

# RAB Impact Grant Program – 2024 Guidelines

Welcome to the RAB Impact Grant Program!

RAB Lighting created this grant program to highlight the community generosity of you, our distributors, and to support you in achieving more. This program is an essential element of our lasting commitment to customer collaboration and appreciation, community impact, and environmental sustainability.

The goals of the RAB Impact Grant Program are:

- To support and promote nonprofit projects and programs that benefit the community and environment.
- Provide recognition to RAB Lighting distributors for their community funding and/or environmental sustainability efforts.
- Discover and promote examples of funding and volunteerism that create powerful community impact.

It is our intention to make this grant application process as simple as possible for you. To that end, we are providing the following guidelines for your reference, as well as an online application linked below.

## Eligibility

All applicants must be nominated by RAB Lighting distributors. Beneficiary organizations must be 501(c)(3) nonprofits or have a fiscal agent that is a 501(c)(3). Additional tax-exempt entities will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Awards to beneficiaries that are religious organizations will not be considered, but nonprofit community organizations with religious affiliations may be considered.

Lobbying, political campaigns and contributions will not be considered.

## Volunteer Requirement of Application

To receive a grant, the nonprofit beneficiary is required to include a volunteer project in which at least one RAB Lighting employee must participate. The volunteer portion of the project can be on-site or remote and can entail simple hands-on activities or more skill-based assistance. Past projects include:

- Lighting design assistance
- Marketing/social medial/press release assistance
- Fundraiser video production
- Market research and business planning
- Day-of event help

It is not required but preferred that the volunteer project be tied directly to the grant request.

## **Eligible Grant Expenses**

Eligible expenses may include:

- Personnel (for programs)
- Training (this may include travel to training. Please detail training and travel separately)
- Contracted services (ex. construction)
- Supplies that are in direct support of the grant request.
- Equipment purchases in direct support of the grant request (Equipment will become the property of beneficiary nonprofit.)
- Overhead is not a priority but is sometimes needed. You may use up to 10% of your total request to cover this line item.

# **Funding Priority Area**

Our funding\* priority is environmental sustainability and community funding. We will look for proposals that support one of the following:

- Commitment of the organization's support to environmental sustainability and/or community support.
- The impact of the project on environmental sustainability and/or the community.
- Capital expenses and building projects that benefit the community, environment, increase energy efficiency, waste reduction and stormwater management.
- Children's health and wellness, especially for those growing up in low-income or otherwise underserved communities.
- Other proposals focused on environmental sustainability and/or community will be considered.

RAB Lighting wants to elevate your success in the communities of your choice. We're especially looking for proposals that are:

- achievable.
- creative and innovative.
- engage RAB employee volunteers and where possible also distributor volunteers.
- cost-effective, and where applicable use affordable, durable goods.
- of direct benefit to your chosen place and people of focus.
- likely to have a lasting impact.
- reflective of our values of community, collaboration, and integrity.

### Review Criteria and Scoring Weight

RAB Lighting will be reviewing and scoring grant applications based upon the following criteria. Percentages indicate the weight each of the criteria will be given. The linked application form will provide you with opportunities to discuss each of these topics.

- Environmental sustainability and or community support\* 60%
  - Organizational commitment to environmental sustainability and/or community support
- Impact of proposed grant 40%
  - Projected outcomes of the project or program as they relate to environmental sustainability and/or community support.

<sup>\*(</sup>See Award section for funding details).

<sup>\*</sup>We define environmental sustainability as the ability to maintain an ecological balance in our planet's natural environment and conserve natural resources to support the wellbeing of current and future generations.

### **Important Dates**

#### Deadline for submission

All RAB Impact Grant applications must be submitted by *October 7, 2024<u>–5:00pm EST</u>* (*late submissions will not be accepted*)

### Award notifications

Distributors and their nominated charities will receive award notification within approximately three months of the application deadline.

### Award

**Ceiling\*\*:** \$5,000 in funds or RAB product (based on tier 1 pricing) per 501(c)(3) organization for projects supporting environmental sustainability.

\$3,000 in funds or RAB product (based on tier 1 pricing) per 501(c)(3) organization for projects supporting community funding.

**Expenditure:** Funds must be fully expended within one year of award date.

## Reporting

RAB wants to celebrate your success. A simple, two-page report on the outcome of the community investment will be due within 8 weeks of the close of the grant year. This is to include how funds were spent. If attaching a separate spreadsheet is easier for you, that is fine for us.

Organizations receiving grants will be asked to provide a project budget. This budget will be reviewed for eligible expenses as detailed in the above "Eligible Grant Expenses" section of these guidelines.

### **Questions and Concerns**

As part of our diligence process, you may hear from RAB Lighting if we need more information regarding your grant request.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you should have questions. Please direct all your queries about this application to:

Liz Henry/Annette Mattessich grant@rablighting.com

Every effort will be made to get back to you within 24 hours.

### **Application Submission**

Submit your application form <a href="here">here</a> by 5pm Eastern on October 7, 2024 (late submissions will not be accepted).