

Funding Guidelines & Criteria

MISSION

The Boston Scientific Foundation's mission is to improve health and welfare and to open up educational opportunities for economically disadvantaged persons, with an emphasis on communities where Boston Scientific employees live and work in the United States.

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Boston Scientific Foundation will focus primarily on the following:

1. Improving the health of individuals and communities with the greatest unmet needs, with a primary focus on those who are economically disadvantaged or otherwise unable to provide for themselves. Of particular interest are:
 - Innovative, community-based approaches to health education and prevention
 - Efforts to improve quality of care and health outcomes

Boston Scientific Foundation gives priority to initiatives that target a clearly defined community or population, and that have strong potential to produce measurable long-term improvements in healthy behaviors, health outcomes, and quality of life.

2. Improving educational opportunity and skill development, for those who are economically disadvantaged or otherwise at risk of not achieving their full potential. Of particular interest are:
 - Innovative efforts to improve educational outcomes, skill development, and long-term economic self-sufficiency, through such programs as early childhood development centers, educational community centers, and adult literacy programs.
 - Creative curriculum projects sponsored by teaching institutions focusing on development of math, science, and technology skills.
 - Community-based skill development and career awareness programs, such as family literacy and youth development programs.

Notice of Non-discrimination: Boston Scientific does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, citizenship, gender, sexual orientation, veteran's status, age, mental or physical disability, genetic information or any other class protected by federal, state, or local law requiring equal opportunity. In line with this policy, the Boston Scientific Foundation does not support organizations that discriminate in who they serve or who they hire, or that advocate, support, or practice activities inconsistent with Boston Scientific's non-discrimination policies.

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GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

Local Involvement - Boston Scientific Foundation is committed to supporting the communities where BSC employees live and work. Beyond financial support, these communities can benefit from the enthusiasm, motivation and creative spirit of our employees, and we encourage our employees to make a difference by getting involved in the local issues they care about.

List of Local Sites:

Indiana: Spencer

Massachusetts: Greater Boston, Marlborough, Natick, & Quincy

Minnesota: Maple Grove, Plymouth, & St. Paul

New York: Glens Falls

New Jersey: Wayne

California: Fremont, Santa Clara, San Jose, & San Diego

Florida: Miami

Regional/National Initiatives - Boston Scientific Foundation also seeks to support selected regional and national initiatives that fall within the scope of the Foundation mission and strategic focus areas.

FUNDING CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES

Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations with IRS tax-exempt status, as well as public agencies and schools. In reviewing proposals that relate to the strategic focus areas of health and education, Boston Scientific employee teams will give priority to the following types of initiatives:

- Efforts targeting communities or populations with significant unmet need
- Support of innovative or experimental approaches directed in ways that support the Foundation's goals
- Refinement or improvement of existing approaches
- Cost-effective and results-oriented programs, where our contributions can make a long-term measurable difference in the quality of people's lives.
- Community-based approaches that work to empower those who are involved

The Foundation is most interested in opportunities to serve as a catalyst for positive change, support innovation, and leverage significant and long-term impact. It discourages requests for general support from public schools, school districts or other programs that rely primarily on government funding. In addition, it generally will not support scholarship programs or other efforts that will benefit a small number of individuals or have minimal impact.

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The Foundation will only consider requests for support falling within the strategic areas described previously. It is specifically not intended to govern Boston Scientific's sponsorship of:

- Medical research
- Post-market research studies
- Fellowships
- Sponsorship of educational seminars, conferences, or symposia
- Fundraising efforts and capital campaigns

In addition to the restrictions listed above, the Foundation will generally not support the types of groups and activities listed below (but may choose to consider related requests that appear to fit the Foundation guidelines):

- Religious organizations, clubs, fraternal groups, political campaigns, or lobbying groups, unless funds will be used to support programs that are open to the public and/or directly serve the public interest
- Individuals
- Capital and endowment fund drives
- Fundraising Events such as walks, runs, golf tournaments, dinners, etc.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

Organizations whose efforts fall within the scope of Boston Scientific Foundation strategic focus areas are invited to apply for funding by submitting a Boston Scientific Foundation Grant Application to:

Boston Scientific Foundation
One Boston Scientific Place
Mailstop B2
Natick, MA 01760
Phone: 508 650 8554

Proposals are accepted on a rolling basis, and are reviewed periodically by local employee teams. The review process usually takes from 3 to 6 months. Funding decisions are based on available resources and the degree to which proposals meet Boston Scientific Foundation charitable giving criteria and priorities, as determined by its designated teams. Only one application will be accepted from an organization in a 12-month period for the same program.