

The seniors grant program supports projects, programs and events that enrich the quality of life and enhance the health and well-being of seniors within Leduc County. The program is designed to provide funding support to organizations and volunteer groups who will create new opportunities for Leduc County seniors to connect, engage and contribute to their communities. For the purpose of this grant, the term “senior” will refer to any person of, or over the age of 55.

Eligible organizations or groups can apply for funding for projects, programs and events that are either led by seniors or driven by seniors’ ideas and interests. Ongoing or recurring activities will be considered as long as there is a new component; however, new ideas and events are highly encouraged.

A maximum of \$15,000 base funding will be provided by Leduc County to be distributed to suitable applicants whose activities meet the below eligibility. The amount per funding request is not capped; however, the requested amount should be consistent with the size of the project, program or event and the capacity of it.

Objectives

- Promote and encourage active engagement and volunteerism
- Foster a sense of belonging
- Promote social inclusion
- Develop and maintain healthy relationships
- Enhance access to social supports
- Develop and strengthen skills that build resilience

Priorities

1. Aging well
 - Supporting social, emotional and physical health
 - Supporting aging in place
 - Improving quality of life
 - Building skills or increasing knowledge
2. Inclusion and diversity
 - Intergenerational programming and mentorship
 - Collaborating with diverse communities, ethnicities or groups
 - Supporting seniors in rural and remote locations
 - Reducing stigma and ageism or promoting positive messages on aging
3. Connection and engagement
 - Increasing social networks
 - Providing affordable solutions to enable access and inclusion
 - Providing volunteer opportunities and engaging new volunteers
 - Supporting digital literacy

Grant amounts

- A maximum of \$15,000 will be distributed by Leduc County to suitable applicants based on the project, program or event's alignment with the funding objectives and priorities outlined above.
- If there are not enough suitable applicants, not all funding may be distributed.
- Approved applicants may not receive the entire amount requested.
- Final funding decisions will be approved by Leduc County Council.

Conditions of funding

Community groups receiving funds from the seniors grant program must demonstrate they meet the above-listed criteria by completing an application form.

- Funds must be spent within 12 months of being received unless otherwise approved by Leduc County.
- Organizations will not receive funding from multiple grant programs for the same project, program or event.
- Organizations will only receive one grant per project, program or event per year.

Eligibility

- The organization or group must currently serve Leduc County residents, the event held in Leduc County and identify as one of the following:
 - A not-for-profit organization, such as a seniors centre, recreation group, cultural club or community hall group.
 - A coalition, network, committee or group of individuals committed to working together.
 - A for-profit organization, provided that the nature and intent of the activity is non-commercial and does not generate profit.
- Partnerships between multiple groups or organizations are encouraged.
- Eligible projects, programs or events can be social and/or recreational in nature
- Eligible projects, programs or events must focus on a minimum of one priority:
 - Aging well
 - Inclusion and diversity
 - Connection and engagement

Examples

- Community social luncheons with a guest speaker on scams and frauds targeting seniors
- Physical activities focused on aging and mobility
- Intergenerational paint nights for seniors and youth
- Program to teach seniors digital literacy and online safety
- Reducing fees for seniors to encourage more participation in community events
- Developing a new program to engage new senior volunteers

Ineligible organizations

- Municipalities
- For-profit organizations where the nature and intent of the activity is commercial and generates profit.
- Religious organizations, unless they are engaged in a project, program or event that benefits seniors from the entire community.
- Any organization or group whose projects, programs or events targeting people under the age of 55.
- Any organization or group that is not in good standing with Leduc County.

Ineligible expenses

- Projects, programs or events fully funded by other sources
- Clubs, groups or organizations that are not open to the general public
- Projects/programs/events that are not open to Leduc County seniors
- Projects/programs/events that are solely recreational or social
- Renovations or operational expenses
- Wages or subsidies directly paid to staff, volunteers, or participants
- Fundraising or administration costs
- Travel costs for organizers
- Retroactive project/program/event costs

Application process

Submissions for the Leduc County seniors grant program will be accepted from Jan. 2 to Jan. 31, 2025.

- Application forms are available online at www.leduc-county.com/grants or from the FCSS department. Please call 780-979-2385 to request a paper copy of the application form.
- Completed applications will be accepted by webform, email, fax, or drop off.
 - Email applications to fcssinfo@leduc-county.com or fax to 780-955-4765.
 - Drop off at Leduc County Centre – 4th floor FCSS, 1101 5th St. Nisku, AB. ATTN: Sara
- Please contact Sara Russell, Manager of Community Supports, if you have questions about the application process, wish to discuss ideas, or need to make adjustments to submitted applications.
 - Phone: 780-955-6424 or email: sara@leduc-county.com
- Applications will be reviewed by Leduc County.
- Council will review recommendations and award final grant approval in February 2025.
- Cheques will be issued to successful applicants by March 31, 2025.
- Successful applicants will be required to complete a final report no later than March 31, 2026 unless otherwise approved by Leduc County.

Assessment criteria

All eligible applicants will be reviewed by Leduc County Family and Community Support Services. The evaluation of applications will be reviewed using, but not limited to, the following criteria:

- The project, program or event enhances social opportunities to a broad base of local seniors
- Contribution to quality of life, social participation and inclusion of local seniors
- Viability of the initiative
- Organizational competence
- Fiscal responsibility and viability

Sponsorship recognition

The grant funding guidelines require recognition of Leduc County as a sponsor of the project, program or special event by one or all of the following:

- Social media mentions
- Website
- Newsletter
- Displaying the County's approved sponsorship poster

Final Report

- Grant recipients must submit a final report form upon completion of their funded activities and submit to Leduc County along with photos and required supporting documents.
- Organizations with an outstanding final report form for a grant from a previous year will not be eligible.