

2026 Application

GAR Foundation

Request Information

Purpose of Request*

Please fill in the purpose of your request (e.g., "the XYZ program"). If you're requesting operating support, please enter "operating support."

Character Limit: 250

Amount Requested*

Character Limit: 20

Strategic Category*

Into which of GAR's strategies does this request fit? We understand that some work spans multiple strategic categories. If this is the case for your request, please choose the primary strategic category that aligns with your work.

[Click here for more information on the strategies we fund.](#)

Choices

Early Childhood Education

K-16 Education

Economic Development

Workforce Development

Community Development

Arts & Culture

Basic Needs

Project Overview

If this is a request for a specific project, please provide a brief (2-3 sentence) description of the project. (If this request is for operating support, you can skip this question.)

Character Limit: 2500

Outcomes*

What outcomes will you have achieved in one year if this grant is a success? Please provide specific, measurable outcomes in a list (not a narrative). The best outcomes demonstrate the change you are trying to make with the people you serve.

Here are some sample outcomes:

- Implement our program in 5 schools, serving 45 teachers and their students. As a result, 20% of students will increase their overall score on our achievement test.

- In one year, we will have provided life skills programming to at least 100 young people, of whom 75% will have obtained employment and 50% will have earned a credential.
- Attract 500 new visitors to our exhibit over the next year, of whom at least 30% will become members.

Character Limit: 10000

People Served

How many people did you serve in the last year, and how many do you anticipate serving in the coming year? If this is a request for operating support, include numbers served throughout your organization. If this is a request for a specific project, specify the numbers served by that project. Please provide details related to your service population:

- Total number served
- Gender
- Age
- City of Akron Residents

	People served in the last year	People to be served this year	People to be served next year (if you have projections)
For your fiscal year ending _____			
Total number of people served			
Gender breakdown of people served			
Age breakdown of people served			
City of Akron Residents served			

Organizational Leadership

Leadership*

In the past year, has there been a leadership change at the organization level and/or over the project proposed in this application? If so, please tell us about your new leader and provide a short description of their experience.

Character Limit: 10000

Board Composition*

Please describe your **board**:

- Total number of board members
- Male / Female
- Under age 40 / Over age 40

Character Limit: 10000

Staff Composition*

Please describe your **staff**:

- Total number of staff members
- Male / Female
- Under age 40 / Over age 40

Character Limit: 10000

Organizational Chart

If you have an organizational chart, please upload it here.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Client Voice*

What practices does your organization employ to ensure that your work is shaped and informed by the people you serve and the places you impact?

Character Limit: 10000

Barriers to Access*

How does your organization address and mitigate barriers that may prevent people from engaging with your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Early Childhood Education

Theory of Change*

What is your theory of change with your work? In other words, how does your work or program help more children in our community enter kindergarten ready to learn?

Character Limit: 10000

Evaluation Tools*

What assessment or evaluation tools do you use to evaluate the quality of your programming?

Character Limit: 10000

K-16 Education

What age group do you primarily work with?*

Choices

Elementary School

Middle School

High School

Post-Secondary

Community Collaboration*

In what ways does your organization work with Youth Success Summit (YSS) and/or Summit Education Initiative (SEI)? How does your work fit into the aligned framework they are advancing?

Character Limit: 10000

Do you collect and share data with YSS and/or SEI?*

Choices

Neither

YSS

SEI

Both

Program Quality and Success*

- What tools do you use to inform and improve your overall program? (e.g., APT-O, SAYO-S, SAYO-Y, etc.)
- What youth outcomes do you track? (e.g., attendance, grades, etc.)
- How are you using these metrics to improve your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Effectiveness of Approach*

Please share evidence and data you have collected that demonstrates the effectiveness of your approach.

Character Limit: 10000

Youth Voice*

How do you incorporate youth voice and feedback into your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Youth Safety*

Which of the following does your organization use to ensure the safety of your students? Check all that apply.

