

Voya Foundation Grant Awards

Guidelines, Evaluation Criteria and Giving Priorities

September 1, 2016

About Us

[Voya Foundation's](#) mission is to improve the quality of life in communities where Voya Financial® operates and its employees and customers live. Voya Foundation provides grants and establishes signature partnerships under the umbrella of Financial Resilience: ensuring that youth are equipped with the STEM expertise necessary to compete in the 21st century workforce and the financial literacy skills necessary to make smart financial decisions that lead to a secure retirement.

Grant Award Guidelines

Voya Foundation reviews and considers every funding request received from a qualifying, eligible organization. The volume of requests received annually prevents the support of every eligible and worthy cause. Grant awards are made on a one-time basis and are not an indication of long-term support, unless otherwise specified in a grant agreement with a signature partner.

Voya Foundation supports the following:

- 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations that provide unique programming and/or community outreach initiatives directed toward our primary areas of focus;
- Strategic partnership opportunities aligned with our commitment to K-8 STEM education and K-12 STEM teacher training, and grade 9-12 financial literacy focusing on life's financial milestones;
- Scholarships to students of achievement exclusively via our Voya Scholars program; and
- Initiatives supporting disaster relief and employee engagement that may not contain STEM or financial literacy aspects. These partnerships are considered only in cooperation with relevant Voya Financial committees and solicitation for new partnerships in these arenas is not accepted.

Grant proposals will be evaluated by the following criteria:

- Nonprofit meets [Voya Foundation nonprofit eligibility guidelines](#).
- Nonprofit is not an affiliate of a national organization with a Voya Foundation partnership, except in case of special circumstances.
- Nonprofit is a U.S. domestic entity and programming support is for beneficiaries in the U.S.
- Nonprofit submits a proposal for a program or initiative that aligns with Voya Foundation's giving priorities (see below).
- Grant proposal addresses important considerations:
 - Geographic reach: city, state, regional or national level.
 - Employee engagement, ability to leverage volunteerism.
 - Appropriate scope of the initiative being supported or impact made to the community relative to the requested amount.
 - Previous support of the organization by Voya Financial/Voya Foundation (given there is no excessive frequency, duration or total dollars previously allocated).

Giving Priorities

[Voya Foundation](#) grants are focused on Financial Resilience. We work to ensure that youth are equipped with the STEM expertise and financial knowledge necessary to compete in the 21st century workforce and make smart financial decisions that lead to a secure retirement.

We accomplish this by accepting year-round grant applications from organizations that:

- Provide innovative and experiential K-8 STEM learning opportunities to promote an early interest in STEM career fields, and improve teachers' capabilities in STEM; or
- Provide financial literacy curriculum to grade 9-12 students focused on navigating major financial milestones including student debt, credit, home ownership, financial products and services/financial capability, and family financial planning.

Programs within the above giving priorities will be evaluated each quarter. To ensure that evaluations are objective and programs are working towards the same sets of goals, Voya Foundation requires applicants to be able to complete the following sentences during impact evaluations:

- K-8 STEM partners (K-12 STEM teacher training exempt) must be able to state: "The number of students who completed our program was ____, and those students demonstrated a(n) ____% increase in interest in STEM careers over the course of the program." Given the complex and multidisciplinary nature of STEM, pre- and post-test content will be at the discretion of our nonprofit partners themselves.
- Grade 9-12 financial literacy partners must be able to state: "The number of students who completed our program was ____, and those students demonstrated a(n) ____% increase in understanding of life's major financial milestones as defined by Voya Financial." Voya Foundation is in the process of developing a uniform pre- and post-test that will be required of all financial literacy partnerships and covers the above subjects. More information will be released on this initiative in the coming months.

Grant Application Process

All grant proposals or request for funding must be submitted through the online system accessible through [Voya.com](#). Proposals that are mailed, emailed or requested in person will not be considered. Please note the following:

- Grant requests are reviewed throughout the year. Grant applicants should check the online system for quarterly deadlines, which are subject to change.
- Applications are not guaranteed a review within a specified time.
- Value of grant requests must be a minimum of \$2,500.
- Grant proposals may not be requested by employees of Voya Financial or its subsidiaries.
- Voya Foundation will only issue one grant funding package per organization in a 12-month period, except in case of special circumstances with longstanding partners.

Grant Award Notification

Once a grant proposal has been approved through the process detailed above, a Grant Award Letter is sent to the organization requiring grant recipients to submit the following to the Office of Corporate Responsibility:

- All details of grant entitlements;
- An invoice along with verification of active tax-exempt Section 501(c)(3) status;
- Signed Voya Financial logo agreement;
- Organization's approval to communicate internally and externally regarding partnership;
- Name of individual who will be the primary point of contact; and
- A revised funding application detailing updated program goals and targets if the dollar value of the grant awarded is substantially different than the dollar value requested in the original proposal.