



THE OST ILLUMINATION FUND ROLLING APPLICATIONS

I. BACKGROUND

The Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation is dedicated to the civic and religious communities of its founders, who believed in the importance of education in all its aspects and knew the power of entrepreneurial creativity. The Foundation places its highest priority on endeavors designed to transform the lives of individuals and the work of organizations. It strives to make long-term and meaningful contributions in Monroe and Ontario Counties with half of its grants supporting Jewish Life, and the other half supporting secular activities with a large emphasis on out-of-school-time education.

In the spring of 2023, the Farash Foundation launched a new Out-of-School Time education strategy focused on the other 87% of the time our community youth are not in a structured school day setting. We want to challenge our partners to think big and creatively so we can create more OST programs for youth to learn new skills, connect deeper with peers and mentors, and have fun. The foundation believes that supporting the creation of more safe and enriching experiences in out-of-school time will help ensure kids feel ready to learn and flourish.

II. PURPOSE

The Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation's Illumination Fund will provide one-time grants for innovative programs that seek to create vibrant experiences for OST youth in Monroe and Ontario counties. Program funds are intended for emergent or existing-youth-serving nonprofit organizations wishing to either a) test a bold new approach to OST; OR b) pursue a time-sensitive opportunity that could lead to significant OST program enhancements.

Priority will be given to those projects or initiatives that could help an organization dramatically increase the impact of its out of school time services with our community youth.

What We Want to Fund

Not for profit organizations that have developed creative, innovative ideas, interventions, and projects with scalable potential that seek to address the issues that impact children and youth in our out of school time programs.

Keys to Our Decision Making

Project aligns with Farash Foundation mission and OST strategy.

- Project is innovative in its vision and has potential to significantly impact the OST community in which the project is based.
- Lead organization has a strong leadership track record or evidence of leadership potential is presented.
- The proposed OST project has the potential to spark change not only at the grantee location but across the OST system.
- Organization has and project shows a demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Proposed project funding supports new learning and information collection for the OST community.
- Proposed project shows potential for success.

What Will Not Be Considered

- Projects that do not seek to primarily impact and improve the lives of children and youth in out of school time programs.
- Capital Projects. The project can have a capital need relevant to the idea, but not solely capital in purpose.
- School day “push in programs”.
- Organizations and projects the present limited growth and scalability potential.

III. SUBMISSION AND DEADLINES

The foundation accepts and reviews grant requests on a rolling basis. There is no deadline to apply.

The application is accessed through the Foundation’s grant portal, Fluxx. A pdf of the proposal questions is available [here](#).

The proposal should be reflective of the idea. Applications can be considered for one-time investments, a pilot program, or multi-year funding. There will be many excellent ideas that we unfortunately we will not be able to fund.

Once we have received your proposal in our Fluxx Grant Portal, your program officer may contact you with follow-up questions.

You can expect to be notified of a decision within 30-90 days of submitting your request. Timing of notifications is dependent on when your application is received, requested funding amount, and our foundation approval process. We welcome organizations to submit multiple proposals. We ask those additional proposals present different innovative project ideas. We will not review repeat proposals for the same project within a calendar year. We encourage collaborative proposals when appropriate.

IV. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

In order to understand the impact of awarded funds, the Foundation will work with grantees to clarify and understand anticipated outcomes.

The foundation will ask grant recipients to participate in a final project discussion and/or to submit a post-grant report that includes a narrative description of how youth were impacted by the grant and what was learned.

The foundation will also require an accounting of funds expended.

V. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS AND COMPLIANCE

Inquiries

Direct questions to Todd Waite, Program Officer, at twait@farashfoundation.org or 585- 479-4469.

Guidelines

Applications are submitted via the Fluxx, Foundation's Grants Management System. Please access the Fluxx web portal at: https://farash.fluxx.io/user_sessions/new

If you require assistance accessing or navigating Fluxx, please contact Pam Schlierf at pschlierf@farashfoundation.org or 585-479-7764.

Restrictions

Grant seekers must be based in Monroe or Ontario Counties and be tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986. They cannot be classified as private foundations or Type III supporting organizations under Section 509 of the Code.

Grants cannot be used for research, grants, or scholarships for individuals, or lobbying or attempts to influence legislation. Please note that incomplete proposals will not be considered.