



South Carolina FOUNDATION

The BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Giving Back Grant Guidelines

How the program works:

Through the Giving Back Grant Program, the BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation (the Foundation) awards a \$500 grant on behalf of each eligible BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina participant who volunteers a minimum of 40 hours a year to an eligible nonprofit organization.

Grants will be paid directly to the eligible nonprofit organization. For example, a grant for services performed for a free medical clinic will be sent directly to the free medical clinic. In no event will any volunteer receive any direct financial benefit. The grant can be designated for a specific program within the eligible nonprofit organization for which the services were provided. Information about the specific designation will be sent to the eligible nonprofit organization along with the grant.

Eligible Participants:

All BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina employees, retirees, and agents within South Carolina are eligible to participate. An “employee” is a person working fulltime (i.e., at least 40 hours per week) at BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina or one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries within South Carolina.. A “retiree” is an individual who resides within South Carolina who has retired from BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina or one of its wholly-owned subsidiaries in an active status and who is eligible for retiree benefits. An “agent” is a licensed BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina agent who has written business during the past 12 months. Spouses and family members, and staff employees of agents are not eligible to perform services to qualify for grants.

Participants are limited to one grant per calendar year. An annual confirmation letter regarding the opportunity to participate in the Giving Back Grant program will be posted to the Foundation website at the beginning of each year.

Eligible Organizations:

Nonprofit organizations which provide health services to the uninsured and underinsured and have previously received a grant from the BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation are eligible nonprofit organizations so long as they remain eligible to receive such grants from the Foundation. Generally, eligible nonprofit organizations are entities

recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as tax-exempt and designated a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) (except those established for religious purposes) or recognized as an instrumentality of a federal, state or local government as provided by Section 170(c)(1) of the Code.

If you are unsure whether an organization is still eligible to receive a grant, contact the Foundation at 803-264-4669 or at info.foundation@bcbssc.com.

Ineligible Organizations:

- ◆ Houses of worship and organizations established for religious, political, or special-interest purposes.
- ◆ Veterans, fraternal, or social organizations under Section 501(c)(4).
- ◆ Professional associations under Section 501(c)(6) (for example, chambers of commerce).
- ◆ Organizations that discriminate against any person or group on the basis of age, political affiliation, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation or religious belief.
- ◆ Non-profit, tax-exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of Code that are not private foundations because they are described in Code Section 509(a)(3) or 509(a)(4).
- ◆ Any other organization that is not an “eligible nonprofit organization” as described above.

How to Participate

Eligible Hours and Types of Service:

- ◆ Eligible participants must provide a minimum of 40 hours’ volunteer services for the same organization from January 1 to December 31 in a single calendar year.
- ◆ Volunteer service must involve actual services performed at the organization by the participant.

Ineligible Hours and Types of Service:

- ◆ Participation in an event which does not involve performing actual services for the organization, such as a walk-a-thon, is not eligible.
- ◆ Time for which an associate is paid (whether by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina or by the eligible nonprofit organization) may not be used; personal leave time or paid vacation is not time “paid by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina.”

Grant Awards:

Eligible grant applications are processed for qualifying organizations on a quarterly schedule.

| Forms received by: | Grants are awarded by: |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| March 31 | April 30 |
| June 30 | July 31 |
| Sept 30 | Oct 31 |
| Dec 31 | Jan 31 |

Submitting Applications:

Applications are available from the Foundation or from its website. Participants are responsible for submitting applications and required documentation. Send completed application with required documentation to:

BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation

Giving Back Grant Program

I-20 at Alpine Road

Mail Code – AX-G22

Columbia, SC 29219

Of Special Note:

- ◆ Services performed for eligible nonprofit organizations under the Giving Back Grant Program are purely voluntary, and are not work-related, are not compensated by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, and are not deemed to be within the scope of any employment at BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina.
- ◆ Services performed for eligible nonprofit organizations under the Giving Back Grant Program do not constitute services performed for BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, and any injuries received in connection with such services will not be covered by BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, including its Worker's Compensation insurance.
- ◆ The BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation in its discretion reserves the right to decide whether a grant will be made. The Foundation also reserves the right to limit or discontinue or change its programs at any time without notice.
- ◆ In no event will the BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation make grants or engage in any activities pursuant to the Giving Back Grant Program that are not permitted under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.