Chicago/Great Lakes: 2024 Grantmaking Guidelines

Boeing maintains a deep and enduring commitment to global community engagement. Our grants support programs that inspire our future, empower our heroes and strengthen the communities we call home. The company’s charitable partnerships and contributions are strategic in focus, promote societal growth, and drive positive and lasting change in the communities where we have a presence.

How To Be Considered for a Grant

Boeing grantmaking is by invitation only. All organizations must be invited to submit a proposal.

1. Read the Boeing grant objectives to determine if your request aligns to any of the following pillars:
   - Our Future
   - Our Heroes
   - Our Homes

2. Determine that your organization is eligible for support. Review the grants eligibility and exclusion guidelines.

3. Contact your local community investor to discuss a proposed project.

4. If your community investor determines that your project aligns with Boeing’s local strategies, you may be invited to submit a full grant application.

- The 2024 Grant period will begin on Friday, February 16.
- A deadline date will be provided if and when your organization is invited to apply.
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Boeing’s Focus in the Chicago/Great Lakes Region

After more than 20 years in the Great Lakes region, Boeing continues to address complex issues by building on the assets of its diverse and vibrant communities. As a corporate leader in Chicago, Boeing is focused on connecting underserved and economically disadvantaged communities with access to opportunities. We work across all three of Boeing’s community investment strategies to develop a site-specific plan tailored to the particular needs of our region, focusing our grants within the pillars Our Future: Tomorrow’s Innovators, Our Heroes: Veterans & Families, and Our Homes: Dynamic Communities.

Goal:
Create a cradle-to-career pathway to strengthen and diversify the pipeline of skilled workers entering today’s dynamic labor market. Place special emphasis on students of color and others from communities typically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Advance the 21st-century skills necessary to persist in and complete rigorous academic programs and gain family-wage employment. We support policy changes to practices that disproportionately affect students underrepresented in STEM fields.

Concentration:
- **Early Learning**: Close the opportunity gap by increasing the number of kindergartners from underrepresented communities who are ready for school, particularly in mathematics.
- **Primary and Middle School**: Generate interest and sustained participation in STEM disciplines through hands-on, experiential learning and 21st-century skills development (including STEAM or integrated arts education).
- **High School**: Graduate more students who are ready to enter STEM-related or other high-demand careers and STEM-focused postsecondary education through high-quality, career-connected learning programs.
- **Workforce Preparation**: Reduce economic disparities by preparing under-skilled adults, young adults and low-income workers for living-wage jobs in high-demand sectors.

Boeing makes investments in organizations in Chicago and Gary, Indiana.

Contact:
**Early Learning, Primary, Middle and High School**: Bernice Billups, director, bernice_l_billups@boeing.com
Lakendric Williams, community investor, lakendric.g.williams@boeing.com

**Workforce Preparation**: Lakendric Williams, community investor, lakendric.g.williams@boeing.com

Before contacting staff, please determine your organization’s eligibility and review the exclusion guidelines.
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Goal:
Build better lives for transitioning service members, veterans and their families. We provide support for veterans and families from communities typically underrepresented in the military veteran ecosystem and those systemically disadvantaged by societal barriers.

Concentration:

- **Workforce Transition**: Support employment-readiness programs for transitioning service members and their spouses to help them succeed in their next mission in the civilian workforce. We focus on high-quality training in high-demand sectors to reduce economic and employment disparities among veterans.

- **Rehabilitation and Recovery**: Support veterans’ physical, mental and emotional well-being through rehabilitation and recovery programs that heal visible and invisible wounds, as well as programs that foster a sense of community and belonging. Increase hands-on recovery programs focusing on the following:
  - Post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, moral injury and suicide prevention
  - Physical injuries
  - Veterans giving back to their communities

Boeing makes investments in organizations in Chicago and Gary, Indiana.

Contact:
Lakendric Williams, community investor, lakendric.g.williams@boeing.com

*Before contacting staff, please determine your organization’s eligibility and review the [exclusion guidelines](#).*
Goal:
Respond to the local needs of our community by making strategic investments as we continue to intensify and expand our focus and support to advance mobility out of poverty, increase access to healthy food options and quality health care, address environmental concerns, support safe communities and break the cycle of incarceration. We place special emphasis on communities of color and other underserved communities.

Concentration:

- **Economic Mobility**
  - Support programs targeted at increased access to resources to improve earnings and wealth accumulation.
  - Deepen community impact by scaling effective programs delivered by grassroots organizations, based in underserved communities.
  - Increase access to the leadership and business acumen resources needed for entrepreneurs of color to launch, grow and scale their businesses.

- **Community Well-Being**
  - Increase access to quality health care for underserved communities.
  - Increase access to effective violence prevention within underserved communities and programs which reduce engagement in criminal and violent behavior, connecting participants with necessary support services.

- **Recidivism Prevention**
  - Enhance resources and support for citizens transitioning from incarceration.
  - Support successful reintegration into family and community life for citizens transitioning from incarceration.
  - Support workforce training programs for individuals with barriers to employment.

Boeing makes investments in organizations in Chicago.

Contact:
Bernice Billups, director, bernice.l.billups@boeing.com
Lakendric Williams, community investor, lakendric.g.williams@boeing.com

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Other Types of Support from Boeing

In the Chicago/Great Lakes region, we have the opportunity to support organizations in the following ways:

- **Event Sponsorships to Charitable Galas, Fundraisers and Benefits**: Boeing will provide sponsorship support for select fundraising events or community programs. The company supports organizations that align with our local grant strategies, have representation on the board of directors by a Boeing executive and/or align with Boeing's business goals. Please email your local community investor at least six months prior to the event for consideration. To submit request, please email chicagobge@boeing.com.

- **Business-Related Sponsorships**: Boeing sponsors select major events, organizations and projects that resonate with our business and brand strategies to enhance Boeing brand presence and visibility with our customers, key stakeholders, employees and the communities where we live, work and do business around the world. For information and application, please visit our Sponsorships page.

- **In-Kind Donations**: Boeing provides in-kind donations in the Chicago/Great Lakes region on a limited basis. Community organizations are notified periodically when equipment becomes available and can make specific requests when this is the case.

- **Employees Community Fund of Boeing (ECF)**: ECF is an employee-managed charitable giving program founded in 1948. Local Boeing employee volunteers focus on making grants to local nonprofits by pooling employee and retiree contributions to have the greatest impact in their communities. Contact boeingchicagoecf@boeing.com for more information.

- **Employee Volunteering**: If you have an opportunity that aligns to our strategy, please contact Breanna Miller, Boeing Global Engagement focal and grants analyst, at breanna.l.miller@boeing.com

For more information about grant eligibility, please review our grants eligibility and exclusion guidelines.