



The BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Foundation invites eligible organizations to submit proposals for a competitive 'Innovation' grant opportunity. Proposals are being accepted and you may submit your proposal [here](#).

Purpose

The Foundation is interested in fostering innovation to improve the health and well-being in South Carolina through small-scale projects that can accelerate and advance strategies that improve health. With this grant opportunity, we ask you to think about how your organization can better serve individuals in your service area, your community or the state. These projects should gather information to help answer why barriers to health persist and/or pilot new solutions to address those challenges.

The Foundation views projects on a spectrum from initial development to established programs. This funding opportunity is to support these projects in their early stages including:

- Identifying the need and engaging your community or key stakeholders
- Working collaboratively to build shared understanding of the issue
- Testing and implementing solutions and share learning

The intent of this grant program is to foster a culture of innovation and challenge the status quo of what is being done to improve health. These grants are intended to help better define an issue or decision maker needs, cultivate partnerships, and/or determine next steps to apply learning to action.

Eligibility Criteria

Amount: \$25,000

Duration: 12 months

Projected Start Date: Spring Cycle: May
Summer Cycle: September
Fall Cycle: January

Proposed projects should align with one or more of the [Foundation's Priority Funding Areas](#).

Before submitting, please review our [Funding Restrictions](#). Proposals containing these restricted items will not be reviewed or considered for funding.

Applicants must be a nonprofit organization that has a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Only one proposal may be submitted from an organization.

Due to other funding opportunities the following organization types are not eligible to apply for the Innovation Grant:

- Free Clinics
- Children's Advocacy Centers
- State or local government agencies

The Foundation will not be able to provide feedback prior to proposal submission and will not provide feedback for submitted proposals that do not meet the above criteria to ensure timeliness and responsiveness of funds awarded.

Proposal Questions

- 1) Please describe your proposed project, including any partners who will be involved and a brief plan for implementation. [500 words limit]
- 2) What stage or stages of innovation is your project?
 - a. Identifying the need and engaging your community or key stakeholders.
 - b. Working collaboratively to building shared understanding of the issue.
 - c. Testing and implementing solutions and share learning.
- 3) How does this project address a challenge to health? [250 words]
- 4) What will success look like at the completion of this project? [250 words]
- 5) What do you hope to learn and how will you share learning? [250 words]

A project budget (template provided) will also be submitted with the proposal.