



Garden Grant Application

This is a copy of the application questions for your preparation purposes. We recommend you start early and prepare your answers ahead of time to ensure you can submit online by the deadline.

ALL final applications must be submitted through our [online grant portal](#).

You can register your organization and create an account in our grant portal at any time online by clicking [here](#). If you have questions navigating SmartSimple, watch our [video tutorial](#).

ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

1. We prioritize awarding applicants encountering barriers to accessing healthy food and nutrition education resources and opportunities, including situations of acute crisis. Does your school support, work with, or serve communities with a majority of students that are under-resourced? [Yes/No]
2. Will this garden live on the grounds of a public or nonprofit private K-12 school or a tribally controlled or Bureau of Indian Education school? [Yes/No]
3. Will you be working with at least 10 children, any grades K-12, in the garden each year? [Yes/No]
4. Is the school principal aware of this application? [Yes/No]
5. Is your garden an edible educational garden? In other words, will you grow vegetables, fruit, grains, or other plants you can eat? [Yes/No]
6. Has the applying entity received 2 or more garden grants from Whole Kids? [Yes/No]

PART II. TELL US ABOUT YOUR PROPOSED GARDEN PROJECT

Please note, if your garden is not yet built, please answer all questions with the plan for your garden.

GARDEN DETAILS

1. Would this be the first Whole Kids Garden Grant for this garden if your application is accepted?
2. We seek to support gardens located on the grounds of the school. Will this garden be located on campus?
 - a. Yes

- b. No
 - If no, where is the garden located?
- 3. Is this a new or existing garden?
 - a. New
 - b. Existing: 1-2 years
 - c. Existing: 3-4 years
 - d. Existing: 5 or more
- 4. Please share your long-term vision for the garden. [250 characters]
- 5. Please share 2-3 tangible goals you plan to accomplish in the next 1-3 years and how this \$3,500 grant would help you achieve this goal. *If you have or plan to have metrics to track these goals, please include them here.* [750 characters]
- 6. Please briefly paint a picture of what your garden looks like or will look like including the general size and any components within. *For example, will you have raised beds, hydroponics, composting, in ground irrigation, etc.* [750 characters]
- 7. Our Garden Grant supports edible gardens **only**. What type of edible plants do you plan to or already grow?
 - a. Vegetables
 - b. Fruit
 - c. Grains (wheat, millet, amaranth)
 - d. Herbs
 - e. Edible flowers
 - f. Other

GARDEN SUPPORT

- 8. Garden Coordinator: The Garden Coordinator is an individual at your school who leads/manages the Garden Project (e.g. parent, teacher, student, community member, etc.). This can be, but doesn't have to be, the same as the applicant contact.
 - a. First Name
 - b. Last Name
 - c. Email address:
- 9. Please explain the garden coordinator's role and how they will support the garden. [500 characters]
- 10. Do you have a garden committee?
 - a. Yes
 - Please provide an overview of your committee and their collective garden experience.
 - b. We plan on creating one.
 - Please share how you will create a garden committee and who will join.
 - c. No
- 11. Has anyone involved in the garden ever attended a Garden Educator training? Some examples of this include, but aren't limited to, the [Edible Schoolyard Academy](#), [Growing Gardens](#), garden coordinator certificate program, [Shelburne Farms](#) educator workshops, local Agricultural Extension programs, or Master Gardener classes. (Y/N)

12. Approximately how many regular adult volunteers will support the upkeep and operation of the garden? We understand that high school-aged students can be involved in the regular upkeep of a garden, so please feel free to include high school student volunteers in this count. Please do not include elementary or middle school students in this count. In addition, please do not include numbers from large one-time garden builds.
13. How will you recruit these volunteers? [750 characters]
14. What will you do to engage your community in the garden and integrate the garden into the community culture and identity? Community could encompass the parents and families, staff, neighbors, local businesses, etc. Ideas for engagement and integration include community involvement in the garden design, garden tastings or cooking events, potlucks in the garden, farmer's markets, or any other fundraising or awareness events and communications. [750 characters]

