

2022 MEALS ON WHEELS LOVES PETS GRANTS FAQs

Q: Where do we apply and what are the deadlines?

A: All applications can be submitted through our [Online Grants Management System](#) and are due by 5:00 pm ET on Friday, January 28, 2022.

Q: My organization gets small donations of food every now and then. We give out these donations whenever they're received. Does this mean I'm a new program? Would I be eligible for the Discovery Grant?

A: Unless your organization has been providing consistent pet assistance services through a formal program, you would be considered a new program and eligible for the Discovery Grant. Programs that have been in operation for less than one full year are also eligible. Organizations that provide consistent pet services to clients, have an established pet program name (AniMeals, etc.) and/or already have established local partnerships would not be considered as new and would only be eligible for the Discovery Grant if they have been operating for less than one full year. For further questions about this, please feel free to reach out to Morgan Hultquist, Strategy & Impact Manager, at morgan.hultquist@mealsonwheelsamerica.org.

Q: Can I apply for both a Trailblazer and Access to Vet Care (AVC)?

A: Members can apply for both of these grants *during this application round* only if their pet program has been in operation for over three full years and if they are not a 2021 *Meals on Wheels Loves Pets* Grantee. If you are a 2021 *Meals on Wheels Loves Pets* Grantee and your program has been operating for more than three years, you are eligible to apply for the Trailblazer Grant and will be eligible to apply for the second round of AVC grants in May 2022.

Q: If I received an Emergency Pet Food Grant (*this is separate from the 2021 Meals on Wheels Loves Pets Grant Cycle*) in 2020 or 2021, am I eligible to apply for the first round of Access to Veterinary Care Grants this month?

A: Yes!

Q: I noticed these grants are different from the previous *Meals on Wheels Loves Pets* Grants. How can I receive funding for food and supplies?

A: Funding provided through the Discovery Grant will be able to be used for program setup costs, as well as food and supplies. Additionally, funds provided through the Trailblazer Grant can also be used to support your pet program. Our goal is for programs who have received *Meals on Wheels Love Pets* grants in past years to diversify their funding sources and grow their program sustainability so that we may stretch our resources farther. To support this effort, we are currently working on a series of fundraising and sustainability resources to help support pet assistance programs. We'll be sure to

share those with our network as soon as they're available. In the meantime, please check out our [Pet Curriculum](#), which contains ten chapters of content, including fundraising tips, and many other helpful resources!

Q: If I receive a Trailblazer Grant, what can I spend the funds on?

A: The grant is intended to provide maximum flexibility to support your pet program and is left to the discretion of your team. Overall, the funds provided will be in recognition of your organization's efforts and contribution to the national Meals on Wheels network.

Q: I'm interested in the Trailblazer Grant and noticed that there may be opportunities to present at conferences. Would this require travel?

A: Safety is our top priority. Any travel would be consistent with current COVID-19 health and safety guidelines and would not violate either Meals on Wheels America or grantee travel restrictions.

Additionally, while external opportunities may be expected to arise, we cannot guarantee them as a Grant Activity.

Q: If we are eligible to apply for the Trailblazer Grant, do you have a rough estimate of how much staff time will be required for the mentoring and other related activities?

A: Time required for the mentoring program will depend on the Grantees' assigned mentees and the level of support needed. However, there is a base commitment of one meeting per month with the cohort of mentees. This activity is not intended to be a huge lift but will still require time on a monthly basis, as well as ad hoc communications and quick connections when/if mentees have questions.

Other grant activities (presentations and resource development pieces) will also require time, but these types of larger requests won't be required on regular basis, like the mentorship piece. For instance, there may be a few requests for participation in presentations, but this would be over the course of the 18 month grant period. The same goes for the resource development but with this piece, we may request support developing a new toolkit or resource. For something like this, it might be a longer term project but the time requirements over time would be setup to be manageable for Trailblazer Grantees. Overall, the program will require some time and we certainly want to make sure the program is a good fit for the organization but is not intended to be a huge burden to staff.

Q: Where can I find Meals on Wheels America's existing pet resources and educational materials?

A: Our resources can be found on our online learning platform, [Meals on Wheels Connect](#). Our pet program resources and content can be found in our [Pet Curriculum](#). We also have a [Pet Group](#) available on Connect that Members can join and share any questions, resource needs or success stories. Be sure to check them out!