



Grant Guidelines for 2019 Grant Cycle: Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund
An affiliated fund of Nebraska Community Foundation

Grants from the Kreutz Bennett Donor-Advised Fund will provide matching grants for public libraries in Nebraska communities with a population of fewer than 3,000.

Eligible Applicants

Nebraska public libraries located in communities of fewer than 3,000 residents.

Grantmaking

Grants will be made in three distinct areas: **Planning Grants** (leading to accreditation); **Enhancement Grants** (leading to improvement of library services and/or programs); and **Facilities Grants** (contributing toward new facilities or the renovation, restoration or rehabilitation of current libraries). Community leadership must be exhibited in the grant application(s) indicating the likely sustainability of improvements attained. Grants will not be made to form or grow endowments. Matching contributions must be confirmed prior to the distribution of a grant from this Fund.

Planning Grants

Grants for non-accredited public libraries working toward accreditation

Eligibility includes a wide range of activities and expenses associated with preparing a Community Needs Response Plan and first-time expenses that will earn points for accreditation. Activities may include technical support, education, surveys, planning and collaboration. Salary or stipend support for personnel to allow for additional hours of staff time working on accreditation requirements may be considered eligible for funding.

View public library accreditation guidelines at <http://nlc.nebraska.gov/LibAccred/planning.aspx>.

- Grant amount per year: \$500 minimum; \$2,500 maximum
- Match required: 1:1 (\$1 in other funding to \$1 Kreutz Bennett grant. In-kind match not allowed)
- Timeframe: Multi-year grants possible

Enhancement Grants

Grants for accredited public libraries to enhance programs and services

Eligible activities will enhance or create community education and outreach programs or services. Preference will be given to programs or services that benefit low-income individuals or families, new Americans or underserved populations. Programs or services that promote financial literacy, civic engagement and entrepreneurship will also be considered. Existing or new programs may be considered. Ongoing or routine costs such as utilities and general maintenance are not eligible. Equipment or software purchases/upgrades are eligible only if they serve as a component of a larger programmatic endeavor. Microfilming/digitization project proposals are not eligible.

- Grant amount per year: \$1,000 minimum; \$20,000 maximum
- Match required: 1:1 (\$1 in other funding to \$1 Kreutz Bennett grant. Up to 50% of the match amount may be in-kind)
- Timeframe: Multi-year grants possible

Facilities Grants

Grants for accredited public libraries to improve their facilities

Eligible activities include construction of a new facility or rehabilitation or expansion of an existing facility. Preference will be given to rehabilitation of historic libraries and to projects with a long-term sustainability plan.

On-going maintenance costs are NOT eligible. Non-eligible projects may include replacing HVAC systems, gutters, roofing, sidewalks, etc., which should be considered the responsibility of the library's owner (typically the city, village or township). Funding for these expenses will only be eligible if the costs are part of a much larger construction or renovation project.

Interior or exterior renovations or building projects (\$10,000+) that improve the library's capacity and patrons' experience and/or accessibility will be considered on a case by case basis, and should demonstrate significant support from the community the library serves.

Costs that have been previously incurred are NOT eligible for funding.

Applicants must submit one or more photos that illustrate the current condition the proposal seeks to address, or the current facility needing renovation or replacement. Photos may be sent electronically or printed on paper.

- Grant amount: \$5,000 minimum; \$20,000 maximum
- Match required: 1:1 (\$1 other funding to \$1 Kreutz Bennett grant; in-kind match not allowed)
- Timeframe: Multi-year grants possible over several cycles; not to exceed a total of \$20,000 per applicant.

Grant Application

Complete the short application and submit to the contact below. After receipt and review of the short application, grant seekers will be contacted. Those eligible for grants will be asked to submit a full grant application. Full grant applications are due in January of each year.

Grant Awards

A total of approximately \$80,000 will be available each year. Grants will be awarded annually.

Nebraska Library Commission

To avoid duplication and to attempt to leverage existing resources, the Nebraska Library Commission has agreed to assist Nebraska Community Foundation and the Fund Advisory Committee with grantmaking.

For more information contact

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