GARDEN COMMUNITY

15. How many youths will be involved with the garden?
16. Please tell us how many classrooms will be involved with the garden.
17. For any individual child or adolescent, how often will that youth be engaged in educational activities (minimum of 15 minutes) in the garden? As valuable as all time in the garden is, please don't include random visits or unsupervised time in the garden, and include the frequency, such as twice per week or 5 times a month. [100 characters]
18. Who typically leads the educational activities in the garden? [250 characters]
19. Describe the primary ways children will engage with the garden. This could include, but is not limited to, garden upkeep, nutrition-associated education, after school activities, tasting/cooking demonstrations, classroom lessons, or garden clubs. [750 characters]
20. Considering your current level of student engagement, are there any plans to increase it in the future? We love to see 100% student engagement, but understand that requires resources and support [750 characters].
21. What are your plans to create a garden program that is culturally relevant and inclusive to all youth that you serve? We encourage you to consider how garden lessons/activities are taught, what garden lessons/activities are taught, and student or child involvement in garden design and in how the garden is used by their community. [750 characters]
22. The mission of Whole Kids is to improve children's nutrition by changing the way we feed our kids. We believe that if you give kids good choices, they will make good choices, but not without health and nutrition engagement. This is why we believe in edible educational gardens! How do you plan to integrate the garden into health and nutrition lessons? [500 characters]
23. What will you do with the food you grow? Please note: If you are bringing food from the garden into the cafeteria or classroom, check if your district or state has guidelines or rules on this. *Check out our **Garden to Cafeteria Toolkit**, developed with Slow Food USA. This toolkit is designed to support school districts in the creation of health and safety protocols to bring student harvested produce into the cafeteria for a full circle garden to table education. The [toolkit](#) is always available for free download on our website* [750 characters]
24. Please describe any needs or challenges faced by your students, school, or community,

excluding garden-related needs. Provide specific examples to support the challenges you mention. These may include, but are not limited to, barriers to healthy food access, financial struggles, safety concerns, health issues, lack of community support, weather-related disasters, or regulatory barriers. [750 characters]

25. Would you like to be considered for an additional monetary grant from Newman's Own Foundation? If awarded, this would be in addition to the Whole Kids' \$3,500 award (only applicable for US Applicants).
- a. Yes
 - How does your garden grant specifically address the needs of children who face adversity?
 - b. No

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Each Garden Project must have the participation of a specific partner organization from the community (such as a nonprofit, a farm, a local business, or a garden club) that brings added support and longevity to the initiative.

*If you are a non-profit that works with local schools and is applying on behalf of a school, the non-profit may be the Community Partner for this grant. **Please note: a school's PTA/PTO does not qualify as a community partner.***

26. Name of Community Partner Organization:
27. Tell us about the Community Partner and what they add to your project. [500 characters]

EXTENDED COMMUNITY SUPPORT OR SPONSORSHIPS

Educational garden programs that seek to make a difference in and that have support from their community are more likely to be sustainable over time.

28. Do you have any other support or sponsorships in your extended community? Support can be monetary, in-kind donations, volunteer support or just general advice or consultation. This can be from non-profit or for-profit entities (e.g. stores, restaurants, local businesses, garden stores, churches, etc.).
- a. Yes - I have One Partner
 - b. Yes - I have Two Partners
 - c. Yes - I have Three Partners
 - d. Yes - I have Four Partners
 - e. Yes - I have More than Four Partners
 - f. No
29. If you selected yes, please list all organizations in the community and the services/donations that each organization has or will have provided. [Table format provided on online application]

Please provide:

- Organization Name
- Contribution [e.g., soil, labor, cash, matching funds, in-kind support (\$)]

BUDGET

Monetary funds cannot be used for real estate, travel costs, or field trips. Any funds spent on a scholarship, such as to attend a training, may not exceed 30% (or \$900) of the total grant funds. **You will be asked to acknowledge and agree to these spending guidelines.**

Complete the following three sections about your garden expenses, your plans for these grant funds if awarded, and any additional revenue for your garden.

See our [Garden Grant Writing Tips](#) for more tips on completing your budget!

- 30. Annual Garden Expenses:** We would like to know the whole picture. Tell us about your total annual budget for your garden – this may be outside of what the Whole Kids funds would support. Please provide a list of expenses and costs (labor, tools, curriculum materials, planting materials, etc.). If you are interested in receiving additional funding from Newman's Own Foundation, having a full picture of your budget will help us determine your program's capacity to absorb additional funding.
- 31. Grant Funding Allocation:** Tell us how you would spend the specific Whole Kids grant funds.
- 32. Projected Garden Revenue or Incoming Grants:** The Whole Kids Garden Grant of \$3,500 is sufficient funds to start a garden, but not enough to sustain it over time. How will you sustain your garden financially over time? For example, how will you generate funds? What other grants have you applied for or will you apply for?

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- 33. Garden photos:** Please upload **up to three photos** of your garden space or planned garden space (up to three maximum). **Feel free to include a garden design or diagram (dimensions and layout).** If you are expanding an existing garden, share a photo of your current garden and where the expansion will live. Please do not upload photos of school buildings unless the garden space is included in the photo as well.

Please note the following requirements and directions:

- Save images as a PNG, JPG, or GIF.
- Maximum size for each photo: 5M MB

Please note, we may want to feature a photo you have provided. **Please only upload photos with youth for whom you have a photo release form signed by their parent or guardian.** By uploading photos, you are verifying that you understand this requirement of any photos you

upload.

34. **Principal's Letter of Support**: Please provide a letter on school letterhead and signed by the school principal to indicate their support of the garden project.