



Justice Grants Program

Application and Guidelines

Submission Deadline: Friday, February 6, 2026

The New Hampshire Bar Foundation (the Foundation) is accepting applications for the 2026-2027 biennium Justice Grant cycle. This grant program broadens the Foundation's mission of strengthening the system of justice in New Hampshire by funding efforts to encourage innovation in the ***administration of justice, provide community education about the law, and improve access to the legal system.*** The grant project period must fall between January 1, 2026 and December 31, 2027. Grant decisions will be announced by March 20, 2026. Grant funding will be disbursements after the completion of signed grant contracts.

The Justice Grants are made possible through the generous contributions of individuals, legal professionals, in memoriam donations and those who support the Foundation's mission. Our donors value the promise of equal justice for all and seek to improve the administration of justice in New Hampshire.

Criteria for Justice Grants

The Justice Grants fund projects that:

1. Envision new ways to create equal justice for all people,
2. Develop concrete innovations in the delivery of legal services, court operations, legal education or in other justice-related areas,
3. Address legal needs or projects which are important in a democratic society, but that may go against public or political sentiment,
4. Bring together diverse resources and people to find solutions to justice-related problems,
5. Build public confidence in the justice system.

The grants, which range from \$500 to \$30,000, are available for start-up costs, planning and research, or for funding to help stabilize new programs, but are not for ongoing operational costs. The Foundation is committed to promoting creative thinking and innovation in the short term, but encourages the development of federal, state, local, and community funding in the long term for projects that demonstrate success. The grants are to be used for a specific funding purpose. To see a full list of available funds please see attached list or go to the <https://www.nhbar.org/nh-bar-foundation/grant-programs> under the Justice Grants tab.



Exclusions

1. The Foundation will **not** fund:
 - for-profit entities;
 - political campaigns;
 - religious activities;
 - litigation; or
 - projects that would jeopardize the Foundation's tax-exempt status.
2. The Foundation will **not** make grants:
 - to individuals;
 - to endowment campaigns;
 - to capital campaigns; or
 - to pay down a deficit or loan.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Completed Application Cover Sheet

Proposal Narrative should answer the following questions, in order:

- I. **Mission:** Briefly describe your organization's mission and purpose.
- II. **State the Problem:** What is the issue and how will you address it through this project?
- III. What **Justice Grant Priorities** and what **Justice Fund purpose** (see *list of Funds at <https://www.nhbar.org/nh-bar-foundation/grant-programs/justice-grants>*) does this project address? (you will also find it as a separate attachment)
- IV. **Timeline of Activities:** projects must take place during Justice Grant period of January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2027
- V. **Resources & Collaborations:** Provide a list of other financial resources and collaborating partners.
- VI. **Evaluation:** What method will you use to evaluate/measure outcome to determine effectiveness of the project for your grant report.
- VII. **Partial Funding:** If your proposal is only funded in-part, what effect will it have on your project?

Attachments Required:

- An **itemized budget** for the project
- Organization's **current operating budget**
- Copy of the organization's **tax determination letter**



Grant applications are due by Friday, February 6, 2026. Applicants will be notified of the New Hampshire Bar Foundation's decision by March 20, 2026.

Please mail or email applications to:

2026 Justice Grants Program
Attention: Cindy Roberts, NH Bar Foundation Coordinator
New Hampshire Bar Foundation
2 Pillsbury Street, Suite 300
Concord, NH 03301-3502
(croberts@nhbar.org)

If you have any questions please contact Cindy Roberts, at (603) 715-3210 or croberts@nhbar.org.