



SPRING 2021 PLEDGE 10 GUIDELINES AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

“TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!”

Thank you for your interest in a Pledge 10 Grant. These guidelines provide direction and will answer some of your questions about the process of submitting a grant proposal. By reading this document* and referring to it as you prepare your proposal, you should be able to develop a stronger proposal. Grant panelists take into consideration how well an applicant provides the requested information. In addition, it is most important that you read and become familiar with the Pledge 10 Grant Agreement available through the link in the Agreement section of the application located at the end of the application.

Please note, Pledge 10 Grants will not provide funding for any of the following projects, activities or causes:

- Contests or pageants
- Requests made solely to benefit one person or family
- Projects that send products or people to foreign countries or on domestic travel
- Political causes, candidates, organizations or campaigns
- Scholarships (tuition, room, board, other expenses for college/university/vocational school attendance)
- Re-granting funds to another organization or entity

HINT: For best results, type out answers to narrative questions on a word processor document and then copy and paste into the appropriate boxes. That will allow you to more easily check for correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation. **Clearly communicating project information is crucial. Thus, BEFORE you submit the proposal, we strongly recommend you have another person proofread it to help ensure clarity and correctness.** The review committee definitely pays attention to spelling and grammar and believes that attention to such details demonstrates your belief that the project is valuable and worth funding.

Deadline to submit a Spring 2021 grant proposal is March 15, 2021.

FILLING IN THE GRANT PROPOSAL

Please provide all necessary information. The application will not be accepted and considered if required information is missing.

Funding Information – Projects must serve persons within Jonesboro State Bank’s primary service area: Jackson, Bienville, Winn and southern Lincoln parishes. Designate the primary focus area of your project--no more than two.) Also indicate which type organization is applying: charitable, governmental, school or church/house of worship.

*If you are applying as a charitable organization, it must be in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) **AND** the State of Louisiana Secretary of State.* It is your responsibility to confirm your status.

If a non-profit organization is other than a 501 (c)(3), please indicate in the narrative. If your organization is listed with the IRS or Secretary of State as Doing Business As (DBA) under another name, provide that information in the Organization Mission section. We verify this information prior to consideration for funding.

Organization Information - Complete each section marked with a red star (*). Be certain to provide the **FULL** mailing address. The Senior Official is the person authorized to act for the organization/agency (generally an Executive Director, Board Chair/President, Principal or CEO) and **MUST** be informed of the grant proposal. That person’s email must be submitted. Provide additional information if available. When describing your organization and its activities, *assume that the members of the grant panel scoring the proposal are not be familiar with what you do.* Please provide clear, understandable descriptions with appropriate grammar and punctuation.

Request History - Please provide requested information for your organization/school, not simply a program. The same or equivalent project will be funded no more than twice.

Project Information – Name your project, the amount you are requesting (minimum \$2,500 and maximum \$10,000), the name and title of the person(s) who will be overseeing the project, project dates and a description of the project itself (do not repeat information from the organization information section.) Please note that a project must begin within 90 days of the date of award notification and may run no more than 12 months after the **award** of the grant.

Describe what you plan for the project to accomplish, including:

- How this project is **new** or a significant **expansion** of current activities or services (Pledge 10 grants do NOT fund existing/ongoing services).
- In what way(s) this project will reach **new** participants or significantly expand the number of persons you seek to serve.
- The number of persons you seek to serve/impact.
- Whether/how the described project addresses an **unmet** or **underserved** need.
- If you are including speaker fees, provide the name of the proposed speaker and email Pledge10@jboro.com documentation to validate fee amount.

The project budget is crucial and should list and describe in detail all income in addition to the requested grant amount. (For example, if you charge a participation fee, or some expenses will be covered by another grant/donation that should be included.) All planned expenditures should be listed in detail and described (note, we do not fund existing salaries/overhead.)

Income and expense amounts must match exactly. The application will automatically add up the figures you supply.

If you are a charitable organization (listed as a non-profit with the Louisiana Secretary of State and IRS) AND a first-time applicant or have never been awarded a Pledge 10 grant, email a copy of your organization's budget to pledge10@jboro.com.

Each grant cycle we receive a healthy number of worthy grant requests. Thus, we may not be able to fully fund those recommended. Tell us how you will adjust the project in the event of partial funding. *If your organization/agency is submitting more than one proposal, be certain to indicate your priorities by ranking them (1 or 2).* An applicant may submit no more than two (2) proposals in any given grant cycle.

Project Relevancy asks for information about how your project will meet needs within the Jonesboro State Bank service area. This communicates your level of familiarity with those who will be served by grant funding.

Explain how you will evaluate the effectiveness of your project, assess outcomes achieved, what improvements could be made, and other information you expect to provide to us in your project final report.

In what ways will you promote the project to those who may be served by it and the larger community? *Specifically, describe how will you acknowledge Jonesboro State Bank Pledge 10 as a funder of your project.*

Community Served – List the parish or parishes in which your project will take place, the number of people you hope to impact, and how you learned about Pledge 10 (e.g. name of newspaper, radio, social media, etc.)

Pledge 10's budget is based on 10% of the bank's profits, therefore our customer base is crucial to the success of Pledge 10. JSB strives to be a responsible steward of the Bank's profits dedicated to Pledge 10. You are not required to have any banking relationships with JSB to qualify for grant funding, and your answer will not affect your scoring results. However, we do ask that you answer this question so we can better understand our role as stewards of Pledge 10.

Agreement – Download and read the Pledge 10 Grant Agreement. By checking the "I agree to the terms and conditions" box, you are verifying that you have read and agree to abide by the Pledge 10 Grant Agreement. It is YOUR responsibility to read this information. Recommended: again read the application to make sure that you have provided all requested information.

Provide the name **and** email address of the person authorized to submit the application and complete the "I'm not a robot" step prior to hitting the submit button.

PLEASE NOTE: All information described above must be provided for a project to be considered. We may require the submission of supplemental or clarifying information after reviewing an application. Any such request will be made using the contact information provided in the application.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT YOUR PROPOSAL WAS RECEIVED WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED AN EMAIL (please check spam folder) AFTER 72 HOURS FROM SUBMISSION, PLEASE EMAIL pledge10@jboro.com or CALL 318.259.4411.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- My proposed project is only in one parish, not the whole service area. Can it be considered? – Yes! Projects must fall **within** our service area, but need not cover every parish
- What if my organization/agency is awarded a grant and something significant changes relative to anticipated expenses or dates? – Minor amounts may vary. If a major component of your project changes, reach out to us to explore whether the grant funds may be shifted to another component of the SAME project. Email questions to pledge10@jboro.com.
- When will I know if our project is recommended for funding? – We plan to notify applicants about funding decisions for the Fall 2020 grant cycle on or around October 15, 2020.
- May I tell those who follow my organization on social media about being awarded a grant?—Please do! If you do, please tag us @Pledge10JonesboroStateBank on Facebook so we see it, acknowledge you, and promote your good work.
- What type of final report do I need to send when the project is completed? – Around the completion date that you provide on the proposal, we will email you final report forms. Should your project be finished early, you may email pledge10@jboro.com and request the form. **Be sure to keep copies of receipts over \$100 and copies of print, relevant photographs, social media promotion, and other pertinent project promotion** to submit with the final report.

*We will update these Pledge 10 Guidelines and FAQs if we receive additional questions that are of interest to all applicants.

Email additional questions to pledge10@jboro.com