

Wyoming State Bar Foundation Grant Application Procedure and Requirements

History and Purpose of the Wyoming State Bar Foundation

The Wyoming State Bar Foundation (WSBF) was established as a non-profit 501(c) (3) corporation in 1981 to

- Provide civil legal services to the poor of Wyoming, who would otherwise be unable to obtain legal assistance;
- Provide public education projects which promote a knowledge and awareness of the law; and
- Provide projects which improve the administration of justice.

Since 1989, the WSBF has awarded grants to agencies and programs in Wyoming which are dedicated to the above goals. WSBF members are attorneys from who are committed to accomplishing the WSBF's goals. The WSBF is governed by an eleven member Board of Directors, elected from the membership. It is within the Board of Directors' discretion to determine if an application falls within the WSBF's mission.

Grant Application Procedure

Timeline:

Applications are due to the WSBF by November 30th of each year. The WSBF Grants Committee does an initial review of the applications in December and January. The WSBF Board of Directors reviews applications in February. Grant applicants will be notified in late February whether they have been approved for grant funding. First installments of grants will be awarded in March. Mid-year reports are due by 5:00pm on July 1. Final reports are due by 5:00pm on January 31.

Eligibility:

The applicant must qualify as a tax-exempt non-profit organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation places a high priority on those applicants providing direct delivery of legal services to residents of Wyoming. Eligible applicants will be assessed pursuant to the Grantmaking Factors set forth below.

Grantmaking Factors:

- Strategic clarity about the mission and purpose for the organization
- Organizational success in improving in providing effective and high quality legal services, improving the administration of justice, or providing law related education.
- Effective and ongoing strategic planning and evaluation
- Strong governance and oversight
- Clarity regarding the results of their program or project
- Collaboration with other organizations