



# Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Eligibility and Funding

**1. What types of organizations are eligible to apply?**

Eligible applicants include non-profit 501(c) organizations, U.S. Federal government agencies, state government agencies, local governments, municipal governments, Indian tribes, and educational institutions.

**2. Is my project eligible if it occurs outside of the geographic focus?**

Yes, projects outside the geographic focus are eligible, including projects in Canada and Mexico. However, priority will be provided to projects with activities that occur in the eastern population's migratory flyway, which includes the 15 priority states of: Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin. Priority will also be given to proposals in the western U.S. with activity occurring on or adjacent to U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands, or projects with conservation actions at overwintering sites.

**3. Does my project have to include activities in both Program Priority categories?**

No. In general, a project with strong, focused activities and outcomes in a single category will tend to compete better than a less-focused project that spans both categories.

**4. Will the Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund fund research in 2017?**

No, research will not be funded under this grant cycle. The Monarch Butterfly Conservation fund understands that research is an important component of monarch conservation and it is possible that research will be funded in future years.

**5. Can an organization submit more than one application? Can an organization receive more than one grant award?**

Yes, an organization may submit multiple applications. It is possible for an organization to receive more than one award under a single funding cycle. It's more common for an organization to receive one award, but some organizations have received multiple awards on rare occasion. Also, organizations with active Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund grants are eligible to receive additional grants.



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**6. Is there a request amount ceiling for grant requests?**

Grants may range in size from \$50,000 to \$250,000; however the majority of past grants have typically ranged from \$50,000 to \$150,000.

**Match**

**7. Is match required to be 1:1?**

Yes, matching funds of at least 1:1 in non-U.S. federal funds will be required.

**8. Can research or monitoring be considered match?**

Yes, as long as they are directly related to the proposed project.

**9. Can for-profit business be project partners or contribute to project match?**

Yes.

**10. Can my match be in-kind?**

Yes, match may be in-kind. In-kind matching contributions may include cash, in-kind contributions of staff and volunteer time, work performed, materials and services donated, or other tangible contributions to the project objectives and outcomes. See the Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund [Tip Sheet](#) for more information on match.

**11. What rate should I use for volunteer hours?**

You may use any volunteer rate that you find acceptable.

**12. Will match spent prior to the award date be considered?**

Yes, you may use match beginning May 31, 2017. Matching contributions must be spent or applied between the start and end dates indicated in the application.

**Other**

**13. Is this a reimbursement grant or is the funding provided up front?**

Most grants are paid on a reimbursable basis. Projects may request funds for reimbursement at any time after completing a signed agreement with NFWF. Grantees typically bill us as they incur costs according to the schedule they prefer, and we can provide payment as frequently as twice per month. In rare instances, grantees may receive payments in advance of incurring expenses if the need for a cash advance can be justified.

**14. Can I use my grant for sub-grants?**

Funding may not be used for competitive re-granting projects. However, grant funds can be used for contracts and/or sub-awards.

**15. Do you accept letters of support?**

Yes, letters of support are accepted as part of the pre-proposal phase and can be uploaded in Easygrants with the rest of the pre-proposal. Letters of support will be required as part of the



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full proposal phase. You may provide letters of support from significant partners, especially those providing match or contributing to the project in a significant way. You may also provide letters of support from landowners where the proposed work would occur, for example, if your organization is an NGO doing work on state agency land.

**16. What is the expected duration for grants made through this program?**

Grants may be up to two years in length following finalization of a grant agreement.

**17. Is there a specific list of examples of projects that would qualify for grant funding?**

We do not have an exhaustive list of activities that would qualify, but if you look at the [2015 Grant Slate](#) and the [2016 Grant Slate](#), you can find a summary of grants awarded and more detailed project descriptions.

**18. When are awards expected to be announced? What is the earliest start date that can be listed?**

Awards are expected to be announced in mid-August. Project start and end dates should define the period during which all proposed work is accomplished, all requested funds are spent, and all matching funds are spent or applied. The start date indicated in an application should not precede May 31, 2017.

**You can find the answer to many questions in the Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund's 2017 RFP and the [Tip Sheet](#).**

**All other questions may be directed to Caroline Oswald**

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