

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q. Where do I apply and get more information?**

**A.** Please visit the JUSTIN Community Grants page at [justinwinegrants.com](http://justinwinegrants.com).

**Q. When are applications available?**

**A.** Our online application opens every year on January 1 and is available until the application cycle closes on January 31. A printable version of the application is available on our website for reference (paper applications will not be accepted.)

**Q. When are grants awarded?**

**A.** Awards will be announced in March of each year.

**Q. Do you have any geographic limitations for funding?**

**A.** JUSTIN Community Grants support projects or services that directly benefit North San Luis Obispo County. North County is anything north of the Cuesta Grade to the Monterey County line, excluding the coastal communities. A map showing North County shaded in green can be found [here](#).

**Q. What if my organization is headquartered and/or based in another area?**

**A.** Organizations based outside of North San Luis Obispo County may apply as long as the proposed projects or services directly and exclusively benefit North County communities.

**Q. What is the grant period and when must funding be used?**

**A.** All grant activities and spending must be completed during the calendar year in which you apply.

**Q. Do you make grants larger than \$5,000?**

**A.** All JUSTIN Community Grants are \$5,000. This model allows us to support a wide variety of local organizations, rather than selecting just a few to support annually.

**Q. Who is eligible to apply for funding?**

**A.** Only employees, board members and others authorized to apply for funding for the organization are allowed to submit an application. The following is a list of eligible organizations:

- Nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations
- Local government agencies
- Religious organizations, provided the project has a secular purpose, no religious content and benefits the greater community without regard to religious affiliation

**Q. Are past and current JUSTIN grantees allowed to apply?**

**A.** Yes, past and current grantees are encouraged to apply.

**Q. May I apply for more than one project?**

**A.** No, organizations may only submit one application.

**Q. What are your program area priorities for funding?**

**A.** JUSTIN Community Grants are open to all focus areas and causes. We know that each community in North County has its own unique character and needs. We want to support what matters to those living and working in North County, whether that is the environment, arts or health, to name a few.

**Q. What are eligible projects or program activities?**

**A.** Requests must be aligned with the organization's current mission and overall goals, and culminate in something visible and tangible in the community (e.g., park improvements, community health fair, afterschool program, or CPR training for staff or volunteers).

Program activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Existing programming (includes education, outreach or workshops)
- Program expansion to serve new populations or sites in North County, including organizations that do not currently work in North County
- One-time request for technology, equipment or infrastructure (total cost must be less than \$5,000)
- Capacity building

**Q. What else is not eligible for funding?**

**A.** JUSTIN Community Grants will not fund:

- Multi-year requests
- Requests for general operating support
- Schools or classroom-based programs (teachers are encouraged to apply for a school grant instead. Visit our website for details.)
- Political causes, organizations, candidates or campaigns; activities influencing legislation and/or elections; 501(c)4s
- Sponsorships for events, competitions, sports teams, athletic tournaments or conferences
- Private foundations and other grant-making entities
- Individuals; scholarships; tuition assistance
- Endowments/memorials
- Capital campaigns
- Litigation
- Deficits or debt reduction
- Organizations that discriminate against certain groups or individuals in the delivery of programs and services on the basis of race, religion, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation or disability.
- Fundraising events

**Q. If awarded funding, what can I expect in terms of reporting?**

**A.** Every grantee may be required to submit a year-end report detailing their accomplishments and how the grant was spent. Additionally, grantees will be encouraged to share stories, photos and other visual aids related to projects throughout the grant period.

**Q. Where may I send questions or feedback?**

**A.** Please email [grants@justinwine.com](mailto:grants@justinwine.com).