



## 2026 SHULMAN JEWISH EDUCATION & LIFE GRANTS INFORMATION

### DESCRIPTION

Shulman Grants are made possible by an estate gift from Dr. Sol Shulman, professor of chemistry at Illinois State University for 23 years, who passed away in December 2010. Shulman Grants focus on Jewish educational programs and materials, Jewish-themed arts, music, and theater programs, and Jewish cultural enrichment programs in DeWitt, McLean, Livingston and Logan counties that are open to all. Examples of educational programs include books for libraries, lectures, school curriculum and the like. Programs and projects that benefit larger rather than smaller numbers of people are preferred.

Applications may be submitted from **February 1 to February 27, 2026**; applications must be completed using the online grant portal; no paper applications accepted.

If you apply for a Shulman Grant, you may not apply for the identical program to the IPCF General or IPCF/Mirza Arts & Culture Grants, which run concurrently with Shulman Grants. You may, however, apply under multiple grant categories if the applications are for distinctly different programs and fit the criteria listed for the particular grant category.

- **Submission deadline is February 27, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. (Central Time)**; the online grant application system automatically closes all applications at the 5 p.m. deadline
- Grant funding is for the period of **June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2026**; programs must take place during that timeframe
- ~\$23,000 is available to award through multiple grants. The range of grant awards in 2025 was \$600 to \$7,695 (average grant award was \$3,470). To see programs that were funded previously through the Shulman Grants, visit <https://ilprairiecf.org/past-shulman-jewish-education-life-grant-recipients/>
- Applicants are required to use a budget document developed by the IPCF Grants Committees; form can be downloaded through the online grant application; Word and Excel files are available
- Grant applicants will be notified of the outcome of their grant request by end of April 2025
- Those organizations awarded grants will be sent a link to a Grant Agreement on the grant portal; the Executive Director, CEO, or President of the Board must approve the document which outlines conditions and requirements for accepting the grant award
- Grant awards will be distributed beginning in May 2026

We regret that not all projects can be funded. A denial should not be viewed as a negative reflection on an organization or program, but rather a result of the number of applications received and the amount of funding available

## **REQUIREMENTS**

### ***Grant Eligibility***

- Program must deal specifically with the grant focus listed above; funding may support a new or existing program
- Applicants must have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, operate under a fiscal sponsor that is a 501(c)3 organization, be a local unit of local, county, state or federal government or be a tax-exempt religious organization as recognized by the IRS
- Program must be available to residents of McLean, DeWitt, Livingston or Logan counties; however, programs do not have to serve all four counties
- Program must be operated and organized in such a manner that no applicable anti-discrimination laws are violated
- Organizations that have received past grants from Illinois Prairie Community Foundation must be current on all grant Final Reports
- Executive Director, CEO or President of the Board of an organization applying must approve the application

### ***What Is Not Funded***

- Non program-related expenses
- Endowment campaigns
- Annual fundraising events and expenses
- Capital improvements or expenditures
- Conference or continuing education expenses
- Scholarships

## **ONLINE GRANT PORTAL INFO**

To begin the online grant application, go to

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=ipcf>. After creating a new account or logging in, you will be directed to an Apply page showing all open grant applications for the spring grant cycle. Click on the Shulman Jewish Education & Life Grant application to begin.

Logging in to the online grant portal allows you to start an application, finish a previously started and saved application, check the status of a previous application or complete follow-up reports assigned for successful grantees.

**Questions?** Contact Michele Evans, Vice President (Programs), Illinois Prairie Community Foundation, 309-662-4477 or [mevans@ilpcf.org](mailto:mevans@ilpcf.org).