

## Woodstock Economic Development Commission Community Grants Guidelines 2019

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### What are they?

Grants to individuals, organizations and businesses funded by the town-wide 1% Options Tax intended to support the mission of the EDC. That mission is:

- To encourage and help existing and new businesses prosper, create more job opportunities, and become more environmentally conscious,
- To make this a livable and welcoming community for a diverse, multi-generational population,
- To promote a welcoming, sustainable Woodstock area,
- To improve and make the best use of land, buildings and other physical infrastructure, and
- To develop tools to promote a sustainable economy.

### How much money are we talking about?

Grant packages vary from small to large, depending on what's asked for. The EDC has earmarked 21% of 2019 Options Tax Funding for community grants, approximately \$50,000 in total. Successful grantees have requested \$2,000 to \$30,000. Most hover around \$5,000.

### How do I get one?

Apply for funding during one of these granting periods in 2019:

Submission Deadline	Presentation and Q/A	EDC Decision	Select Board Decision
January 30	February 7	March 7	March 19
May 29	June 6	Date TBD	July 16
September 25	October 4	November 7	November 19

### How do I maximize my chances of being awarded a grant?

A grant is most likely to be approved if it:

- Is spearheaded by an individual or organization with some prior accomplishments, who/which meets eligibility guidelines: Woodstock residents, taxpayers, non-profit groups, civic and business associations, or business owners.
- Clearly lays out its goal, timeline, and deliverables.
- Is a new initiative. (General operating requests and ongoing projects are not funded.)
- Contributes to meeting the current objectives of the EDC, which are:
  - To increase the number of visitors who are most likely to develop connections to the area and contribute to the economy, and
  - To grow and diversify the resident population to enrich the community and the quality of life.

- Has an impact on the community. Projects don't have to target the full Woodstock community; they can be directed at a niche group, but they must contain demonstrable public impact.
- Is accompanied by a complete application and advocated for by its applicants in a five-minute presentation before the board, which will take place about eight days after the grant application deadline.

### **Who is ineligible?**

- Organizations that discriminate because of race, color, creed, gender, national origin, or limited participation.
- Political organizations, candidates for political office, and organizations whose primary purpose is to influence legislation.
- Fraternal or religious groups with proposals that promote an individual doctrine.

### **Anything else I should know?**

Here are some previous grant applications that received funding. Please request the Dropbox link to view full applications:

- Optimist Center – Business Accelerator
- Maple Madness – Woodstock Chamber of Commerce
- Lobster on the Green - Woodstock Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce
- Bluff Island Music - Pentangle and Jay Nash
- East End developer package (with Sustainable Woodstock)
- East End capacity study (with Sustainable Woodstock)
- WAMBA – Mountain Biking
- Pop-Up Work Spaces – Rachel Shields
- Pentangle Capital Campaign Analysis (funding to determine community capacity)
- Bookstock Special Event 2018
- East End Eats – Ana DiNatale
- Sunday Afternoon Jazz – Encore Design Consignment/ Gallery on the Green

Applications can be submitted by email (preferred) directly to Sally Miller, [smiller@townofwoodstock.org](mailto:smiller@townofwoodstock.org). Or applications may be mailed or delivered to the Woodstock Economic Development Commission, Town Manager's Office, Woodstock Town Hall, 31 The Green, Woodstock, VT 05091.

If you have questions about the grant process, please contact Sally Miller, [smiller@townofwoodstock.org](mailto:smiller@townofwoodstock.org) or 802.281.8483.

2019 Deadlines: 5:00 p.m. January 30, May 29, September 25.

Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on the stated date to be included in the round.

By submitting your application to the Woodstock Economic Development Commission, it becomes public record and any information you provide may be discussed at public meetings.