



Sherwood Trust’s Vision

Everyone in the Walla Walla Valley has a sense of belonging and contributes to a thriving region. Sherwood Trust serves as a catalyst for building capacity, creating a cohesive, vibrant community.

Sherwood Trust’s Core Values

Collaboration. Empathy. Equity. Excellence. Integrity. Sustainability.

•

Sherwood Trust 2024 Competitive Grant Programs

Grant Type	Grant Amount	Application Process	Award Timeline
Core Grants (Capital, Capacity, Community)	No minimum amount	Letter of Interest due Feb. 7 Application due March 7 Applicant Site Visits in April	Awarded in June

Sherwood Trust’s Core competitive grants are guided by our Eligibility Requirements, Giving Principles and Core Values, included in the following pages. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review grant guidelines and discuss their grant proposal with Sherwood Trust in advance of submitting a request to ensure the grant request meets Sherwood Trust’s guidelines. Call 509-529-2791, email brian@sherwoodtrust.org or julia@sherwoodtrust.org.

For more information about Sherwood Trust grants, including past awards, visit www.sherwoodtrust.org.

Grant Eligibility Requirements

- Benefit registered tax-exempt organizations or initiatives fiscally sponsored by tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a public agency.
- Be submitted by or with an organization serving the Walla Walla Valley, defined as extending from Dayton, Washington to Milton-Freewater, Oregon.
- Charitable activities should be consistent with Sherwood Trust’s vision and values.
- Organizations or collaborative projects by more than one organization that receive grant funding should allow two intervening years from receipt of funds before applying for another Core Grant. If an organization or collaborative project received funding in 2023, for example, that organization or collaborative project would again be eligible to apply in 2026.

Our Giving Principles

- Private philanthropy is a strategic activity, not a charity. It demands the seriousness of a long-term investment and requires stringent underwriting to ensure grants support achievable, measurable results.
- An organization's operational model and its execution is critical to achieving its mission. Sherwood Trust grants favor effective organizations that demonstrate strong leadership, competent management, strategic innovation and a record of achieving tangible results.
- Sherwood Trust grant programs are for organizations whose work directly supports our vision that everyone here has a sense of belonging and can contribute to our thriving region. We seek transformative investments that support local people working together toward stronger, more equitable communities.
- Sherwood Trust favors applicants with evidence of multiple donor commitments so that Sherwood Trust is not funding the majority of the request. Sherwood Trust prefers to fund final grant dollars.

Core Values

- Collaboration – support for collaboration between organizations on a common project, particularly those with broad regional benefits that address a community need
- Empathy – support for initiatives that promote mutual understanding, learning and respectful community engagement
- Equity – support for initiatives that promote and strengthen inclusive, representative engagement in our region to build a more cohesive community, particularly those that address inequities for underserved population.
- Excellence – support for nonprofits with a track record of sound operational management and development of internal capacities that enhance an organization's resiliency
- Integrity – support for operations that demonstrate transparency and unity in the fulfillment of their mission
- Sustainability – support for strong, resilient organizations with a track record of good governance and accomplishment

Additional Considerations

- Competitive grant proposals seeking funds for scholarships, door prizes, raffles or to benefit an individual will not be accepted.

Sherwood Trust Core Grant Guidelines and Application Process

Sherwood Trust Core Grants are traditionally the majority of our funding in a given year. These proposals seek to invest in an organization's most important priority, may be multi-year commitments, and generally fall within three major categories:

- Capacity grants for nonprofit organizations can include expanding service or operations, or funding for specific innovations or projects that support resiliency and strengthen an organization's ability to fulfill its ongoing mission
- Community grants for qualifying neighborhood and community-based projects that generally include a public agency
- Capital grants for improvements to facilities or physical property

Core grant applications should be informed by Sherwood Trust vision, values and giving principles. Complete Letter of Intent and Grant Applications questions are available at www.sherwoodtrust.com/grant-guidelines.

Organizations or collaborative projects by more than one organization that receive grant funding should allow two intervening years from receipt of funds before applying for another Core Grant. If an organization or collaborative project received funding in 2023, for example, that organization or collaborative project would again be eligible to apply in 2026. Please reach out to brian@sherwoodtrust.org with specific eligibility questions.

2024 Core Grant Application Timeline and Requirements

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Feb. 7 | Letter of Interest (LOI) final deadline. Organizations will not have access to the rest of the application until LOI has been reviewed and approved by Sherwood Trust. We strongly encourage organizations to contact Sherwood Trust to discuss their proposal in advance. |
| Feb. 23 | Organizations will be notified if LOI is approved for application process. |
| March 7 | Deadline for Core Grant Application. Early submissions are welcome. |
| March 22 | Sherwood Trust will notify applicants if their application moves forward. Request for a site visit and/or supporting materials will be made as applicable. |
| April | Site visits and due diligence conducted as appropriate. |
| June | Core Grant recipients announced. |

Core Grant online application includes the following.

- Detailed project proposal with budget, including other income sources
- Key goals to be achieved
- Organization overview, including current organizational staffing
- Financial overview, including current annual budget and three years of past financial statements