Community Impact Grant Program – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Does applying for the Community Impact Grant affect a FY2026 funding request through Cumberland County Community Funding?

Not directly. The Board of Commissioners reviews both Nonprofit Funding applications and Community Funding applications separately. In FY2024 and FY2025, the Board permitted a nonprofit to receive funding from only one of these programs. Program staff will evaluate Community Impact Grant applications to prevent duplication of federal, state, and local funds. The Board has sole discretion in determining if a nonprofit can receive funding from both programs, but duplication of benefits is not allowed.

2. How is the Community Impact Grant different from Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding?

Community Development releases Requests for Applications (RFA) for programs funded through the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), including CDBG funds. Applying for a Community Development grant does not disqualify an organization from the Community Impact Grant. However, staff will review applications to ensure there is no duplication of benefits.

3. Do Title I, II, or IV funds count as federal or state aid in the last six months?

Yes. Title I, II, and IV funds are administered by the U.S. Department of Education and must be reported to assess potential duplication of benefits. Public schools (e.g., Cumberland County Public Schools) are not eligible to apply, but nonprofit private schools may be considered.

4. Should I include recent grant applications from the past six months?

Yes. Any grants applied for or active funding received in the past six months must be disclosed in your application to ensure compliance with funding guidelines and avoid duplication of benefits.

5. What is the grant funding period?

Funds must be used between July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

6. Can rental payments be covered under the Occupancy line item?

Yes. The Occupancy category includes rent and utilities, but only for commercial nonprofit use. Personal property expenses are not eligible.

7. How long does it take to receive reimbursement payments?

Reimbursement requests should be submitted no more than once per month. Complete requests are typically processed for payment on the Wednesday of the following week. Incomplete requests will not be processed until all required documentation is received and reviewed.

8. Does my organization need general liability insurance?

Yes. Your policy must cover at least the amount of grant funding awarded.

9. What if my program costs exceed the awarded grant amount?

You have several options:
a) Adjust the program scope to match available funding.
b) Secure additional funding and allocate only a portion of expenses to the Community Impact Grant.
c) Reassess the program budget based on total approved funding.

10. Will applicants be notified if they are not selected?

Yes. All applicants will receive an email notification regarding their funding status. If not selected, the email will include the reason.

11. Can grant funds be used for snacks or food?

Only if food-related expenses are included in the approved program budget. If the program's scope requires food and drink, these expenses may be reimbursable.