



United Way
Guelph Wellington
Dufferin

United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin Funding Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the UWGWD Community Impact Strategy?**

We encourage you to visit our website at <https://unitedwayguelph.com/focus-areas/> for more information about the ways we look to make an impact in our community.

- **We do not have charitable status, but are an incorporated non-profit – are we eligible for funding?**

An incorporated nonprofit organization that does not have charitable status (or a non-qualified donee) is eligible to apply for funding under United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin's new policy, and the Canadian Revenue Agency's most recent guidance. Grants to non-qualified donees will be assessed on a risk-matrix, and in some cases, additional accountability tools may be required as part of the funding agreement.

- **Are there any types of organizations that are not eligible for funding?**

United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin does not fund the following:

- For-profit organizations
- Unions and professional associations
- Individuals
- Foundations where the funding would be used to support their annual disbursements to other qualified donees (a foundation's charitable/direct service programs are eligible)
- Organizations whose purpose is solely related to political activity
- Organizations that could be deemed discriminatory, as defined by the Ontario Human Rights Code
- Organizations without a clear delineation between religion and community service as evidenced in the organization's bylaws

United Way does NOT typically fund environmental, heritage, sports or arts organizations unless programming intentionally services vulnerable communities. United Way will also not fund direct religious activities of religious groups or organizations.

If you have any questions about these or want to discuss how they might impact your application/organization, please contact Colleen Murdoch (colleen@unitedwaygwd.com)

- **Can we apply for funding for a program we deliver outside of Guelph, Wellington or Dufferin?**

No. Programs and initiatives selected for funding must provide services in Guelph, Wellington County or Dufferin County. Services that take place outside these areas are not eligible for funding.

- The head office of our agency is located outside of Guelph Wellington Dufferin. Can we apply for funding under this funding stream?**
 Yes. Organizations must be operating programs within Guelph, Wellington County or Dufferin County to be eligible for funding. Preference will be given to organizations located in Guelph, Wellington County or Dufferin County.
- What can funding be used for?**
 Please refer to the Applicant Guide for a list of Eligible Expenses. Note the list of eligible expenses for Program Funding on page 6 and Operational Funding through the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion stream on page 12.
- Are there expenses that are not eligible for funding?**
 Please refer to the Applicant Guide for a list of Ineligible Expenses. Note the list of ineligible expenses for Program Funding on page 6 and Operational Funding through the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion stream on page 12.
- Does United Way require support letters from other funders/agencies?**
 No, this is not required.
- How much money is available through each funding stream?**
 The total amount of funding available will be determined by the UWGWD Board of Directors in January 2024, and is based on the success of the previous year's fundraising campaign.
- Is there a maximum amount of funding we can apply for?**
 There is no maximum, unless you are applying for Operational Funding under the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion stream (maximum of 10% of your annual operating budget, to an annual maximum of \$50,000). However, we do recommend due to the expected funding available, that application requests do not exceed \$100,000 unless in unique circumstances. Note: your application may not receive full funding, but every intention will be made to ensure that where full funding is not provided, budget lines are kept intact.
- What is the difference between program funding and operational funding?**
 Program funding is specific to a certain program or service. All eligible expenses must be directly related to the program you are applying for. For example, if you are applying for personnel related expenses, you may only apply for the staff that work on that specific program. Operational funding is designed to support the general costs of an organization's core operational needs. Eligible expenses are related to the overall operations of the organization, not solely a program. Operational funding is a pilot for the 2024-2026 funding term, and only available to community service organizations applying under the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion stream.
- What if we are not currently a United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin funded agency?**
 United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin funding is open to all community service organizations meeting stated criteria. Organizations must be providing service in Guelph, Wellington and Dufferin and preference will be given to organizations located in Guelph, Wellington and Dufferin.
- How many funding requests can be made by one organization?**
 There is no limit to the number of applications an organization can submit, however, we encourage you to prioritize your programs/services, as there is only so much funding available. Organizations should submit separate applications to UWGWD for each funding request.

- **Can we apply on behalf of a group of organizations?**
Yes – we welcome & encourage collaborative funding applications!
- **How will decisions about the funding be made?**
The UWGWD general funding process is as follows:
 - Applications for funding will open on October 2, 2023.
 - Applications for funding will close on October 30th at 11:59 pm.
 - Applications will be reviewed by UWGWD staff and evaluated by community volunteers from our Community Impact Committee. Applications will be scored using specific criteria. For more information on this criteria, please refer to the Applicant Guide.
 - The Community Impact Committee will bring forward final recommendations to the UWGWD Board of Directors.
 - The UWGWD Board of Directors will make final funding decisions.
 - At various points throughout the process, applicants may be asked to provide additional information and/or participate in a web conference or in-person meeting with UWGWD staff and/or volunteers.
- **When will we know if our application was successful?**
Final funding decisions will be communicated by February 2024. All applicants will be notified of final decisions, no matter the outcome.
- **Without new funding, the front-line services we are delivering are at risk of closing. Are we able to apply for funding?**
UWGWD does not provide funding to cover organizational or program deficits.
- **What are the reporting requirements?**
Each funded agency will be required to submit a year-end report in April 2025 and April 2026. Additional details about reporting will be shared with successful applicants.
- **How will United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin ensure that this funding is reaching equity-seeking populations?**
UWGWD is committed to ensuring an open and fair application and review process. We will be working to promote this funding opportunity throughout our community and will provide support to all organizations seeking funding. UWGWD will be considering a number of equity dimensions as we make decisions on how funding will be allocated. These may include populations served, geography, UWGWD impact area, rural and remote access and other systemic challenges. In addition, United Way has funding through an Equity, Diversity & Inclusion stream, designed to support equity and rights seeking groups.
- **Our agency is currently receiving funding from United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin. Are we guaranteed to be funded again?**
No. As part of our ongoing work to ensure our funding is accessible to all, the revised funding model is intended to be more inclusive and will be opened up to **all** community service organizations meeting the program criteria.
- **UWGWD has been funding a program at our agency for many years. Are we guaranteed that the program will be funded again?**
No. As part of our ongoing work to ensure our funding is accessible to all, the revised funding model is intended to be more inclusive and will be opened up to **all** community service organizations meeting the program criteria.

- **If I am successful in receiving United Way funding, does that limit my organization's fundraising capacity? Will there be restrictions on when my organization can fundraise?**
As of August 2021, United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin no longer imposes a Supplementary Fundraising policy on organizations receiving United Way funding. As we work to build a shared responsibility for social good in our communities, we are focussed on the collective mission of strengthening our community and supporting the long-term success of our local organizations. Therefore, there will be no limits on the type of fundraising, or the time of year that fundraising can take place, if you are the recipient of United Way funding.
- **Can I get assistance with the application process?**
Yes. Please visit our website at <https://unitedwayguelph.com/apply-for-funding/> for more information about the application process. United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin will host an information session to provide an overview of open funding opportunities with a focus on the application and guidelines for completion on October 11, 10-11 am. If needed, please contact Colleen Murdoch, Director, Community Engagement & Impact at colleen@unitedwaygwd.com