



Education Grant Program Guidelines

Rebuilding for a Stronger Butte County

2022

Since the Camp Fire the Butte Strong Fund has awarded more than \$6 million to Butte County educational institutions to support trauma response and recovery. Through this grant program the Butte Strong Fund aims to bolster and inspire our educational community by providing growth opportunities for K - 12 teachers, staff, and student groups, to build back what has been lost or impeded by the Camp Fire disaster.

Special consideration will be given to proposals that seek to address the following areas of work, and more may be added over time.

- Teacher or staff professional development for those seeking to learn new and better ways to educate students, keep up-to-date with changes in technology and research, or gain a deeper understanding of their subject matter
- Academic student groups and or clubs with innovative and hands-on projects that will increase student learning and expand achievement
- Projects that are not covered by other funding or that would be dependent on individual or family contributions
- Projects that provide opportunities for the socio-economically disadvantaged

ELIGIBILITY

1. **Tax Status:** Qualified applicant organizations include federal- and state-recognized tribes, unrecognized tribes with a fiscal agent, nonprofit organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, programs fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3), or units of local government (including public schools). Qualified entities include churches that serve congregations of at least 100 people and the proposed projects or programs that are not denomination specific and meet the specific criteria. Other organizations may

also propose projects that meet the specific criteria but may be required to partner with a 501(c)(3) entity. (Note: This program is specifically for educational institutions k – 12)

2. **Non-Discrimination:** Organizations must offer programs and services without discrimination based on age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, physical ability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or religious belief.
3. **Geography:** Programs and projects must clearly benefit Butte County residents who have been directly and/or indirectly impacted by the Camp Fire.
4. **Use of Funds:** Our funds are deployed strategically where other sources of funding are not available. As much as possible, we leverage our grants by first tapping into federal and state aid programs and insurance. The project must not supplant public funding or fill gaps that the government and/or private insurance have committed to address.
5. **Restrictions:** The Butte Strong Fund will not consider grant requests for fundraising events, annual funds, endowment funds, political lobbying, individuals, or activities that are restricted to members of a faith community. Capital improvements such as new structures, repair of damaged structures, or acquisition of structures will generally not be considered except for possible short-term, low- or no-interest loans.
6. **Frequency:** Eligible entities may apply once.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Projects and initiatives will be evaluated by the following selection criteria, and priority given to those that most strongly meet the following criteria:

1. **Access and Equity:** Proposals must be able to demonstrate equitable access to vulnerable populations. Projects that create opportunities for lower-income households particularly those that include seniors or children; individuals with physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities; and/or populations that lack access to federal or state recovery resources or reside in isolated areas with limited services will be prioritized.
2. **Camp Fire Connection:** Projects that directly benefit those most impacted by the Camp Fire will be prioritized.
3. **Demonstrable Impact:** The project's approach (design, delivery, and staffing) is tailored to meet the specific needs of the target population(s) and has a reasonable timeline for implementation. Projects that result in significant outputs and outcomes – either through addressing a broad range of the community need and/or resulting in an enduring positive impact for individuals and households – will be prioritized. What does it mean for the community? How many people do you anticipate would benefit from the

project? What would happen if the project didn't get done? Describe the need for the community this project fills.

4. **Collaboration:** Projects that partner with other organizations and stakeholders to maximize impact and minimize duplication are desired. Organizations with strong track records of collaboration will be prioritized.
5. **Organizational Capacity:** Applicants need to demonstrate their capacity to implement the proposed project in terms of leadership, staffing expertise, and financial health.
6. **Leverage & Sustainability:** The project is supported by a diversity of funding sources and/or has the capacity to leverage additional sources. It is financially feasible with a realistic and viable strategy for sustainability through other ongoing sources. The Butte Strong Fund will prioritize organizations with multiple sources of funding, and those projects that have a strong chance of success.

APPLICATION LIMIT

Only ONE application from each organization will be accepted.

GRANT FUNDING AMOUNTS

In general, grant awards typically range from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Grant amount will be dependent on the Camp Fire connection, school size, and need. For grant requests in excess of \$10,000 please contact program officer Kim DuFour at kdufour@nvcf.org.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Grant applications are open until November 30, 2022. Planned use of funds extends to December 31 of 2023.