



Ouray County Fund Grant Qualification Criteria

The Good Neighbor Fund (GNF) was created by the Telluride Foundation over 15 years ago to support residents in need across the region. In 2020, local donors established the Ouray County Response Fund (OCRF) as a dedicated funding source within the GNF to serve Ouray County residents specifically.

Tri-County Health Network (TCHNetwork), a supporting organization of the Telluride Foundation, administers grant distributions for both funds.

In 2024, the Ouray County Board of County Commissioners contributed to the OCRF to help residents remain housed and employed during times of hardship. OCRF can now provide emergency assistance for both essential daily needs (e.g., rent, utilities, transportation, medical expenses) and property tax relief on a primary residence in Ouray County.

General Eligibility Requirements

To be considered for a grant, applicants must:

- Have lived in Ouray County for at least one full year (proof of residency required)
- Be currently or recently employed (documentation required)
- Demonstrate financial hardship due to an unexpected, non-recurring crisis
- Show that they have exhausted other available resources
- Provide a plan for maintaining financial stability moving forward

Grant Guidelines

Property Tax Relief

- Applicants may request up to \$2,000 per calendar year
- Must provide a copy of the Ouray County property tax notice and verify primary residence status

Emergency Assistance (non-property tax)

- Applicants may request up to \$2,000 once every two years
- Covers unexpected needs such as rent, utilities, medical bills, car repairs, food, etc.
- May apply again after 3 months if the previous award was for property taxes

Required Documentation

To be considered for assistance, applicants must submit a complete application with the following:

1. Proof of residency (e.g., lease agreement, mortgage statement, or property tax bill)
2. Proof of employment (current or former; e.g., pay stub, letter from employer)
3. Property tax notice (if applying for tax relief)
4. Current bills and expenses (e.g., utility bills, rent or mortgage, medical bills)
5. A written explanation of:
 - The crisis or situation leading to the request
 - Resources previously pursued (e.g., other programs, agencies)
 - A plan for maintaining financial stability after the crisis

Application Process

Once a complete application is submitted:

- Applicants may be contacted for a brief phone or in-person meeting
- Applications are reviewed confidentially by TCHNetwork
- Grant payments are made directly to the service provider (e.g., utility company, landlord, county treasurer)

Contact

For questions or help with the application process:



TCHNetwork at 970-708-7967



Email: GNF@tchnetwork.org