemployment                                                                                                                      |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Individual #2 (NAME)                                                                                                              |                     |          |                  |               |              |
| FICA (Social Security and Medicare)                                                                                               |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Health Insurance                                                                                                                  |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Workers' Comp                                                                                                                     |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Retirement                                                                                                                        |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Life Insurance                                                                                                                    |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Dental Insurance                                                                                                                  |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| Unemployment                                                                                                                      |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| 2. Personnel Fringe Benefits Subtotal                                                                                             |                     |          | \$6,312.00       | \$717.00      | \$7,029.00   |
| 3. Software                                                                                                                       | Cost                | Usage %  |                  |               |              |
| Bloomerang (Database Management Software)                                                                                         | \$1,500.00          | 100.00%  | \$ 1,500.00      | \$ -          | \$ 1,500.00  |
| Website Development Program - GoDaddy (\$313)                                                                                     | \$313.00            | 100.00%  | \$ 313.00        | \$ -          | \$ 313.00    |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| 3. Software Subtotal                                                                                                              |                     |          | \$1,813.00       | \$0.00        | \$1,813.00   |
| 4. Training                                                                                                                       | Cost                | Quantity |                  |               |              |
| Disaster Preparedness Training Trainer Fee                                                                                        | \$2,500.00          | 1.00     | \$ 2,500.00      | \$ -          | \$ 2,500.00  |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| 4. Training Subtotal                                                                                                              |                     |          | \$2,500.00       | \$0.00        | \$2,500.00   |
| 5. Community Outreach                                                                                                             | Cost                | Quantity |                  |               |              |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
|                                                                                                                                   |                     |          | \$ -             | \$ -          | \$ -         |
| TOTAL BUDGET AMOUNTS:                                                                                                             |                     |          | \$20,000.00      | \$10,092.00   | \$30,092.00  |
| Budget Submitted By (Signature)                                                                                                   |                     |          | Tracie Lambright |               |              |
| Budget Submitted Date                                                                                                             |                     |          | 8/14/2026        |               |              |

Budget Sample



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# Audit

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

Organizations without an audit, please upload Statements of Financial Position, and Statements of Revenues and Expenditures for your last two fiscal years.



# Match

For the 2026-2027 Contract Year, Match is required and will require the same supporting documentation and same budget categories

Grantees are required to provide a 50% cash and/or in-kind match and must list the Source(s) of Funds in the Budget Narrative.

(If you apply for the full \$20,000 then the required match will be \$10,000 so the total grant would be \$30,000)



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# Reporting

## Reporting

Sub-grantees will report to Volunteer Florida on Volunteer Generation Fund Performance Measures as specified herein including number of volunteers engaged, hours served and increase of organizational effective volunteer management practices. LTRG sub grantees will report on additional performance measures as described in the application.

## Volunteer Management Practices

Successful sub-grantees will effectively engage and track skills-based volunteers and increase organizational volunteer management practices in three areas during the grant year.

- Market Research and Community Needs Assessments
- Strategic Planning to Maximize Volunteer Impact
- Recruiting and Marketing to Prospective Volunteers
- Interviewing, Screening, and Selecting Volunteers
- Orienting and Training Volunteers
- Ongoing Supervision and Management
- Recognition and Volunteer Development
- Measuring Outcomes and Evaluating the Process



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# National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC)

Successful sub-grantees will be required to complete an online training through the AmeriCorps, the agency.

Subgrantees are required to comply with AmeriCorps's National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC). The requirement applies to Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) grantee staff who are considered "covered" under the NSCHC definitions (grantee or match share). All grantee staff that are covered individuals will have their background checks initiated on or before their first day of work.



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# Anticipated Timeline

Application submission opens – August 11, 2026

Application technical assistance call – August 14, 2026

Application due – September 8, 2026, 5:00 pm EDT

Application review and scoring – September 11, 2026 - September 25, 2026

Clarification provided to applicants – October 2, 2026

Final applications/budgets with clarification changes due – October 9, 2026

Contracts provided to selected applicants – October 30, 2026

Contract Start Date – November 1, 2026



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# Application Instructions

Review the Application Instructions and Scoring Criteria to align submission response accordingly.

## Blackbaud Grantmaking Online Portal Application Submission Link:

<https://bbgm-apply.yourcausegrants.com/apply/programs/861aee76-df52-4d8e-b43c-ce25d64413bb>

## Reminders:

- Once submitted, the application status will change to “Awaiting Review”
- Account owners and users with email notification permissions will receive an “application submitted” verification email. If you do not receive this email, your application might not have been properly submitted, or you do not have the appropriate permissions. Ensure the account owner has received this confirmation email.
- DO NOT cancel an application once submitted. If you have made errors or need to provide additional information, or you wish to fully withdraw your application, reach out to [VGF@volunteerflorida.org](mailto:VGF@volunteerflorida.org) for next steps.



