



SPONSORED BY



AND



GENERAL INFORMATION

The INVEST in VETS™ program sponsored by The SunTrust Foundation and SCORE Charleston SC will enable Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester and Williamsburg County veterans to apply for business education, training and grant funding. The grant award amounts will be determined by the Veterans Advisory Committee and can range from \$1,000 to \$2,500 per application.

All required application materials must be submitted online by **Friday, October 2, 2020 at 5:00 PM to be considered for grant support.**

ELIGIBILITY

Applications are accepted from veterans that a.) have been honorably discharged from a branch of military service b.) are starting a small business or have majority ownership in an existing small business c.) and whose business is not a political or lobbying organization, not an adult only business, not associated with any discriminatory practices on the basis of age, sex, race, color, sexual orientation, national/ethnic origin or disability.

REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must complete all application pages (separate document) and sign page 4 of this document, Program Terms and Conditions, and submit these by the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be considered. A business plan is preferred but not required. Emailing of the application, signature page 4 of this document and business plans is preferred but hard copies can be mailed.

Please send via email to info.charlestonsc@scorevolunteer.org or via the post to SCORE Charleston SC, Attention Administrator, Suite B151, 4045 Bridgeview Dr. North Charleston, SC 29405.

APPLICATION AND AWARD SCHEDULE

STEPS	TIMELINE
Step 1: <i>Submit grant application and attachments</i>	<i>October 2, 2020</i>
Applicants submit a completed grant application and attachments to SCORE Charleston SC by 5:00 PM on June 30, 2020. Online applications are preferred.	
Step 2: <i>Application materials screened, processed and assigned to committee members</i>	<i>Mid Oct, 2020</i>
Step 3: <i>Finalists determined; All applicants notified via email.</i>	<i>End of Oct, 2020</i>
Step 4: <i>Finalists Interviews</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Step 5: <i>Funding recommendations developed</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Step 6: <i>Decisions Announced; All finalists notified via email.</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Step 7: <i>Award Presentation</i>	<i>TBD</i>
All grant winners will be asked to attend the SCORE Charleston and SunTrust Foundation Award Presentation. Location and time of day TBD.	

QUESTIONS?

See the last tab, “FAQs,” for answers to some of our most frequently asked questions. If you have a more specific question, please contact SCORE Charleston SC at (843) 727- 4778 or info@charlestonsc.score.org

TERMS OF GRANT

Please review the following Terms of Grant. If you are selected to receive an award, your acknowledgement below will serve as an agreement to comply with the conditions listed in this document. These Terms become applicable on the date that the grant is received by the applicant. Please note that this document will *only* apply in the case that you are selected to receive a grant. Acceptance of these terms does not guarantee funding. Copies of the Terms of Grant are available upon request.

Grant Period

This grant is available to the applicant for up to 60 days from the date that the applicant receives the funding.

Expenditure of Grant Funds

This grant is for the purposes stated in the Grant Application, and funds provided by SCORE Charleston SC and SunTrust Foundation may be spent only in accordance with the provisions stated therein. Funds will be disbursed to the Grantee following approval of the grant by the Grant Advisory Committee and satisfactory compliance with any special conditions:

1. The Grantee is responsible for the expenditure of funds and for maintaining adequate supporting records consistent with generally accepted accounting practices.
2. Equipment or property purchased with grant funds shall be the property of the grantee so long as it is not diverted from the purposes for which the grant was made.
3. The Grantee recognizes that, in compliance with Executive Order 13224 and the USA Patriot Act, no funds provided by SCORE Charleston SC or SunTrust Foundation maybe used to support terrorist organizations or those who may be otherwise associated with terrorists. The Grantee further agrees that it will use due diligence to ensure that no funds provided by SCORE Charleston SC or SunTrust Foundation will be distributed to such organizations or persons or used for such prohibited purposes.

Reversion of Grant Funds

Grant Funds will be promptly returned if SCORE Charleston SC determines that the Grantee has not performed in accordance with the "Terms of Grant" or met with specific grant conditions of the approved program and its supporting budget.

Review of Grant Activity

The Grantee will allow SCORE Charleston SC and the SunTrust Foundation the right to follow up on this grant by furnishing written and /or oral reports, if requested by SCORE, regarding the usage of the grant monies and the business impact.

Use of Information

The Grantee will allow SCORE Charleston SC and the SunTrust Foundation the right to publish the award information publicly. This includes but is not limited to both online and print newspapers, press releases, and social media. SCORE Charleston SC and the SunTrust Foundation reserve the right to use any photography/video at the award presentation event without the expressed written permission and may use the photograph/video in publications or other media material produced, used or contracted by SCORE

Charleston SC and the SunTrust Foundation including but not limited to: brochures, invitations, books, newspapers, magazines, television, websites, etc.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The Grantee agrees to abide by the following statement:

No person served by our business shall, on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, political affiliation, military service, physical or mental ability, will subjected to discrimination under any program or activity funded in whole or in part with funds made available by SCORE Charleston SC or SunTrust Foundation.

Arbitration

The Parties hereby agree to arbitrate any dispute arising out of or in connection with interpretation, performance, breach, or termination of this Grant Agreement that the parties are unable to resolve within ninety (90) days after written notice by one party to the other of the existence of such controversy or dispute. Such dispute will be finally resolved by arbitration before a single arbitrator appointed by the American Arbitration Association (AAA), or similar arbitration body, administered under that body's commercial arbitration rules. All proceedings will be in Charleston, South Carolina. The decision of the arbitrator will be binding and conclusive on the parties, and each party will comply with such decision in good faith. Each party hereby submits itself to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of South Carolina, but only for entry of judgment with respect to the decision of the arbitrator hereunder, including injunctive relief if appropriate to render effective the arbitrator's decision. Notwithstanding the foregoing, judgment on the award by the arbitrator may be entered in any state or federal court located in the State of South Carolina or any court having jurisdiction. If judicial enforcement or review of the arbitrator's decision is sought, the prevailing party will be entitled to its costs and reasonable attorneys' fees in addition to any amount of recovery ordered by the court.

Compliance with Laws

Grantee shall comply, and shall require its licensees, agents, partners, and employees to comply, with all applicable laws and regulations of its business. Grantee agrees that it will be solely responsible for any violation of such laws and regulations, and that it will accept sole responsibility for any and all costs and damages in the event of any legal action of any nature occasioned by such violation.

Limit of Commitment

Unless otherwise stipulated in writing, this grant is made with the understanding that SCORE Charleston SC and SunTrust Foundation have no obligation to provide other or additional support to the Grantee.

Do you acknowledge that appropriate personnel, specifically including the applicant of this funded project, have thoroughly read this Agreement, the terms and conditions of which are acceptable to you and with which you shall comply?

Applicant Name (please print): _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Frequently Asked Questions

- Do you award grants to groups rather than an individual? *No, the award is for an individual veteran.*
- Can I apply for funding at another time if I am not awarded a grant? *Yes; however, you will need to fill out a new application for **each** grant period.*
- If I am awarded a grant, when do I receive the money? *The grant will be paid by check at the award ceremony.*
- If I become a finalist, how will I be notified? *You will be notified via email and/or phone from the SCORE office. Giving us an accurate email address and phone number is critical to this process.*
- How can I learn more about this process? *You can call the SCORE office at (843) 727-4228 or visit our website at www.charlestonsc.score.org.*