Choices

- Insurance coverage for staff and volunteers
- Screening/background check of staff and volunteers
- Training for staff and volunteers
- Digital safety training and practices
- Transportation policy
- Incident report policy
- Supervision policy
- Facility safety
- Other

Youth Safety - Other

If you answered "other" above, please describe what other policies or practices your organization uses to ensure youth safety.

Character Limit: 10000

Economic Development

Theory of Change*

What is your theory of change with this work? In other words, how will your work advance inclusive economic development in Akron? Please be specific and include evidence that supports your theory of change.

Character Limit: 10000

GAR Foundation supports inclusive development efforts designed to create widespread prosperity and opportunity in the Akron community.

Economic Opportunity*

How is your proposed work intentional about creating broad access to economic opportunity in Akron?

Character Limit: 10000

GAR believes that data is essential to understanding issues, evaluating outcomes, and guiding decisions. Please answer the following questions about how you track and evaluate your work.

Metrics*

What metrics do you track? What methodology do you use to track these metrics?

Character Limit: 10000

Impact and Effectiveness*

How does your organization measure its impact and effectiveness? How do you define success for your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Workforce Development

Theory of Change*

What is your theory of change with this work? In other words, how will your work advance inclusive workforce development in Akron? Please be specific and include evidence that supports your theory of change.

Character Limit: 10000

GAR Foundation supports inclusive development efforts designed to create widespread prosperity and opportunity in the Akron community.

Workforce Opportunity*

How is your proposed work intentional about creating broad access to workforce opportunity in Akron?

Character Limit: 10000

GAR believes that data is essential to understanding issues, evaluating outcomes, and guiding decisions. Please answer the following questions about how you track and evaluate your work.

Metrics*

What workforce metrics do you track? What methodology do you use to track these metrics?

Character Limit: 10000

Impact and Effectiveness*

How does your organization measure its impact and effectiveness? How do you define success for your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Workforce System*

What is the focus of your work within the larger workforce system? For instance, who are the clients you are serving? Are you working with the College and Career Academies of Akron (CCAA), and if so, how?

Character Limit: 10000

Obstacles*

What are the main obstacles that are impeding successful workforce outcomes in your target audience? What are you doing to address them?

Character Limit: 10000

Community Development

Theory of Change*

What is your theory of change with this work? In other words, how will your work advance your neighborhood? Please be specific and include evidence that supports your theory of change.

Character Limit: 10000

GAR Foundation supports inclusive development efforts designed to create widespread prosperity and opportunity in the Akron community.

Economic Opportunity*

How is your work intentional about creating broad access to economic opportunity in Akron?

Character Limit: 10000

GAR believes that data is essential to understanding issues, evaluating outcomes, and guiding decisions. Please answer the following questions about how you track and evaluate your work.

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What metrics do you track? What methodology do you use to track these metrics?

Character Limit: 10000

Impact and Effectiveness*

How does your organization measure its impact and effectiveness? How do you define success for your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Challenges and Opportunities*

What are the top challenges and opportunities for your neighborhood at this time? How are you addressing them?

Character Limit: 10000

Community Engagement*

Community engagement is a core component of community development work. How do you communicate with your neighborhood residents? How do you collect their input, and how does this input shape your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Neighborhood Support*

How does your neighborhood support and embrace your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Arts & Culture

Arts Subcategory*

Choices

Anchor Institution
Emerging/Innovative
Sector Support

Akron/Summit Cultural Plan*

How does your organization's work fit within the Akron/Summit Cultural Plan? Does your organization intend to advance any of the Plan's priorities during the next year?

Character Limit: 10000

Relevancy*

What makes your programming relevant to Akron arts audiences? How do you determine your relevance?

Character Limit: 10000

Audience Feedback*

How does your organization get feedback from your audience? How do you use it to inform your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Arts & Culture Data Form*

Please complete and upload the Arts & Culture Data Form, which can be downloaded by clicking [here](#). If your organization completes a Cultural Data Profile (CDP) for other grantmakers, you can upload that instead.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Are you eligible to apply for funding from Peg's Foundation?*

Organizations who received funding from Peg's last year, or who were invited to apply this year, are eligible. If you aren't sure, please contact Jessica Cherok at jcherok@garfdn.org.

