



GMA Community Support Application

The Gulfport Merchant's Association (GMA) believes in giving back to the local community. Through the Community Support program, the GMA helps fund the needs of our community by providing grants to local Gulfport organizations on an annual basis.

Before applying, please note:

- The application deadline to apply for the 2018/2019 cycle is **March 15, 2018**
- Organizations must be described as one of the following:
 - An organization holding a current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3), (4), (6) or (19) of the Internal Revenue Code;
 - A recognized local government entity: including law enforcement or fire departments, that are requesting funds exclusively for public purposes;
 - A local public or private school, charter school, community/junior college, state/private college or university;
 - or
 - An organization with a proposed project that benefits the community at large.
- Applications must be completed in full and submitted in writing to be considered.
- Submitting an application does not guarantee funding.
- The GMA Board reserves the right to determine the amount awarded to each organization without prior notice.

Eligibility Checklist

1. Potential grantees should be nonprofit organizations with programs that benefit the Gulfport area.
2. Organizations who can provide volunteers on **September 1, 2018** and Geckofest media promotion will be considered first.

Selection Process

- The Gulfport Merchant's Association will review and make initial funding decisions on all submitted requests.
- Applications are typically reviewed within 90 days of the submission date, and organizations are notified of decisions via e-mail after **April 13, 2018**. All funding decisions are final.
- If an organization is approved, grant checks will be awarded at a public recognition event (date/location to be determined).

Funding Exclusions

- Association/chamber memberships (continued on pg 2)
- Individuals (requests made solely for the benefit of one person or family)
- Nationally-sponsored organizations
- Organizations that deny service to a potential client or beneficiary on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, veteran or disability status
- Organizations whose services do not benefit the community at large
- Political causes, candidates, organizations or campaigns
- Projects that send products or people for relief efforts to a foreign country
- Religious Organizations

Community Support Request Form

(PLEASE PRINT)

Organization Name:	Contact Name:
Address :	City, State, Zip:
Phone:	Email Address:
Today's Date:	Organization Website:
Date Needed:	# of Volunteers available to GMA:
501 Number: (Please attach a copy of your designation letter)	# of Contacts on support and/or media lists?
Grant Amount Requested:	
Please provide a mission statement for your organization and brief explanation of how your organization would use a grant to benefit the community. (Include additional sheet if necessary)	
Please complete and return to GMA, via email geckoworldgrant@GulfportMA.com or	
Mail to Gulfport Welcome Center, Attn. Gecko world Grant, 3101 Beach Blvd S, Ste 1, Gulfport FI 33707	