



**Grand Canyon Fund**  
C/O Grand Canyon River Outfitters Association  
PO Box 22189  
Flagstaff, AZ 86002

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## For Immediate Release

September 19, 2023  
Contact: John Dillon

### GRAND CANYON FUND ACCEPTING GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR 2024

#### What is The Grand Canyon Fund (GCF)

The Grand Canyon Fund (GCF) was created in 1988. It is a 501(c)(3) Arizona non-profit public charity proudly managed by the sixteen licensed river concessioners at Grand Canyon National Park via their trade association known as Grand Canyon River Outfitters Association (GCROA). Each river season, commercial rafting passengers voluntarily make small monetary donations (usually a minimum of \$1 per person per day of their commercial river trip) to the GCF. Additional direct donations are also accepted. This is the major source by which the GCF raises approximately \$100,000 per year. There are no overhead costs to the management of the Grand Canyon Fund, and 100% of the annual donations are usually given as grants to worthy applicants each year. To date, the GCF has granted approximately \$2 million dollars to qualified applicants.

#### Focus and Priorities

The GCF supports non-profit public interest organizations actively involved in one of two areas:

1. The protection and/or conservation of the natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources of the Grand Canyon with a particular emphasis on the Colorado River corridor, or
2. The assistance of groups or individuals burdened with physical disabilities and/or socioeconomic impediments who seek and may substantially benefit from a Grand Canyon river experience.

#### Awards and Funding Levels Available

While there are no set guarantees, the GCF has historically awarded grants to approximately seven to ten applicants each year. Usually only two grants are awarded annually to support disability river trips applicants, and the rest are awarded to resource conservation and protection applicants. Grant awards generally range between \$3,000 to \$20,000 each. The GCF is naturally interested in supporting groups and projects that make effective and efficient use of the grant monies awarded and have a history of achieving such goals. If applications fall short of demonstrating a high probability of attaining effective and appropriate use of funds, the GCF reserves the right to retain such funds until acceptable proposals are received.

#### How to Apply for a Grant

Applicants must be a non-profit organization to qualify for a typical grant. Grants are generally not awarded to individuals or traditional for-profit organizations or companies. Qualified applicants must submit a comprehensive written proposal addressed to The Grand Canyon Fund. Grant applications should be both concise and thorough. All proposals must include:

1. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** – include a brief description of the proposed project and its objective.
2. **WHO** – Provide detailed information about the applicant, including its legal name, purpose, mission, history, basic organizational structure, key management, and how it generally operates. Because the GCF awards grants only to non-profit public interest organizations, be sure to provide proof of its federal tax-exempt status as a 501(c)(3) public charity, and the EIN. If the applicant is a past recipient of a GCF grant, its history of receiving prior GCF grants should be noted.
3. **WHAT** – Provide the specific dollar amount requested from the GCF.

4. **WHY** – Demonstrate the need. Explain why a GCF grant would be necessary and helpful in achieving the objective. Provide details of the particular parts of the resource (i.e. natural, cultural, historical, or recreational) that would benefit. Or provide information of which individual(s) or groups would benefit. Include information on other organizations you plan to partner with to accomplish your objectives.
5. **WHEN** – Explain the timing of your need, and when you anticipate requiring the funds. Also explain when your project or river trip will take place in 2023.
6. **HOW** – How will the awarded funds specifically be used to achieve your objective. Answer the simple question, “Where does the money go?”.
7. **IMPORTANT:** Proposals for conservation projects or actual work to take place within Grand Canyon National Park must include a letter or documentation from the National Park Service authorizing the project should a grant be awarded. Applications lacking such official National Park Service approval and documentation will not be considered. Applicants for disability river trips do not need this type of NPS approval, but please note which commercial river outfitter will be the provider of such trip.

### **Application Due Date and Details**

All applications should be done electronically! Please email the entire proposal compiled in just ONE Adobe Acrobat portable document file (.pdf) format attachment to [john@gcroa.org](mailto:john@gcroa.org). Please, do NOT provide multiple attachments or documents in the email. If the .pdf attachment is too large to email, you may submit via other tools such as Dropbox, WeTransfer, etc. Or you may mail a USB flash drive (not a disc). It is best to follow up to confirm your electronic version has been received before the deadline! If you cannot provide an electronic .pdf for whatever reason, please contact John Dillon to discuss alternative options.

**Proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 20, 2023:**



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All successful applications will be reviewed and considered for funding by the Grand Canyon Fund Board of Trustees near the end of October 2023. Successful applicants will be notified of their award shortly thereafter by telephone or email. Awards are expected to be distributed before the end of 2023 to be applied to projects in 2024.

### **Member Outfitters**

ALL sixteen members of GCF program are authorized concessioners of the Grand Canyon National Park:

Arizona Raft Adventures  
 Canyon Expeditions  
 Canyoneers  
 Grand Canyon Discovery  
 Grand Canyon Raft Adventures  
 Hatch River Expeditions  
 Outdoors Unlimited  
 Western River Expeditions

Arizona River Runners  
 Canyon Explorations  
 Colorado River & Trails Expeditions  
 Grand Canyon Expeditions  
 Grand Canyon Whitewater  
 O.A.R.S., Grand Canyon  
 Tour West  
 Wilderness River Adventures



**Authorized  
 Concessioner**

### **Additional Information**

If you have questions about the Grand Canyon Fund or the grant application, submittal, or evaluation process, please call John Dillon at (928) 556-0669.