

# ING Foundation Grant Guideline

## Guiding Principles

The ING Foundation supports —

- 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations providing unique programming and/or community outreach initiatives directed toward our primary areas of focus.
- Broad, strategic partnership opportunities that leverage our commitment to empowerment and focus on improving the lives of individuals in underserved communities across the country.
- Smaller, local programs and initiatives in key markets where our employees and customers work and live, including where we have a large corporate presence.

ING does not give out grants to:

- Individuals
- Private foundations
- Religious or fraternal organizations and activities
- Political, legislative, and/or lobbying causes
- Capital and/or endowment campaigns or building funds
- General/administrative operating costs
- Organizations that discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender or national origin. In addition, the ING Foundation does not support fashion shows, pageants, golf tournaments, sports teams, athletic events, or other funding opportunities that do not align with our strategic areas of giving. Funding will not be considered for organizations that do not have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Proposals that meet the following criteria will be considered for funding:  
(Please Note: All criteria must be met.)**

1. Your organization is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization;
2. Your program/initiative fulfills a community need that falls into one of the following areas of focus.
  1. Financial Literacy
  2. Children's Education
  3. Diversity
  4. Environmental Sustainability

## ING FOUNDATION GRANT GUIDELINES

The ING Foundation reviews and considers every funding request received from a qualifying organization. Funding constraints and the significant number of requests that we review on an annual basis prevent us from being able to support every eligible and worthy cause. Grant or sponsorship awards are made on a one-time basis and are not an indication of long-term support.

We do not accept hardcopy or mailed proposals. All funding requests must be submitted online. Please go to [www.ing-usafoundation.com](http://www.ing-usafoundation.com). Look on the right hand bottom corner under [Quick Links](#) and select the “[Application for Grants and Sponsorships](#)” to submit your proposal online.

### **ING’s process**

- Grant requests are reviewed once per quarter by the ING Foundation Advisory Committee. Grant requests of \$100,000 or more are reviewed by the ING Foundation Board that meets quarterly.
- Applications submitted and received after close-of-business on the submission deadline date are not guaranteed to be reviewed by the committee during a given cycle. In such cases, a funding decision can take up to 120 days.

### Submission Deadline Dates

Cycle 1: Submission Deadline: March 17, 2010

Cycle 2: Submission Deadline: June 16, 2010

Cycle 3: Submission Deadline: Sept. 15, 2010

Cycle 4: Submission Deadline: Dec. 15, 2010

- We do not consider requests under \$2,500.
- Please remember that the focus of your program must meet the ING Foundation’s application criteria and fall under one of the following areas of focus.

#### ING Areas of Focus

1. Financial Literacy
2. Children’s Education
3. Diversity
4. Environmental Sustainability

- Organizations receiving a grant award may not apply for funding from the ING Foundation for the next 12 months (e.g., If you receive a grant in May 2009, you are not eligible for funding consideration again until May 2010).

#### Step 1

1. Go to [www.ing-usafoundation.com](http://www.ing-usafoundation.com). Look on the right hand bottom corner under [Quick Links](#) and select the “[Application for Grants and Sponsorships](#)” to submit your proposal online. Provide a detailed description of your organization’s program or initiative, including the grant amount requested and how the funds will be used.
2. It is important that you provide as much detailed information as possible about the program/initiative’s purpose, target audience(s), unique points of difference and metrics for success.

#### Step 2

Ensure your application is submitted within the dates for each review cycle.

#### Step 3

If your proposal is approved for funding, a representative of the ING Foundation will contact you by via e-mail or postal mail.

Step 4

Before a grant award can be released for payment, you will be required to provide:

- A hard copy of your organization's 501(c)(3) letter and
- Any other supporting information as requested by the foundation

Due to the enormous number of proposals we receive, we are unable to provide a status on every request. You will be contacted if additional information is needed, and you will be notified in writing of our final decision.