



The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Las Cruces

Religious & Charitable Ministries Grant Program

2026 Guidelines for Applicants

Grant Project timeline (November 2026 – October 2027)

Key Dates

Application deadline	September 15, 2026
Award announcement date	November 10, 2026

Purpose

The Foundation provides grants to support Catholic parishes, missions, schools, and recognized ministries in the 10 southern counties of New Mexico. Grants help fund projects that serve parishioners, strengthen ministries, advance evangelization and Catholic formation, and provide charitable assistance to the poor and vulnerable.

- Grant requests typically range from \$500 to \$15,000, depending on available funds and project scope.

Who May Apply

- Catholic parishes, missions, schools, or recognized ministries within the Diocese of Las Cruces.
- Projects must serve people within the Diocese and be consistent with Catholic faith, values, and diocesan policies.

Funding Priorities

- Serve the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable.
- Strengthen parish and mission ministries.
- Promote evangelization, catechesis, and Catholic formation.
- Support works of mercy, including food, shelter, clothing, pastoral care, and other direct assistance.

Capital Expense and Diocesan Approval

- Any capital expense request over \$5,000 must have written approval from the Diocese of Las Cruces before the Foundation may make an award.
- Applicants should attach the diocesan approval letter or other written authorization to the grant application. An application may be reviewed while approval is pending, but funding will not be released until approval is received.

Required Financial Documentation

- Parish and mission applicants must attach financial information that supports the stated need, including the most recent year-end financial statement, current year-to-date financial statement, and current operating budget.
- Schools and recognized ministries must provide comparable organizational financial statements and a current operating budget.

- Applications lacking required financial documentation may be considered incomplete or receive fewer points under Demonstrated Need and Budget & Stewardship.

How Applications Are Scored

Applications are scored on a 100-point rubric in the following areas:

- Catholic Identity and Mission Alignment - 25 points
- Demonstrated Need and Financial Support - 20 points
- Impact and Beneficiaries - 20 points
- Feasibility and Planning - 15 points
- Budget and Stewardship - 10 points
- Sustainability and Long-Term Value - 10 points

Application Process

1. Complete the 2026 Grant Application and submit all required attachments by September 15, 2026.
2. Foundation staff will review submissions for completeness. Complete applications will be evaluated using the published scoring rubric.
3. The Board of Trustees will review recommendations and make award decisions.
4. Award decisions will be announced on November 10, 2026.
5. Grant recipients must submit a brief report within 12 months or upon project completion describing how funds were used and the impact of the project.

How to Apply

Submit the completed application and attachments by mail or email to:

Rosie Duran, Executive Director
PO Box 1120
Roswell, NM 88201
rduran@cfdolc.org
Questions: 575-993-2156

We look forward to partnering with you in building up the Church and serving our brothers and sisters in Christ.