



Promise Grant Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible to apply?

All Lodges are eligible to apply for a Promise Grant! Eligibility is not dependent on meeting the GER's per-capita goal for donations to the ENF. However, Promise Grants are only available to the first 500 Lodges that apply with a qualifying activity.

When do Promise Grant applications become available?

Promise Grant applications become available July 1. The ENF will approve the first 500 Lodge applications that apply with a qualifying activity. Applications submitted once this number is reached will be placed on a waiting list.

How can Promise Grants be used? Are there any restrictions?

Promise Grants must be used for an Elks-led youth activity. The youth activity must have meaningful Elk involvement that goes beyond a donation of funds or supplies. Accordingly, youth activities such as the dictionary project or sponsoring a youth baseball team do not qualify for the Promise Grant.

ENF grant guidelines stipulate that grant funds cannot be used to host fundraisers, essay or poster contests, youth awards banquets, Hoop/Soccer Shoot events, appreciation dinners or to fund scholarships. Please keep these guidelines in mind when applying for any ENF grant.

My Lodge has applied for a Promise Grant, but have been put on the waitlist. What does that mean?

This means that the Lodge submitted an application after the 500 Lodge limit for funding has been reached. Your Lodge's application will be put on a waiting list, and if funding becomes available, the ENF will contact your Lodge.

Can the Promise Grant be used for more than one youth activity?

Yes, this is permissible as long as all of the youth activities have Elk involvement.

Can the Promise Grant fund the Dictionary Project?

No, the Promise Grant cannot fund the Dictionary Project. The Dictionary Project is considered a donation of supplies and does not have enough Elk involvement to qualify. If the Lodge would like to enhance their dictionary project by adding another element with meaningful Elk involvement, such as a book fair or a reading buddy program, this could be considered. (Lodges may continue to use Gratitude Grants to fund the Dictionary Project.)

I have received an email asking for more information on my application. Does this mean my Promise Grant proposal has been rejected?

No, this does not mean that your Lodge's Promise Grant proposal has been rejected. We often follow up with Lodges to request more information, or to request that Lodges amend part of their application, Lodges that receive a follow-up email are always eligible and encouraged to adjust the application and submit it again.

My Lodge needs to change how we use our Promise Grant. What should I do?

Any and all changes to approved Promise Grant activities must be approved by the ENF beforehand. We ask that the Lodge alert the ENF Programs Department to these changes either via email or over the phone. Grant changes within appropriate guidelines can then be approved.



Elks National Foundation

My grant activity is complete. What now?

Tell us about it! When the activity is complete and the grant funds are spent, it's time to submit a Final Report Form to the ENF. This form is mailed to each Lodge with the grant check and approval letter. If you've misplaced the form, simply contact the ENF.

The Final Report Form should include receipts and documentation of how all grant funds were spent, as well as information about the event. Attachments, photos, thank you notes and other information is always welcome.

How can I spread the word to the community?

Use the News Release Generator to spread the word about your Lodge's good deeds to the community. Visit our website to get started, <http://www.elks.org/ENF/mediabrochures/prgenerator.cfm>.

For the complete guidelines, please visit <http://www.elks.org/enf/community/PromiseGrants.cfm> or contact the ENF Programs Department at ENFPrograms@elks.org or 773/755-4730.