



Temple Israel

Lurie Micro Grant Program

Lurie Micro-Grant Program Frequently Asked Questions 2010 - 2011

Getting Started: The Application Process

Who can apply?

- Can existing temple groups (e.g. Sisterhood, Brotherhood) submit grant applications?
- Can students or youth groups submit grant applications?
- Can the planning group submitting the grant application include non-Temple Israel community members?

We strongly encourage any member of the Temple Israel community to explore creative ideas and all are welcome to consider submitting a grant proposal. The Temple Israel community includes members of all ages, new or existing groups, and our staff (both full and part time). The only limitation is that the program effort be led by a member of the Temple Israel community, though non-TI community members are welcome to serve on the program planning team as well as to participate in the program.

Do program participants need to be members of the Temple Israel community?

Possible program ideas may include participants outside of the Temple Israel family. A program idea may include members of other collaborating organizations and/or community members, but must link to Temple Israel in some manner that enhances Temple Israel and its membership.

Are there any age limits or restrictions for program ideas?

There are no age limits, and very few restrictions of any kind, to program ideas. We encourage you to explore your passion in some way that helps to enhance the Temple Israel community, for any group within our community.

Is there any limit to the scope or length of a program?

No. A program can be a one-time, daily, weekly or a monthly event. It can attract a specific target population or be open to anyone of any age. What we are looking for is creativity and a program that will be seen as valuable to the TI community.

Can I submit a proposal that will take more than one year to implement?

Although funding can only be awarded in one year increments, proposals spanning multiple years are encouraged. However, we recommend that your grant proposal provide an understanding of the evolution of the program beyond year one and how much money might be requested in subsequent years. In addition we would like some understanding of how the program can move from being grant funded to other funding sources.

Where can I get additional assistance in formulating my idea and/or completing the proposal?

Renee Resnik will serve as the Grant Administrator and is available to help anyone interested in submitting a grant. Our goal is to make the grant application process as easy to fulfill as possible. Please feel free to contact Renee at reener@columbus.rr.com with any questions about grant ideas or the application process. In addition, feel free to contact Rabbi Zinkow or any member of the Grant Committee for assistance.

Program Mechanics:**How extensively should I answer the questions?**

The Grant Committee is less interested in the amount than the quality of the information you provide. Please be sure to clearly explain your concept and how it relates to the vision and values statements listed in the RFP. The acceptance of proposals will be based on a set of factors, one of which is the benefits the proposed program brings to TI and its members. The Grant committee will use the Vision Statement and its values as the foundation for grant selection.

What are the timelines for this program? When is the grant application due?

As listed in the RFP materials, the grant application must be submitted no later than April 1, 2010. We encourage you to begin considering your proposal well before the final submission date so that you will have adequate time to get any needed assistance in the submission process. Grants submitted prior to March 15, 2010 will be reviewed by Renee Resnik. She will contact you if your proposal requires additional information or an adjustment in content. The formal announcement of grants will be made at the Temple Israel Annual Meeting on May 8, 2010. We will notify you in advance so that that you can plan to be present at the meeting. If accepted, your proposed project must be completed and evaluated no later than June 1, 2011.

Are there other program requirements?

All program requirements are noted in the RFP materials that can be obtained on line at the Temple Israel website (www.templeisrael.org) or in hard copy from the temple office. We suggest that you clearly answer all questions on the application as well as complete the budget form.

How important is the number of expected participants in determining awards?

The Grant Committee will want to see a good cost/benefit ratio. Grant applications should seek to affect the largest possible participation and/or audience. The Grant Committee will review each grant proposal on its merits and make their determination based on a set of criteria driven by the vision and values statements.

Are there any age limits or restrictions for program ideas?

No, in fact we hope to attract a diverse set of proposals. We would like to see proposals that address a variety of age and geographically disbursed groups.

What are the most important criteria for getting a proposal accepted?