Choices

Yes

No

Peg's Foundation Funding

Amount requested from Peg's Foundation*

Character Limit: 20

Basic Needs

Unite Us*

How is your organization using the Unite Us platform? Check all that apply.

Choices

Sending referrals

Receiving referrals

Looking into use of the platform

Not using it

GAR believes that data is essential to understanding issues, evaluating outcomes, and guiding decisions. Please answer the following questions about your evaluation methods.

Data Collection*

What data do you collect and/or review as part of conducting your work?

Character Limit: 10000

Evaluation*

Please describe your plans to evaluate your outcomes. What will you measure, and how?

Character Limit: 10000

Financial Health

Annual Operating Budget*

i.e., what are your organization's total annual expenses?

Character Limit: 20

Do you project a surplus, deficit, or breakeven on your operating budget this fiscal year?*

Choices

Surplus

Deficit

Breakeven

Budget Commentary*

- Why are you projecting a surplus or deficit?
- Is there anything else on your budget for which you'd like to provide additional context?

Character Limit: 10000

Cash Reserves*

What are your current cash reserves, and as of what date? Does your organization have a target amount of cash reserves?

Character Limit: 10000

Endowment

If your organization has an endowment, what is its market value? As of what date? Where is the endowment held?

Character Limit: 1000

Revenue Mix*

What are your major sources of revenue? Please provide a list broken down by percent attributable to each category.

(e.g., 20% government, 40% individual contributions, 20% foundations, 10% earned income, 10% events/fundraisers)

Character Limit: 1000

Board Member Participation*

What percent of your board members make a financial contribution to your organization?

Character Limit: 3

Fiscal Sponsor*

Does your organization use a fiscal sponsor?

Choices

Yes

No

Fiscal Sponsor Information

If you are submitting your request through a fiscal sponsor, you should have the active involvement of the fiscal sponsor in preparing this application. The financial information provided should reflect the finances of the fiscal sponsor organization.

Fiscal Sponsor Name*

Please enter your fiscal sponsor's organization name here.

Character Limit: 250

Fiscal Sponsor Tax ID*

Please enter your fiscal sponsor's tax ID here, in the format XX-XXXXXXX.

Character Limit: 10

Fiscal Sponsor Head of Organization*

Please enter the full name of your fiscal sponsor's head of organization.

Character Limit: 100

Fiscal Sponsor Email*

Please enter the email address of your fiscal sponsor's head of organization here.

Character Limit: 254

Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement

Please upload your Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement here.

File Size Limit: 4 MB

Contact Information

Board Chair Name*

Character Limit: 250

Board Chair Email Address*

Character Limit: 254

Marketing/Communications Contact

We often issue communications about our grants. Who is the best person to contact with questions related to marketing and communications? Please share their name and email address.

Character Limit: 250

Newsletter

Is there anyone else on your staff who should be receiving our newsletters? If so, please include their name, title, and email address here.

Character Limit: 10000

Attachments

All applicants must provide the following documents:

- A cover letter, signed by your board president, indicating intent to apply for this grant
- A current board list with contact information for all board members
- The Organization Budget Template provided on our website
- A project budget, if you're applying for a specific project
- Your current year-to-date financial statements
- Your most recent 990
- Your most recent audit, or, if your organization does not have an audit, the most recent year-end unaudited financials

Cover Letter Signed by Board President*

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Current board list with contact information*

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Organizational Budget Template*

We require that you use our format for this document. The Organizational Budget Template can be found by clicking [here](#).

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Project Budget

if applicable

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Year-to-Date Financial Statements*

File Size Limit: 10 MB

Most Recent 990*

File Size Limit: 10 MB

Most Recent Audit*

If your organization does not have an audit, please upload your most recent year-end unaudited financial statements.

File Size Limit: 20 MB

Admin Questions

Program Officer(s)

Choices

Christine Mayer

Rob Lehr

Laura DiCola

Nicole Chavers

Jessica Cherek