



VERIDIAN CREDIT UNION'S SUCCESSFUL FINANCIAL FUTURE GRANTS

2026 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, Nebraska, and Minnesota.

GRANTS

The Veridian Credit Union's Successful Financial Future Grants are general operating grants of \$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 providing:

- Financial literacy
- Employment readiness
- Affordable or emergency housing

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:

Educating individuals to understand and effectively manage their finances, including skills such as budgeting, saving, credit management and personal financial decision-making.

Employment Readiness is defined as:

Providing training that equips individuals with the skills needed to secure and maintain employment, including job search techniques, career planning, resume writing and interviewing.

Affordable or Emergency Housing is defined as: Offering immediate, short-term housing for individuals and families in crisis and/or longer-term housing that is affordable relative to income.

Grants are not for projects or programs but are for organizations that are fully engaged in work centered around financial literacy, employment readiness and/or affordable or emergency housing. Priority will be given to organizations that clearly demonstrate that financial literacy, employment readiness and/or affordable or emergency housing are a key component in all of their programming.

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 find additional resources for grant seekers. All application materials must be submitted through the online submission system.

TIMELINE

Below is the timeline for the 2026 process:

Process opens:	September 15
Application deadline:	October 30 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, Washington, and/or **Minnesota counties**: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Washington, and Wright.
- 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
- General youth mentoring programs
- Organizations that require participation in religious programming, including instruction, worship, proselytization or any activities that promote specific religious doctrine
- Organizations that submit late or incomplete applications, including applications in "draft" mode or submitted in hard copy only

PRIORITY

Funding priority will be given to organizations that:

- Serve residents in Veridian branch markets, including Ankeny/Des Moines Metro, Cedar Falls/Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Council Bluffs, Independence, Oelwein, Omaha, Twin Cities and Waverly
- Fully engage in addressing barriers to financial stability
- Effectively describe the need for its services and define the population it serves
- Clearly demonstrate the effectiveness of their services and measure outcomes in order to better service delivery

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, 2028

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.