The most critical criteria for a grant are how it engages Temple Israel members and how it benefits the overall TI community. If you have a passion that you enjoy such as woodworking and want to write a grant you have to figure out the hook that would link that passion to the members of TI and benefit the temple. For example, if you want to help another religious institution whose sanctuary was water damaged that would be the link between woodworking and the congregation and/or temple facility.

The Selection Process:

How will you base your selection of the grants?

Many factors will go into the final decision on the number or types of selected grants. First and foremost the Grant Committee will use the principles and values contained within the vision statement and how the proposals match up to these goals. In addition the committee will also look at such factors as:

- The populations served by the proposals.
- The coordination of resources and how they impact on volunteers, the facility and staff of Temple Israel.

How many grants will be awarded in Year 1 of the program?

The number has yet to be determined. The final decision will be based on the number and types of grant proposals submitted. It will also depend on the total scope of dollars requested. However, we hope to select enough grants in year one to allow the Micro-Grant Program to have a significant impact.

Can grant proposals be resubmitted in a subsequent year, if not accepted the first time?

Absolutely! We will take each year individually. We encourage you to take the opportunity to review your proposal, and any feedback, to consider ways to improve it. Each year will bring new ideas and opportunities. If your proposal is not funded, though you feel the concept still has merit, Renee Resnik will be happy to work with you on resubmitting your grant.

Funding the Grants:

What kind of grants will you fund?

As listed in the RFP the types of grant can include:

- Educational, social and recreational activities for a variety of age groups;
- Mind, body, and spiritual enhancement through exercise or other wellness activities and/or the arts;
- Internal and external social action activities to better both those involved in Temple Israel as well as those in the general community;
- Expressions of Jewish practice, Zionism and love of Israel in the Jewish and general community; and
- Any other type of activity that would foster a sense of community among Temple Israel members.

How will grant funds be distributed?

A determination of how the grant will be paid out will vary based on the individual grant. The committee will determine the payment schedule and it will be based on the implementation of the program. For example payment may be needed to pay for material, staff, or other upfront costs. Arrangements will be made to submit requests for payment.

How will funded programs be reviewed and evaluated?

Renee Resnik, Grant Administrator will work with each grant recipient to establish a set of measurable goals that will become the basis for incremental review and a summary evaluation of their program.

Can grants be renewed for future years?

Although funding can only be awarded for one year, the Grant Committee will consider proposals spanning multiple years. However, we recommend that your grant proposal provide an understanding of the evolution of the program beyond year one and how much money might be requested in subsequent years. In addition we would like some understanding of how the program can be funded from other sources.

What is Expected of Me?**How much responsibility do I have for implementing the program?**

It is important that applicants understand their role in all phases of the submission of the application, and if accepted, the planning and implementation of the funded program. The applicant must take a leadership role in all aspects of the program; however, they do not have to work alone. We encourage applicants to recruit a team of colleagues to assist in the program. A limited amount of support is available through Temple Israel, including space and staff. However, it is important to understand that these requests have to be coordinated with the temple's ongoing activities.

What happens if the program isn't successful?

Please know that if a program is accepted, every effort will be made to help it achieve success. We understand that creative program concepts may be uncertain. We anticipate that people with funded proposals will make every effort to develop a successful program and success will be measured in several ways. The Grant Committee is aware that some concepts may not work out as expected for a variety of reasons. Our goal is to encourage innovation which may sometimes result in having the project not always go as planned.

What Support Will I Receive?**Can I get help in preparing my proposal?**

Renee Resnik, the Grant Administrator, is available to help anyone interested in submitting a grant. Our goal is to make the application process as easy to fulfill as possible. Feel free to contact Renee (reneer@columbus.rr.com) with any questions about ideas or the application process. In addition, feel free to contact Rabbi Zinkow or any member of the Grant Committee for assistance.

Will there be assistance in marketing and communicating the program idea once the grant has been awarded?

Temple Israel will make every effort to assist you in marketing your program in Temple publications and on the web. However we would like you to include in your proposal a marketing plan.

Will the Temple provide assistance in recruiting participants for programs?

Temple Israel will assist you in identifying certain population groups applicable to your program. However, we would like you to include in your proposal a recruitment plan.