

Whether you're successful in winning a grant or not, there are many things you can take away from the entire process. Always remember that a failure for one round may not mean you will miss out on subsequent rounds. And a win may not mean you've got a golden ticket for future funding opportunities. Here are some points to remember.

Winning the Grant

- Say thanks!
- Work quickly to complete all paperwork and contact requirements.
- Be sure to adhere to all the contract requirements.
- Acknowledge and involve the funder as requested – e.g. event invitations or logos on project material.
- If anything changes, let the funder know. If appropriate, you may be able to repurpose the funding.
- Form a relationship with your funding partners through invitations, timeliness and providing results.

Acquittal Reporting

- Check and adhere to dates of acquittal reports. Grants with long timeframes may be required to submit progress reports. Not adhering to the requirements can result in further payments being withheld or a requirement to return the funding.
- Reports may be used to identify:
 - Where the funding was spent. Often income and expense statements are required for the project funding (often no, just the grant funding). There may also be a requirement for an independent financial audit.
 - Outcomes of the funded activity related to your original goals.
 - Important learnings, challenges and success stories from the project.
- Use the form provided or follow guidance provided to complete your report.
- Use photos or videos, stories or quotes from beneficiaries, where appropriate.

Not Winning the Grant

- Ask for feedback your application
 - Should more information have been provided?
 - Was there a particular area (or many) in which you could improve?
 - Were any similar projects successful?
 - What were some of the strengths of successful applications?
 - Would they consider another application in the future?
- Don't give up – Review, revise and try again
- Remember that sometimes, there is no rhyme or reason to not winning a grant
- Consider other methods of funding – is sponsorship, crowdfunding, or fundraising events relevant.

