



## 2024 – 2025 GRANT PROGRAM

---

The **PANERA BREAD FOUNDATION** envisions a world in which young people can unlock their full potential and dare to dream — a world in which opportunity and economic mobility are accessible and equitable for all.

Through our program, we award grant funding to 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations who invest in underserved and at-risk children and youth to become leaders in their communities. We fund programs focused on providing opportunities for youth to grow as leaders and gain access to education and career advancement.

### GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

---

**Apply Online:** <https://panerafoundation.versaic.com/login>

**Application Closes:** Sunday, October 27, 2024 at 10:00pm CST

**Grant Funding Options:** \$25,000; \$50,000; \$75,000; \$100,000

**Funding Distribution:** Awarded organizations will receive a check early 2025.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

---

#### ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS

- IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit for at least 12 months.
- Rated on Charity Navigator or GuideStar.
- Located in an area of a U.S. Panera Bread cafe.
- Alignment with the Panera Bread Foundation’s mission and vision.

#### PROGRAM BENEFICIARY

- Children and youth ages 10-18.
- Students at-risk, underserved, low-income, or historically underrepresented.
- Predominately black, indigenous, or students of color.

#### TYPES OF PROGRAMS

- New, expanding, or continuing programs
- College and career readiness post-graduation
- Learning hard and soft skills
- Mentorship to build healthy relationships
- STEM-related programs
- Youth leadership development

#### NOT ELIGIBLE

- Schools, religious and faith-based organizations, municipalities, individuals.
- Political organizations.
- One-time events, fundraising events, catering donations.
- Unlawful or discriminatory practices.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ'S)

---

### 1. Which Panera cafe should I choose if our organization has multiple locations?

- Use the zip code for your main location or your largest site.

### 2. What schools do not qualify?

- Public schools, religious-based schools, colleges and universities.

### 3. Do fiscally sponsored organizations qualify?

- Not at this time.

### 4. Can national organizations and their chapters apply for a grant?

- Yes. Both the national organization and individual chapters are eligible to apply.

### 5. Can our organization submit more than 1 application?

- No. Please complete only 1 application per organization.

### 6. What should I do when our organization's 990 exceeds the attachment size?

- If your 990 is available online, please provide a link to your 990 in a document.
- If your 990 is not available online, we recommend compressing the PDF to upload.

### 7. What is our organization's annual operating budget?

- Your organization's expected revenues and expenses over 12 months.

### 8. Is our organization eligible to apply if we have applied before and/or received grant funding in a prior year?

- Yes, we welcome both prior applicants and recipients to submit a new application for this grant cycle.

### 9. Can we meet with your team before, during, or after we apply?

- Regretfully, no. Our team will reach out via email if we are seeking more information.

### 10. Can we review a list of the organizations and programs previously awarded for grant funding?

- Yes. Linked below are prior Press Releases containing this information.

[2024 Grant Awards](#) | [2023 Grant Awards](#) | [2022 Grant Awards](#)

### 11. Does the Panera Bread Foundation support hunger-relief organizations?

- No, the Foundation has different philanthropic goals than the Panera Bread corporation. The Panera Bread Foundation supports organizations aligned with our vision and mission.

### 12. When can we expect a response to our grant application?

- All organizations will receive a response no later than the end of January 2025. To check the status of your application and view prior emails sent to your organization, [login to your account here](#).