

These descriptions are not meant to provide an exhaustive list of all activities that BNET will support. BNE Trust is willing to consider any proposal that could have a major impact on our community, especially if funding is not available from any other source.

What We Look For In An Applicant Organization

BNET accepts partnership requests from organizations located within the country of Belize, working in partnership with the government or some other nationally recognized entity working towards the development of the people and the country of Belize.

- Strong governance
- Demonstrated organizational capacity and track record
- Sound short-term and long-range plans

What We Look For In A Proposed Project

- Project feasibility
- Clearly documented community need or opportunity
- Where appropriate, documented evidence of best practices
- Measurable program outcomes and community impact
- Realistic sustainability plan
- Leverage of other financial and in-kind resources

Limitations

There are restrictions on the scope of activities the "Trust" is able to support. In general, the Trust does not *typically* make allocations for:

- General operating expenses and salaries
- Individuals
- Religious organizations for religious purposes
- Political organizations or political action committees for political purposes
- Endowments
- Specific scientific, medical or academic research
- Annual fund raising campaigns from existing organizations
- Reimbursement of prior expenditures or to eliminate debt
- Vehicles
- Service organizations or clubs

To discuss your request, contact Tracy Panton, General Manager, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at 822-2440.

Applying for Partnership Consideration

The Application Process

Our goal is to make the application process smooth and easy. Organizations located within the country of Belize, working in partnership with the government or some other nationally recognized entity working towards the development of the people and the country of Belize are encouraged to apply.

To apply please follow these steps:

1. Submit a letter of intent to BNET no longer than two pages, double spaced. Letter should briefly describe the project, the relevance to the community, and must address a plan for sustainability. Do not submit a proposal at this stage, it will be rejected! The letter of intent is to discuss your partnership request idea and whether your project appears to fit within the Trust's guidelines.

2. If the project idea fits within the Trust's guidelines, applicants will be invited to a **Bidder's Conference**, at which time the application will be issued and a specific date of submission will be announced.
3. The review and selection committee may request additional information, an interview or a site visit if necessary.
4. **Final decisions** will be made by the Board of Trustees at one of their meetings following the entire process.

Funding Terms

Funds will be allocated as follows: Once you are notified that your project has been approved, you will be required to accept in writing. In addition, you will need to submit an invoice or purchase order for items to be purchased. If the allocation is not to specifically purchase something, we will need written confirmation from the recipient organization stating that you are ready to move forward with the project and that funds are requested.

In general, the BNE Trust makes allocations for one year, all monies must be spent in that specific calendar year.

In selected instances, the Trust will accept requests for roll-over funds up to a maximum of one additional year.

An application seeking roll-over funds must meet the following conditions:

1. Demonstrate that roll-over funds is essential to the start-up of a new initiative.
2. Demonstrate that the effort will produce specific, measurable outcomes within the agreed upon time period.
3. Agree to participate in a formal annual evaluation to document and measure the proposed outcomes.

Evaluation

The BNE Trust evaluates grants in order to be a good steward of the money set aside by both BNE Ltd. and the Government of Belize for the purpose of assisting in the development of the country and its people in the areas of General Education and Social Environment. Evaluations vary because of type of project and amount of allocations.

The General Manager will provide an evaluation report form to each partnering organization. The Board of Trustees has the right to make exceptions to the funding timelines or grant terms.