



IOLTA Criteria & Priorities
(Supplement to *IOLTA applications*)

A. Criteria:

The Foundation will not make grants to:

- 1) Individual persons;
- 2) Religious organizations;
- 3) Political campaigns;
- 4) Organizations that are primarily for lobbying;
- 5) Endowment campaigns;
- 6) Continuing legal education programs for lawyers; or
- 7) Law enforcement or correctional organizations.

Greater weight will be given to:

- 1) Applicants requesting funds for direct services to the public. The provision of those services shall be broken down into estimated cost per service, if possible;
- 2) Programs that utilize pro bono attorneys or employ attorneys offering legal services to low-income individuals;
- 3) Applicants with a prior history of service reflecting clear ability to deliver quality services successfully; and
- 4) Applicants that work to develop cooperative efforts between grantees in a given service area.

Significant weight will be given to applicants with a history or clear ability to provide a successful program.

The Foundation will aim to fund applicants with the primary goal of achieving broad geographic and demographic distribution of IOLTA funds throughout the state.

- B. Definition for Legal Services:** For the purpose of IOLTA grant administration, the definition of civil legal services is the assistance of counsel and staff to provide legal services for people living at or near the poverty line, which will be set by the Board with input from IOLTA grantees.

C. Rubric:

1. **Organizational Capacity and Governance (15 points)**
Assesses the applicant's ability to responsibly manage IOLTA funds, including review of financial controls and past audits.
2. **Demonstrated Community Need (20 points)**
Evaluates the extent and severity of unmet civil legal needs to be addressed.

3. **Program Design and Quality of Services (20 points)**
Assesses clarity, effectiveness, and quality of the proposed legal services.
4. **Impact and Outcomes (20 points)**
Measures anticipated results and effectiveness relative to funding with clear metrics. Should include data regarding the number of people assisted and the impact the project or program has had on the public.
5. **Efficiency and Cost Effectiveness (10 points)**
Evaluates stewardship of IOLTA funds at an organizational level and efforts made toward consolidation of services on a statewide level. Reviews ability to leverage other resources.
6. **Collaboration and System Integration (10 points)**
Measures coordination with courts and other partners as well as applicant's role in statewide continuum of legal services. Considers past performance with IOLTA or similar funds.
7. **Compliance & Grant History (5 points)**
Documented history of compliance with IOLTA restrictions and reporting requirements. Timely and accurate grant reporting.

The applicant acknowledges that the award of a grant does not constitute a commitment or guarantee of funding in future grant cycles. Any future funding is subject to the New Hampshire Bar Foundation's discretion and will depend on factors including, but not limited to, the availability of funds, program priorities, and the applicant's performance and compliance with grant requirements. The applicant has read and affirms the submitted IOLTA grant application request meets the criteria listed above.

Executive Director's Signature

Date