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# Blackbaud Application Overview

 Applications Ana Carroll ▾



## Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) 2026-2027

[View Guidelines](#)

Program is accepting applications

Volunteer Florida administers the Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF), an initiative of AmeriCorps that focuses on investments in volunteer engagement practices that strengthen entities' ability to increase recruitment and retention of volunteers to meet critical community needs through service. Volunteer Florida seeks to fund effective approaches that expand volunteering, strengthen the capacity of volunteer connector organizations to recruit and retain skill-based volunteers, and develop strategies to use volunteers effectively to solve community problems. Specifically, Volunteer Florida seeks to support two types of organizations through the VGF funding: Long Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs) or similar organizations and organizations engaging Veteran and military family volunteers.

Volunteer Florida seeks to build long-term capacity of nonprofits, Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COADs), Long-Term Recovery Groups (LTRGs), and other volunteer-driven organizations through investments in volunteer engagement, organizational development, disaster preparedness, and resilience and recovery coordination. Funding may support the development and sustainability of LTRGs; the transition of LTRGs into permanent COADs; or the strengthening of local volunteer and donation management capabilities before, during, and after disasters.

Volunteer Florida also seeks to expand the recruitment and engagement of volunteers, including Veterans and military family members, to support community resilience and disaster recovery efforts.

Volunteer Florida anticipates the availability of up to \$300,000 for an estimated twenty-five (25) organizations serving the needs of Floridians. All applicant organizations may request up to \$20,000 for the contract period. Grants will be cost reimbursement only, where costs are reimbursed once they are paid.

Eligible entities must be public or private nonprofit organizations, including faith based and other community organizations; institutions of higher education; governmental entities within states or

[View all my applications](#) [Start new application](#)



[View Guidelines](#)

## Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) Eligibility

### Applicant Information



Volunteer Florida - Test Account  
1545 Raymond Diehl Road, Ft 32308, US , FL, 32308, US



Ana Carroll  
VolunteerFLTest@gmail.com

### Eligibility Form Questions

Complete the required fields below.

Program is accepting applications

#### Please fill out this brief eligibility quiz.

Are you a Florida based organization?\*

Is your organization one of the following: a public or private nonprofit organization, including faith-based or other community organization; institution of higher education; government entity within a state or territory (i.e., city, county); labor organization; partnership/consortium; or Indian Tribe?\*

Do you use volunteers to meet the mission of your organization?\*

Are you a Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG) or similar organization or an organization engaging Veteran and military family volunteers?\*



[View Guidelines](#)

#### Applicant Information



Volunteer Florida - Test Account  
1545 Raymond Diehl Road, Ft 32308, Us , FL, 32308, US

#### Eligibility Form Questions

Complete the required fields below.  
Program is accepting applications

## Eligibility Passed

Congratulations! You have passed eligibility and can now proceed with your application.

[Cancel](#)

[Continue to application](#)

[View Guidelines](#)**Application Forms**

- Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) Eligibility
- Submitted on Aug 14, 2026
- VGF - Application
- Not submitted

**VGF - Application****Applicant Information** [Manage applicants \(1\)](#) ▾

Volunteer Florida - Test Account  
1545 Raymond Diehl Road, FL 32308, US

[Update organization](#)

Ana Carroll  
VolunteerFLTest@gmail.com

**Form Questions** [Download](#)

Complete the required fields below.

[Program is accepting applications](#)

**Cover Sheet**[Project Demographics](#)[Proposal Narrative](#)[Performance Measures](#)[Budget](#)**Organization Information****Organization Name\*****Physical Address\***[Next](#)[Sign and submit](#)



## My Applications

Search by organization name or application ID

6 statuses selected



Application ID: 2667748

Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) 2026-2027

[View Guidelines](#)

Ana Carroll on behalf of Volunteer Florida - Test Account

● Draft

Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) Eligibility

✓ Submitted on Aug 14, 2026

VGF - Application

📄 Draft on Aug 14, 2026

Created on Aug 14, 2026

Manage

Manage applicants

Copy

Cancel

## Manage Applicants

### Add Applicant

Add additional applicants to this application and select what permissions they have.

Clear

Add

#### APPLICANT

#### PERMISSIONS

**Ana Carroll**

VolunteerFLTest@gmail.com

- Owner of application
- Edit - Can add/edit and delete applicants
- Receives application update emails



Close

#### Permissions for Joe Doe

☐ Can manage applicants

☐ Receives email notifications for application status updates

☐ Current owner

Cancel

Save



**Questions:**

**[VGF@Volunteer  
Florida.org](mailto:VGF@VolunteerFlorida.org)**



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