



*Our Mission is to govern the legal profession,
to serve our members, and to protect the public interest.*

Investing in a better legal community is germane to the mission of the State Bar of Nevada and its strategic priorities. Through IDEA Grants, the State Bar seeks to support organizations throughout our state to improve diversity and wellbeing within the legal profession.

Generally, IDEA Grants are awarded to organizations supporting:

- Pipeline and scholarship programs
- Wellbeing initiatives that foster improvement in the legal culture, promote mentorship, or that aid in the building of a community of inclusivity.

ORGANIZATIONS

The State Bar makes grants to organizations that advance its mission and strategic goals. Our grantees include organizations that are large and small, established, and new. The State Bar makes its grants to and through organizations that have been determined by the IRS to be section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) organizations.

USE OF FUNDS

IDEA Grants should only be expended for educational, scientific, literary, or other charitable purposes. Funds must exclusively carry out the project described in the application. Funds shall not be used to influence legislation, to influence the outcome of any election, or to carry on any voter registration drive.

TYPES OF GRANTS

The State Bar makes program-related IDEA grants. Funds for program-related grants must be for a specific project with stated goals and objectives. Programs must have a specific schedule, defined costs and defined outcomes.

IDEA Grants will not fund:

- Sponsorships
- General operating and staff costs of the organization

PROCESS

To be approved for funding, an organization shall submit to the State Bar a grant proposal using the provided form outlining the program goals and objectives.

Applicants should submit as much detail as necessary to explain and justify the funding request. Funding for administrative expenses may be limited to programs or projects that are in their infancy, that are reasonable in relation to the work to be performed, and that cannot be obtained through other sources of funding.

The IDEA Grant application includes:

1. Name of organization and contact information
2. Amount requested
3. Specific purpose of funding and the anticipated community served
4. Specific location(s) of project/service
5. Details of other sources and amounts of funding
6. List of current board members
7. Budgetary data (for the project if the request is for a specific project)
8. Proof of federal tax-exempt status
9. Federal tax identification number

Applications will be considered by the IDEA Grant Committee twice annually, in the spring and fall, with dates to correspond with the State Bar of Nevada Board of Governors' meetings. Committee recommendations are forwarded to the Board of Governors for approval.

USE AND MANAGEMENT OF GRANT FUNDS

The IDEA Grant Agreement specifies the terms of the grant, including the use of grant funds and reporting schedule. Grant funds must only be used for the purposes, over the timeframe, and in the manner set forth in the proposal and grant agreement.

Awarded grant funds may not be expended on project costs incurred prior to the grant start date or after the grant end date without the State Bar's prior written approval.

Collaborative Grants

The State Bar of Nevada will favor IDEA grant applications that are submitted in collaboration with other organizations and that involve work undertaken by collaborating institutions. In such cases, the State Bar will award grant funds to a single grantee, who is responsible under the terms of the award for reporting on the activities and expenditures of the collaborating organizations.

Matching Grants

The State Bar may ask organizations to draw upon outside community resources to optimize available funding through matching grants. If awarded a matching grant, the State Bar will match up to a specified amount.

Changes in Grant Terms

Grantees should inform the State Bar of any significant changes in proposal grant activities and should request advanced approval to modify grant terms. Grant modification requests considered by the State Bar include:

1. Extension of the grant period to permit additional time to complete supported activities.
2. Reallocation of funds to permit spending in a manner different than that described in the original budget (e.g., from one budget category to another).
3. Rollover of funds from an older IDEA Grant into a newer grant given for the same purpose.
4. Extension of the matching period to permit additional time to satisfy a matching condition; and
5. Transfer of grant funds from the original grantee to another organization. Grantees must obtain advance written approval from the State Bar for these and other material changes.

Upon request, the State Bar will consider requests for changes in grant terms.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

If an applicant's proposal is approved by the State Bar, the grantee will be required to enter into an IDEA Grant Agreement with the State Bar before the grant is funded. This grant agreement and the finalized proposal establish the terms of the grant.

Many of the policies described below are memorialized in the IDEA Grant Agreement; therefore, prospective grantees are encouraged to read these policies in advance of submitting a proposal.

- Utilize the funds granted to this organization solely for the purpose permitted and outlined in the application. Organizations must be willing to have results of a grant audited.
- Agree to repay the State Bar of Nevada any amount not used for the purposes of this grant.
- Release its application and subsequent reports as property of the State Bar of Nevada for use of any or all information presented, whether or not the application is accepted for funding.
- Appropriate credit or recognition to the State Bar of Nevada in any printed or electronic materials and communications describing activities which are wholly or partially funded by grant funds.
- By accepting any IDEA Grant funding, the organization agrees to provide a report within one year of signing the IDEA Grant Agreement detailing how the grant dollars were applied, or the progress of the project if all grant dollars were not spent. The report must be specific to the purpose identified in the approved grant request.