



## Dare to Dream Grant Program Guidelines

**For Kids Only seeks to fund programs with specific faith-based components geared towards “at-risk” children ages 0-12 years that further our mission, have specific, measurable spiritual and academic outcomes, and serve as a model in their local community.**

FKO funds programs across the United States. We do not fund any international programs, even if they are based in the US.

All grant requests are limited to the amount of \$10,000. The board may only award partial funding, based on their discretion. Typical funding ranges from \$1,000 - \$8,000.

### Our definition of at-risk:

At-risk children are children at a disadvantage academically, economically, socially, and/or spiritually. **We consider a combination of these characteristics necessary for an ideal application – not only one at-risk characteristic** (i.e. spiritually only). This can include special needs, behaviorally challenged, poverty, abuse and neglect, failing school performance, etc.

### Application info:

- We have two funding cycles each year. Applications are due **in our office** (not just postmarked) by: January 6 – Cycle 1 **OR** July 6 – Cycle 2
  - If the 6<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend, it is due the following business day – NO EXCEPTIONS.
  - Any application we receive after the deadline **FOR ANY REASON** will not be considered for funding until the next grant cycle.
- Please use our application form only. Be clear, concise and detailed.
- Be very detailed in describing the program you are requesting funding for. Itemized lists of requested budget funds must be detailed. If the budget for funds is not done in enough detail, the review committee will request a new budget or may deny your application.
- Please include an email address that is checked regularly.

We do not require a letter of inquiry to apply for a grant. After reviewing our grant information thoroughly, if your proposal fits the FKO mission, you may apply. When applying for a Dare to Dream Grant, download and submit via FedEx, UPS or Priority mail the provided application.



## Dare to Dream Grant Program Guidelines

Please verify that you qualify for our grant program by reviewing the list below. If you qualify, please ensure you can provide ALL of the information required. **Grant applications will be disqualified if they are not complete. Applications not adhering to the Dare to Dream guidelines will be disqualified immediately with no reasons given.**

**Please thoroughly review our application and the “Do Not Fund” section before applying.**

### **What we DO NOT fund:**

- Staff salaries, personnel expenses, or reimbursements of any kind
- Non-Christian based organizations
- Youth over the age of 12
- Organizations without a 501c3
- Fundraising events of any kind
- Building construction or refurbishing of any kind
- Curriculum development
- Training seminars, conferences, annual meetings, or think-tank sessions provided by your organization
- Research projects
- Endowments
- Individuals
- Political or lobbying activities
- Christian Schools, EXCEPT in inner cities
- Rent and utilities for program operations
- Consultant fees

### **Funding Priorities:**

**These types of programs will be given priority over a general request designated as “operating expenses.”**

- Specifically outlined programs containing **academic and spiritual aspects**
- Focused goals that clearly define your vision for the future and provide benchmarks for growth in your program
- Clearly defined budget with each item designated by a separate line within the document.
- Every request submitted by a church must be distinctly community outreach, not a program designed for children already attending within the congregation.



## Dare to Dream Grant Program Guidelines

### Application Timeline

January 6 and July 6	All applications are due in the FKO office by these dates. If applications reach the office after the 6 <sup>th</sup> , they will be held over until the next possible funding session. If the 6 <sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend, the due date is the following business day.
February 6 and August 6	Applications have been reviewed. Acceptance and denial letters are sent out based on review committee's decisions.
February – April and August – October	Site visits/ phone interviews are scheduled and conducted with FKO staff.
April 1 and October 1	Deadline for additional materials that are requested in interviews. Staff preparation of the applications for the board.
End of April and End of October	Applications are presented to the FKO Dare to Dream grant board for funding decisions. Award money is released by June 1 and December 1 Accountability progress report is due one year from award date.

**The accountability progress report is due one year from award date. This includes a one page essay about current achievements within your program. A budget report regarding how FKO funding was spent and any literature or photos of the program should be included.**

For Kids Only receives many applications and funding is limited. Applications that the board feels fit the FKO mission and adhere to all our funding guidelines will be given priority.

All grants must be for charitable purposes in accordance with IRS regulations.