



VERIDIAN CREDIT UNION'S SUCCESSFUL FINANCIAL FUTURE GRANTS

2024 GRANT GUIDELINES

Veridian Credit Union has partnered with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa to provide the **Veridian Credit Union's Successful Financial Future Grants**. Grants are made possible through the Veridian Credit Union Fund of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa. This fund provides general operating support grants to nonprofit organizations whose work plays a vital role in creating successful financial futures in Veridian Credit Union's service area in Iowa and Nebraska.

GRANTS

The Veridian Credit Union's Successful Financial Future Grants are **general operating grants** of up to \$5,000 and are made available to nonprofits that are strengthening communities by helping individuals become more financially stable.

The purpose of these grants is to provide support to nonprofits whose core mission is primarily focused on addressing barriers to financial stability by educating individuals in **financial literacy** or **employment readiness**.

Core Mission is defined as:

Central aspect of the organization's work that encompasses all programming provided to participants. It is an integral part of the organization's commitment to service delivery.

Financial Literacy is defined as:

Ability to understand and effectively use various financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting, and investing.

Employment Readiness is defined as:

Measurable increase in work readiness skills including occupational information, values, clarification, and personal understanding, career planning and decision making, and job search techniques.

Grants are not for projects or programs but are for organizations that are fully engaged in work centered around financial literacy or employment readiness. If an agency leads a variety of programs, then financial literacy or employment readiness needs to be a key component throughout its programming. Please note that general mentoring programs for youth are not considered as addressing barriers to financial stability.

APPLYING FOR A GRANT

Applicants interested in seeking a Veridian Credit Union's Successful Financial Future Grant should fully review these grant guidelines prior to submitting an application to ensure all eligibility requirements are met. Applications must be submitted through the Community Foundation's online grant management system. Visit www.cfneia.org to access the grant system, and to find additional resources for grant seekers.

All application materials must be submitted through the online submission system.



TIMELINE

Below is the timeline for the 2024 process:

- Process opens: **September 1**
- Application deadline: **October 15 at 5:00 pm**
- Grant decisions announced: **Early December**

ELIGIBILITY

Organizations must meet the following eligibility requirements in order to be considered for a Veridian Credit Union's Successful Financial Future Grant:

- Applicants must be classified by the IRS as 501(c)(3) public charities.
- Applicants must be serving residents in Iowa and/or in the following Nebraska counties: Cass, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, Saunders, and Washington.
- If the applicant has received past funding, all grant reporting must be up to date and in good standing.

The following groups are **NOT** eligible to apply:

- Government entities
- Applications submitted through a fiscal sponsor
- Organizations whose primary purpose is to raise funds for other organizations (this includes "friends of" and "foundation" arms of nonprofits)
- Organizations that require participants to participate in religious programming. Religious activities include religious worship, instruction, or proselytization or activities that promote specific religious doctrine.
- Late, incomplete, or hard copy applications will not be considered. Incomplete applications are those that are in DRAFT mode at the time of the application deadline.

PRIORITY

Funding priority will be given to the following applicants:

- Organizations that have a proven track record of success in helping improve **financial literacy** and/or by helping individuals increase **employability**
- Organizations that use evidence-based approaches and/or data-driven decisions in its work
- Healthy organizations (demonstration of financial and organizational strength)
- Organizations that demonstrate a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Organizations that do work in a collaborative manner

GRANT CONDITIONS

Awarded applicants are required to:

- Sign a Terms of Grant agreement which clarifies legal parameters for use of the grant.
- Submit a Grant Report by January 31, 2025.



It is suggested that first-time applicants, contact Sherita Jenkins at (319) 243-1356 or sjenkins@cfneia.org for guidance regarding eligibility and alignment with the funding priorities or any other questions regarding the Veridian Credit Union Fund grant process.