

2024-2025 Grant Program Guidelines

Application Deadline: November 1, 2024

You must submit your Application Form by email to agefriendly@novascotia.ca by 11:59 pm AST on November 1, 2024.

We will not accept applications received after November 1, 2024.

Grant Overview

The Age-Friendly Communities Grant program provides funding for projects that help older Nova Scotians stay active, healthy, and engaged in their communities. It funds community efforts to create age-friendly environments, promote healthy aging and support initiatives that lead to positive impacts in the lives of older adults in Nova Scotia.

It is administered by the Nova Scotia Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care.

How much funding is available?

Most projects receive a grant of up to \$10,000. Projects can receive funding of up to \$25,000 if they are a large-scale in-depth or provincial initiative.

Who can apply for funding?

To apply for a grant, your organization must be a:

- Registered non-for-profit society or cooperative
- Registered charity, or registered association based in Nova Scotia
- Local government (municipality, First Nations band, Tribal Council)
- University or non-profit post-secondary institution based in Nova Scotia

Businesses and individuals are not able to apply.

Applicants who have received Age-Friendly Communities Grants in previous years must submit their final reports before applications for funding 24/25 are considered.

Funding Opportunities

Projects:

Funding is available for projects that help older Nova Scotians stay active, healthy, and engaged in their communities. These projects aim to ensure older adults remain socially connected, support their quality of life, and foster diverse and engaged communities.

Areas of Focus:

- Physical Activity, Mobility, and Nutrition
 - » Projects that promote physical exercise, improve mobility, and encourage healthy eating habits
- Reducing Social Isolation, Strengthening Social Connections and Supporting Mental Health
 - » Projects that help older adults build and maintain meaningful relationships, reducing feelings of loneliness and isolation
- Building Digital Skills
 - » Projects that teach older adults how to use digital devices for tasks, communication, and about online safety
- Intergenerational Programs
 - » Projects that create mutually rewarding relationships and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and skills between older and younger participants

Please note affordability, accessibility, inclusion, and engagement with culturally diverse and traditionally marginalized communities should be key considerations when planning your project.

Planning stream:

Funding supports work to understand the needs and priorities in communities to support aging Nova Scotians. This includes local government, community organizations and older adults themselves. Initiatives must be in partnership with local government and must include consultation, collaboration and engagement with older adults and other community stakeholders.

Areas of Focus:

- Understanding community needs, current resources and gaps related to aging. This information can inform future plans for new or existing community programs and services.
- Develop solutions to address challenges when supporting older adults in their homes.

How are applications evaluated?

All sections of the Application Form must be completed. Incomplete applications will not be assessed for funding.

Applications will be scored on overall quality, using the following considerations:

- **Description and benefit:** What is the reason for this project? Is there a demonstrated gap in the community? How does the project benefit older adults and the larger community?
- **Equity, diversity, and inclusion:** Does the project benefit older adults facing barriers to inclusion? Does it engage with culturally diverse and traditionally marginalized communities? Does it provide programming to older adults living in underserved areas?
- **Accessibility:** Does the project address barriers to participation that participants may face?
- **Engagement:** Has there been engagement during project development with older adults and the target population/community?
- **Partnerships:** Will the project involve working with other groups, organizations, or local governments? Do they support this work? Have letters of support from partners been provided?
- **Budget:** Are the cost estimates reasonable? Is the use of resources efficient? Have issues with affordability been considered?
- **Impact:** How many people will be impacted by this project? Is there a potential for a lasting impact? Can the project continue after funding ends?

Applications that include programming for or engage with older adults from the following groups will be prioritized for funding:

- Acadian/Francophone
- African Nova Scotians
- Immigrants/Newcomers/Refugees
- Mi'kmaq/Indigenous persons
- Visible Minorities

- People living with cognitive impairment
- People living with disabilities
- People living on low income
- Racialized Groups/Communities
- Persons who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+

When will we be notified?

- Funds are awarded based on application assessments and available funds.
- Approved applications may receive some or all of the funding requested.
- All applicants will receive written notice from the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care of the funding decision.
- If an application is approved, the amount of funding provided will be confirmed in the letter from the Department along with the Terms and Conditions of the funding agreement.

Table 1: Expected timing

Activity	Timeframe
Application opens	Open: 17 September 2024
Application closes	Close: 11:59 pm AST on 1 November 2024
Notification of outcome	31 January 2025
Grant agreements and funding sent to organizations	31 March 2025

Budget Guidelines

Funding is available for new activities only and does not support on-going operations or regular planning activities. Budgets will be assessed based on the scale and scope of the project. Some items requested may not be funded.

Eligible expenses:

- Salaries and wages
- Honoraria
- Professional fees (e.g., consultants providing specialized services, instructors and trainers leading classes and workshops, etc.)

- Participant supports (e.g., transportation, etc.)
- Equipment and supplies (e.g., weights, resistance bands, walking aids, specialized equipment, etc.)
- Program materials (e.g., materials for crafts, games and other activities, etc.)
- Technology purchases (e.g., hardware, digital devices like tablets, computers, and necessary software or online services/subscriptions, etc.)
- Facility rentals
- Promotional materials
- Food/refreshments

Include price quotes for technology and equipment items and services.

Ineligible expenses:

- Ongoing operational costs
- Costs for existing programs
- Costs to renovate or construct spaces

All budgets must show:

- Proposed expenses and how they align with the activities in the application
- Letters from confirmed partners indicating their cash or in-kind support for the project and how they will work with you are required
- Any other grants applied for or received for the same initiative

Grant Recipient Responsibilities

All grant recipients have up to one year from the time they receive funding to complete their project.

Final Report

- Recipients must **submit a final report using a template provided by the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care.**
- All findings and results should be documented and included in the final report.
- Proper financial record-keeping is required, receipts must be kept, and copies provided.
- All reports produced from the project must be shared with the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care.

Failure to submit final reports will impact future funding applications.

Table 2: Expected timing for final reporting

Activity	Timeframe
End of grant activity	March 31, 2026
Submit final report with copies of coinciding receipts	May 31, 2026

Does my organization have to acknowledge that we received funding?

Yes. You must acknowledge the funding from the Province of Nova Scotia on all announcements, advertising, reports and products.

What if the project changes, cannot proceed, or is cancelled?

If you need to change the project significantly from what was outlined in your application, you must make a request in writing to the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care by email to agefriendly@novascotia.ca. Written permission from the Department is required to reallocate funding.

If your project is cancelled or you use less money than planned to complete your project, you must return any remaining funds to the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care. This must be done using a cheque addressed to the Minister of Finance.

How to Apply

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