

Nordstrom Community Grants FAQ

Welcome to the Nordstrom Community Grants Program FAQ. This document is designed to guide you through the application process, eligibility criteria, and common questions to help you prepare a strong grant submission for consideration. We encourage you to read through the entire FAQ before applying to ensure a smooth experience. If you need additional support, contact information is provided at the end.

Pre-Application

1. How do I apply for a Nordstrom Community Grant?

You can apply for a grant by clicking the “Apply for a Nordstrom Grant” button on our [Nordstrom Impact website](#). Nordstrom uses Benevity to manage applications, and no login is required.

If you need to pause and return to your application, your progress should be saved, as long as you use the same browser and device.

INSIDER TIP: We recommend drafting your responses in a separate document to keep a copy for your records. You can preview all applications by using the toggles at the top of the application page, starting October 1st.

2. Can I speak to someone on the Nordstrom Social Impact team about my grant application?

To ensure a fair process, Nordstrom team members cannot offer guidance or feedback on individual applications.

If you have questions about the overall process or timeline, please email us at giving@nordstrom.com. We encourage you to read this entire FAQ before reaching out. It may already have the answers you need.

3. Does Nordstrom offer multi-year grants?

Nordstrom does not offer multi-year funding. However, organizations may receive a Community Grant for up to three consecutive years, with a new application (organizations must reapply each year).

After that, we ask organizations to wait at least one year before reapplying. This helps us support a broader range of local organizations across the communities we serve.

4. Are there any categories that Nordstrom does not fund?

Yes. While Nordstrom’s Community Grants program provides unrestricted funding to hyper-local organizations aligned with our Social Impact strategy, there are categories we do not support.

We prioritize organizations focused on providing basic needs to youth and their families, especially in the areas of shelter, food, and clothing.

We do not fund the following:

- Individuals or groups not registered as 501c3 nonprofits
- Organizations with religious or political affiliations, or third-party fundraisers
- Incentives or gifts for government officials
- Interest-bearing accounts, endowments, real estate, or capital assets

- Sports organizations and programs (including booster clubs, leagues, teams, events, or affiliates)
- Any organization with a policy of discrimination based on sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any protected characteristic

5. Can I submit multiple applications for different programs within my organization?

No. Only one application per organization can be considered.

Since Nordstrom's grants are unrestricted, you may use the funding across multiple programs to meet your organization's greatest needs.

Submitting more than one application may result in all submissions being declined as duplicates.

6. My organization is based in the U.S. but provides support to communities that are not located in the U.S. Can I still apply for a grant?

Nordstrom prioritizes funding for organizations that support communities where we have physical store locations.

Since we do not currently operate stores outside of the U.S., applications focused on international communities are not eligible for funding at this time.

To locate the closest Nordstrom store, visit our store locator, [here](#).

7. Can I view the grant application questions before applying?

The application isn't available to view until the application window opens on October 1st.

Once it opens, you can preview all questions before submitting by using the toggles at the top of the application screen to navigate through each section.

Application & Process

8. There's a Nordstrom employee on our nonprofit's board. Can we still apply?

Yes! We encourage organizations to apply, even if a Nordstrom employee serves as a volunteer or board member.

Just be sure to disclose that relationship in the appropriate section of the application.

As a reminder, the Community Grants program focuses on supporting hyper-local nonprofits in the communities where we have physical store locations.

9. My organization uses a fiscal sponsor. Can both my organization and the fiscal sponsor apply for a Nordstrom Community Grant?

No. Nordstrom considers only one application per organization, including fiscally sponsored groups.

Each applicant must have a unique EIN, and only one application per EIN will be considered for funding. Submitting more than one application with the same EIN may result in all submissions being declined as duplicates.

10. Is there a character or word limit for responses in the grant application?

Yes. Character and word limits will be shown in each section where typed responses are required.

11. My organization fits into more than one of the funding pillar. Which should I select?

We understand many organizations work across multiple areas. Please select the pillar that best aligns with your organization's mission or the specific program where the funds will be used.

12. How much can I request through Nordstrom's Community Grants program?

Grants range from \$5,000 to \$20,000, awarded in increments of \$5,000 (e.g., \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000, or \$20,000).

Post-Application

13. How will I know that my organization's grant application was received?

After submission, you'll get an automated confirmation email from noreply@benevity.com. This confirms Nordstrom has received your application and it is pending review.

If you don't receive an email within 24 hours, please check your spam or junk folder.

Be sure to save the reference number for your application before clicking submit. This will help us locate your application if you need assistance later.

14. My application status is set to "canceled." What does that mean?

A "canceled" status means we received multiple applications from your organization. Since only one application per organization can be reviewed, additional submissions are canceled before committee review.

15. The person who submitted our application is no longer with my organization. Can I update the contact information for grant notifications?

Once an application is submitted, we cannot change any details, including contact information.

INSIDER TIP: To avoid this issue, we recommend you use a general organization email address (e.g., development@yourorg.org or grants@yourorg.org) when submitting applications. This helps ensure continuity despite staff changes.

16. Do I need to submit a report if my organization receives a grant?

Reporting is optional. While we appreciate updates and acknowledgment letters, we understand capacity can be limited and want to support our partners in prioritizing the programs and communities being impacted.

After grants are awarded, we'll send an optional survey where you can share updates and feedback on your work and our application process.

17. How are award decisions made?

Community Grant applications go through multiple review stages. A committee made up of Nordstrom employees from various departments evaluates and recommends awards based on a thorough and fair framework. Final approval is given by regional and executive leadership.

See the timeline below for details on the review and award process.

18. My organization was awarded a grant, when will we receive the funds?

Nordstrom uses Benevity Grants to disburse funds. Our Social Impact team aims to distribute funds each spring.

Please refer to the timeline below for detailed information on the review and disbursement process.

Timeline for Nordstrom's Community Grants Program:

TIMEFRAME	ACTION
October 1 – 31st	Application window opens with updated resources and materials.
November 1 st – December 15 th	Initial vetting and review by the Social and Community Impact team. <i>NOTE: Nordstrom typically receives over 3,000 applications but can award only 150-300 each year. We appreciate your patience during this thorough review process.</i>
January 1st – February 1st	Committee review and recommendations.
February 1 st – 15 th	Social and Community Impact team reviews for final recommendations to leadership.
February 15 – March 15	Regional leadership and executive team review.
April – May	Payments submitted to Benevity.
June – July	Funds are processed and distributed by Benevity.

19. Additional assistance

For technical assistance with the grant application, such as access issues, passwords, or form errors, please contact grants@benevity.com.

For questions about the program or application process, please reach out to giving@nordstrom.com.

Thank you for your commitment to making a difference in your community. We look forward to reviewing your application!