

2027 Grant Cycle

Alabama Law Foundation

2027 Alabama Law Foundation Grant Cycle Guidance*

Introduction

As of February 15, 2025, the Alabama Law Foundation ("ALF") has new guidance as to the scope of its grants ("Scope") under [Alabama Rule of Professional Conduct 1.15 \(l\) and 1.15\(m\)](#) ("Rules").

Please closely review these Rules before drafting any grant requests to ALF. Even if your organization has activities outside the ALF Grants Scope, you may still submit a Grant application, provided that you clearly identify exactly the activities that are squarely within the Scope under the Rules. Your Grant Application will be closely reviewed by ALF as well as the Alabama Supreme Court.

Eligibility Requirements

* ALF only accepts grant applications from 501(c)(3) charitable organizations under the federal tax code. If you do not hold such a 501(c)(3) status, do not submit an application.

* ALF does not accept grant applications from individuals.

* ALF does not allow "pass through" grants, meaning that we do not accept grants from one organization that is, in turn, meant to be transferred or "passed through" to another organization. This means that we do not allow grants that are intended to be from a "fiscal sponsor" or "fiscal agent" for a third-party organization, even if that other organization is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

* All grant applications must clearly and plainly fit within the Scope of the Rules. Please note that **the Scope that refers to "access to justice" is limited to access to civil justice, not criminal justice**, and that access is focused on individual families and individuals at 125% of the federal poverty level.

* It is essential that your grant application focus specifically on the permissible Scope under the Rules. **Do not simply cut and paste** aspects of your organization's activities that fall outside the permissible Scope under the Rules. Such surplus or overbroad grant application language will not help and will likely hurt your grant application.

NOTE: Click here to confirm that you have read and understood the ALF Grant Eligibility Requirements:

Choices

I have read and understand the eligibility requirements

Legal Name of Organization*

The entire legal name of your organization as it appears on your 501(c)(3) as it appears in the federal Internal Revenue Service database as well as any and all "doing-business-as" ("d/b/a") or trade names your organization is known by. If your organization is a wholly owned subsidiary of another "parent" organization, provide the names (official 501(3)(3), d/b/a and trade names) for that parent organization as well.

Character Limit: 350

501(c)(3) Status/Documentation*

Please upload a document confirming your current active 501(c)(3) status. (This could, but does not have to, be your most current Form 990.)

File Size Limit: 2 MB

State your organization's mission statement.*

Character Limit: 500

Organizational Services*

1. What services does your organization provide?
2. How do those services relate to your mission?

Character Limit: 1200

Board Connections*

Any connections, family relationships, business relationships or political relationships with any member of the Alabama Supreme Court or any member of the ALF Board that could possibly give an impression of bias or self dealing. ALF will disclose such connections to the respective Supreme Court Justice and ALF Board member so that such individuals can decide if it is appropriate to excuse themselves from grant award decision-making. Please note "N/A" if this does not pertain to your organization connections.

Character Limit: 1100

Project Name*

If you are applying for general operating, please input "general operating".

Character Limit: 100

Funds are requested for:*

Choices

General Support
Specific Project

Is this a new or existing project?*

Choices

New project
Existing project

Income Eligibility Cutoff for providers of civil legal aid:

Note the percentage of federal poverty guidelines.

Character Limit: 250

Number and description of people served*

- If this is an *existing project*, please state the number of people served in the last calendar year.
- If this is a *new project*, please approximate the number and demographics of the people to be served.

Character Limit: 800

Executive Summary of Grant Request*

A concise elevator pitch of your project/request.

Character Limit: 800

Amount Requested*

The exact amount of the ALF grant that you are seeking.

Character Limit: 20

Grant Narrative*

A short, plain and exact description of the exact project and/or purpose of the requested ALF grant that fits squarely within the Scope set forth in the Rules ("Grant Description"). Include the following information in the Grant Description:

- a.) If this is a new project or purpose for your organization, make that clear in your Grant Description.
- b.) Also, if the requested grant from ALF is intended to assist individuals outside the state of Alabama, describe exactly who such individuals are and the amount of the requested ALF grant who do not reside in Alabama.
- c.) If the requested ALF grant is targeted to a particular geographic location(s) in Alabama, identify such location(s).
- d.) Finally, include your goods and services delivery model (e.g. staff delivery using full-time or part-time paid staff for your organization; compensated contractors; uncompensated clinics and/or workshops, partnering with other organizations (as well as the names of those organizations).

Character Limit: 6500

Community Needs*

Describe the unmet client and/or community needs you will address with the help of foundation funding:

Character Limit: 1700

Additional Comments and Documents

If you have additional information you think ALF and the Alabama Supreme Court need to have to fully understand your ALF grant application, please attach it behind a cover page that is entitled: "Additional Information" and upload it here.

Character Limit: 1000 | File Size Limit: 2 MB

Proposed ALF Grant Budget

Please download this **budget template**, complete it, and upload the file using the button below.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Previous Year's Budget

The total amount of your organization's budget for the year prior to the year in which you are applying to ALF for a grant as well as a description of other funding your organization received in the year prior to the year in which you are applying for an ALF grant. (A current Form 990 would suffice for the list of other funding sources.)

File Size Limit: 10 MB

Case Report Data

If you are a legal service provider, please download [this case report template](#), complete it, and upload the file using the button below.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

List of Board Members

The names of your current Board of Directors during the year you submit your ALF grant application as well as any new Board Members who are to join your Board during the grant year.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Eligibility Requirements*

Please confirm that you have read and understand the ALF Grant Eligibility Requirements by typing in applicant's name and title here:

Character Limit: 100