

## Giving Guidelines



Lowe's and the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation (LCEF) focus giving efforts on k-12 public/charter education and community improvement projects. We have four grant programs, Lowe's Toolbox for Education®, Lowe's Community Partners, Hometown Grants and Small Grants.

### Who May Apply

The Foundation provides funding only to 501(c) (3) tax-exempt nonprofit organizations and public agencies in communities where Lowe's operates stores and distribution centers.

The Foundation requires that all applicants take an eligibility test. Organizations that pass will be considered, but not guaranteed a grant. LCEF receives far more requests than it can accommodate. Many times, requests that pass the eligibility test and fall within the stated guidelines are not approved. The Foundation will reserve the right to consider an organization's grant application only once every 12 months.

### The Foundation's charitable contributions are not used for:

- Individuals and families or memorial campaigns
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party giving (i.e. other foundations)
- Health-based organizations
- Religious organizations and church programs or events
- Private schools
- Capital campaigns, endowments or endowed chairs
- Multi-year requests
- Special events, such as conferences, dinners, sport or educational competitions, festivals or art exhibits
- Sponsorship/fundraising events of any kind (i.e. auctions, golf tournaments, sports teams, athletic events)
- Tickets to events
- Product donations\* (see below)
- Goodwill advertising or marketing
- Political, labor, fraternal organizations, civic clubs or candidates
- Arts-based community programs
- Animal rescue/shelters or support groups
- Travel-related events (trips, tours, stipends or registration fees for students or staff)
- Development or production of books, developing curriculum, films, videos or television programs
- Activities of organizations serving primarily their own membership
- Continuing education for teachers and staff
- Institutional overhead and/or indirect cost (i.e. salaries, stipends, benefits and most project labor costs)

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### Thank you for your interest in Lowe's Charitable & Educational Foundation.

Our philosophy for giving holds that the communities we serve should be the primary beneficiaries of our charitable contributions.

\*We recommend that your local Lowe's store be your first point of inquiry when seeking a modest gift card or in-kind donation for a community project or event.