OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

# Grant Opportunities for 501(c)(3) Organizations

## Background

For more than 80 years, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) has proudly called East Tennessee home. With the support of our neighbors and partners, we have accomplished great things. We connected nuclear power to the grid for the first time, made major discoveries in human and environmental genetics, developed new materials critical for producing energy around the globe, and built the fastest supercomputers and most powerful neutron sources in the world to solve the toughest science problems.

Today, ORNL is one of the largest employers in the region, with more than 7,000 staff members, and growing. A global leader in scientific research and development, ORNL attracts thousands of guest researchers and other visitors each year and partners with industry to bring game-changing technologies to the marketplace and boost American competitiveness. ORNL is also committed to supporting the surrounding community through volunteer efforts and funding.

Through our **Community Engagement** initiatives, we are committed to improving local economic development and education programs while making scientific understanding and career opportunities accessible with public tours, STEM programs, and internships. Throughout our Employee Giving platforms, we support ORNL employees who strive to give back to their communities and the causes that mean the most to them.

## Funding priorities:

The ORNL Community Engagement strategy includes financial gifts to nonprofits that fall under a finite number of categories.

- **STEM education**—Inspire the next generation of breakthroughs in scientific discovery by getting students engaged in learning through science, technology, engineering, and math. Funding organizations that promote STEM opportunities throughout the region are the highest priority for supporting communities throughout East Tennessee.

- **Community legacy initiatives**—Providing funds for efforts that create a far-reaching and long-lasting impact on the community has been an ORNL priority for decades. Partners who can demonstrate the ability to make a positive difference in the overall health and economic vitality of East Tennessee are invited to apply for grant funding.

## Eligibility requirements:

ORNL only considers requests from 501(c)(3) organizations, and they must be in good financial and public standing, show evidence of competent management, have low administrative/fundraising expense ratios, and manage nondiscriminatory programs benefiting broad segments of the community. ORNL does not tolerate discrimination based on race, religion, sex, color, age, disability, national origin, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other characteristic protected under federal, state, or local law. Grants are eligible to organizations that meet these qualifications and that are aligned with our core values of nondiscrimination. To be considered for a grant, a request should fit within the list of funding priorities.

## Grants are not available for the following:

- Additional funds to organizations already under multiyear commitments
- Athletic groups or activities, including charity-benefit sporting events and youth sports teams*
- Endowments or memorials
- Individual needs, including scholarships
- Labor or political organizations
- Social organizations, including fraternities and sororities
- Personal fundraising initiatives
- Travel funds for tours, expeditions, or trips of any kind
- Membership dues
- Religious organizations
- Table sponsorships at galas, luncheons, or dinners*

## Grant cycles and requirements:

ORNL only accepts online applications for charitable support. Applications are accepted during two grant cycles: **July 1–31 (requests considered in August) and January 1–31 (requests considered in February).**

Applicants are required to submit a grant application with the following information:

- Brief description of your organization, including background, mission statement, and Tax ID number
- Overview of the project for which funds are requested
- Description of the geographic area and population served by the project
- Information on your organization's anticipated sources of revenue and expenses
- Information on how you will measure the project's success
- Detailed timeline

To forward your application or request additional information, please contact the Protocol and Community Engagement Office at community@ornl.gov.

**We will not approve grants for the following requests unless they are imperative to support the laboratory's mission: sporting events (e.g., golf tournaments), galas, or other entertainment or special events. ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle LLC for the US Department of Energy. Please read the Community Engagement Guidelines for nonprofit giving.*



**CONTACT:**

Katy Brown | Manager
Protocol and Community Engagement Office

brownkb@ornl.gov
865-574-0599