

Is Your Parish Ready to Seek Grant Funding? Consider this...

For both the fiscal and spiritual health of any parish, it is important to seek funds first from within the parish for general operating support as well as for special projects. Grant funding should be considered only as a supplement to giving from parishioners. Before seeking grants to fund a project, a parish should take the following steps:

- Develop a vision for the future and set well defined goals (any projects proposed for grant funding would be an integral part of the plans for the future)
- Have a strong commitment to accomplish the project, with or without grant support
- First, seek financial support from parishioners to accomplish the project, then consider how grant funding might help supplement the giving from individuals

**Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Office of Parish Development
3 S. Prospect Ave., Suite 11
Park Ridge, IL 60068**

Grant Proposal Research & Writing

Finding Grant Funding For Your Parish's Special Projects



Help is available!
From the
Office of Parish Development
of the
Greek Orthodox
Archdiocese of America

What Kind of Help is Available?

The Office of Parish Development offers guidance throughout the grant proposal process, including:

- *Assessing parish projects and programs to determine which might qualify for grant funding*
- *Prospect research—finding grant makers who are a good “fit” for your parish project*
- *Writing high-quality grant proposals*

The Archdiocesan Office of Parish Development

The Office of Parish Development is pleased to provide **Grant Proposal Research and Writing** along with its other development services for parishes, including:

- **Strategic Planning**
- **Capital Campaign Planning Studies**
- **Capital Campaign Management**
- **Stewardship Workshops**
- **Parish Endowment Planning**

Q&A: Grant Proposal Research & Writing

Q: Do churches or religious organizations qualify for grant support?

A: Grants are made for religious purposes, but these make up less than five percent of total grants given in the US. Support for educational and cultural purposes is much more common. (Greek schools or day schools within parishes might be recipients of such support).

Q: What kinds of projects/programs are eligible for grant support?

A: Grants are typically made for new or innovative programs, building campaigns, and sometimes matching or challenge support. Grants are not typically given for operating support or for endowments.

Q: What are the requirements for receiving grant support?

A: Every grant maker is unique, with its own set of funding interests and guidelines; but, in general, a project/program proposed to a grant maker should meet the following requirements:

- The proposed program/project comes from a **well defined and compelling need**;
- has **strong support** within the parish, including but not limited to financial support;
- **will exist even after the grant** funding has come to an end; and
- has a timeline and well articulated **goals that can be evaluated** upon completion of the project/program.

Q: Our parish has a project/program in mind for possible grant funding, how do we get started?

A: The Parish of Office Development is pleased to offer guidance in the area of grant proposal research and writing. Your parish might need help in only one area of the process—perhaps just some guidance for parish volunteers or access to prospect research tools—or might be seeking assistance from the beginning to the end of the grant proposal process.

The first step is to contact us regarding the goals and needs of your parish and to allow us to explain the specific ways in which we might be of help.

Contact us by email at: jminetos@goarch.org
Or by phone: (847) 825-1432
Or by mail: Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
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