## The Ultimate Guide to Volunteer Grants



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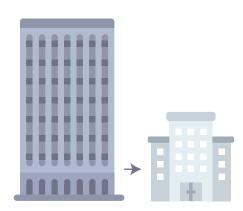
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## Volunteer Grants: An Overview

### What are volunteer grants?

Volunteer grants are corporate giving programs that encourage volunteerism in communities where employees live and work. Through these programs, companies provide monetary grants to organizations where employees regularly volunteer.

Many nonprofits are eligible to receive volunteer grants, and these programs effectively turn supporter time and effort into tangible funds.



## Why are volunteer grants important?

Volunteer grants are essentially "free money" that can easily be overlooked. This is because there's often limited information on where volunteers work and a lack of knowledge on whether each specific company offers volunteer grant programs.

If your nonprofit has a dedicated group of volunteers, it's important that they determine if there are volunteer grant opportunities through their employers. Be sure not to miss out on easy funding.

## Where can I get a volunteer grant?

You can get a volunteer grant by using a volunteer grant database! First, you'll use the database to determine your eligibility by searching for your employer. Once you confirm that you're eligible for a volunteer grant through your company, you can submit your volunteer grant application using the forms found in the database. The company will then process the application and make a monetary donation to the nonprofit you volunteered with.



The Process of Collecting Volunteer Grants

# VOLUNTEER

The volunteer grant process can be completed in less than five minutes with the help of a corporate giving database. It's important to ensure volunteers know if their company will provide volunteer grants when they devote their time to a nonprofit, and to provide them with the forms or links they need to submit their volunteer grant applications.

Marketing these corporate giving programs is essential in order to obtain more revenue for your nonprofit.

## Here is how the volunteer grant process works:



#### Step #1: Individual Volunteers

The individual volunteers with the nonprofit on a regular basis. The nonprofit may recommend that they check their eligibility for a volunteer grant through their company using a corporate giving database.



#### Step #2: Volunteer Grant Eligibility

The individual researches their company using a corporate giving database to determine if they're eligible for a volunteer grant.



#### Step #3: Forms Submitted

Using the links to the forms in the corporate giving database, the individual submits their application for a grant request to their company, either electronically or using a paper form.



#### Step #4: Company Review

The company reviews the volunteer grant application and confirms with the nonprofit that the individual has volunteered with them.



#### Step #5: Funds Granted

The company sends a check to the nonprofit.

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## Things to Consider

When researching volunteer grants, there are many key considerations for volunteers to take into account. By using a volunteer grant database, volunteers can look up their company and determine the pieces they need to apply for one. These incude:



#### **Eligibility Requirements**

Make sure your volunteers' employment status with their company (full-time, part-time, or retired) is eligible for the volunteer grant.

#### Restrictions

Check that there are no restrictions, such as the type of nonprofit that your volunteer's employer will issue a grant for. For instance, some corporations will only allow grants for nonprofits that share their values (be it environmental protection or educational progress, etc.). However, companies generally have few restrictions and state that any 501(c)(3) nonprofit or school is eligible.



#### **Submission Deadlines**

Deadlines will vary by company, so be sure to check when your volunteers need to submit their volunteer grant requests by. Standard volunteer grant submission deadlines include the end of the calendar year, a set number of months after meeting the hour threshold, or the end of January, February, or March in the year following when the individual volunteered.



#### **Hours Required**

Companies may have a minimum hour requirement for volunteering. Some companies will provide grants to nonprofits per hour volunteered or once a threshold number is reached.



#### **Corporate Donation Amount**

Determine the amount that will be granted to your nonprofit after the hours are completed. Also be sure to understand how many grants the company offers per employee per year.



#### **Logging Hours**

Companies will have their own process of having employees log their hours. Look for a link on the volunteer grant database to find the forms (printed or electronic) that allow your volunteers to log their hours and request the volunteer grant.

Take this information into account when researching volunteer grants that your nonprofit might be eligible for. It's essential that your volunteers follow the right guidelines, submit by the appropriate deadlines, and otherwise ensure that they are eligible to submit your nonprofit for a volunteer grant.

## Learn More About Volunteer Grants with Double the Donation

**Double the Donation is the leading corporate giving database for both employees and nonprofit organizations.** Our comprehensive and up-to-date database provides matching gift and volunteer grant information about thousands of companies across the US, Canada, and UK. All of the information is centralized in one straightforward tool that you can place on your website and incorporate into your donor or volunteer software.

Double the Donation company profiles indicate:

- Minimum hours
- Value of volunteer grants
- Links to electronic guidelines and forms
- Company-specific instructions
- And more!

Our tool makes it easy for volunteers and nonprofits to maximize their volunteer grant capabilities.

Q Search company name Let's Check All information provided by Double the Donation
All information provided by Double the Donation
Double the Donation
Double the Donation



www.doublethedonation.com