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## About Cobb Community Foundation

Cobb Community Foundation inspires charitable giving, builds resources for the future, and connects donors who care with causes that matter. We believe in a community fully engaged in meeting needs now and into the future. Our competitive grants program is just one way for us to execute our mission. For more information visit: [CobbFoundation.org](http://CobbFoundation.org) or connect with the Foundation via Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter.

### OVERVIEW: WHAT IS THE CNP CREDENTIAL?

Cobb Community Foundation and United Way are pleased to partner with Kennesaw State University to award this unique grant to five (5) recipients. KSU's Wellstar College of Health and Human Services partners with the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (NLA) which offers the credential of Certified Nonprofit Practitioner (CNP). The CNP is the only nationally recognized credential in nonprofit management that provides learning and real-world experience.

The credential is obtained through a 6-month online course plus four (4) in-person workshops, facilitated and hosted by KSU. The practitioner must be diligent and committed to completing the process, drawing upon their current educational and experiential knowledge. In addition to the credential of CNP, participants will also receive access to *Elevate*, a 3-day virtual conference, hosted by the NLA and offered during the timeframe of the program.

### OVERVIEW: WHAT IS THE INCENTIVE GRANT?

Upon successful completion of the online CNP program, as well as the 4 in-person workshops, CCF and United Way will award a \$10K Unrestricted Grant to the organization represented by each participant. The funds are truly unrestricted, and their final application will be at the discretion of the leadership of the CNP candidate's organization, although the KSU workshops will provide coaching and recommendations on the best use of the funds.

### TIMELINE:

The program runs January - June 2024 with mandatory workshop dates of February 19, March 18, April 22 and May 20.

**The CNP Grant Opportunity aligns with Cobb Community Foundation’s desire to strengthen and support nonprofits, working in and around Cobb County, that are helping our community to thrive.**

Selection for the CNP & Incentive Grant is based on several factors as evaluated by community reviewers. The Foundation seeks to support strong, sustainable organizations, as well as smaller or newer nonprofits that hold great promise. *We are seeking candidates who intend to stay and grow within the organization where they are currently employed.* CCF will select a total of five (5) recipients for this grant, to become known as the 2024 CNP Cohort.

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Eligible Organizations**

Nonprofits that meet the following requirements are eligible to apply for inclusion in the Cobb Thrives Gift Guide.

- Must be classified by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c)(3) of the I.R.S. code as a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization, donations to which are deductible as charitable contributions under Section 170 (c)(2) OR have a fiscal sponsor
- Must be registered with the Georgia Secretary of State as a nonprofit (click here to verify: <https://ecorp.sos.ga.gov/BusinessSearch>)  
Must have a minimum of one-year operating history after the date of receipt of its 501(c)(3) classification
- Must be based in Cobb County and/or serving residents of Cobb County  
Faith-based organizations are eligible for non-proselytizing activities
- Individual schools are not eligible to apply, however, district-wide programs, supporting an entire school system, are eligible

### **Eligible individuals**

- Bachelor’s degree from a 4-year accredited school OR a minimum of 20 years’ field experience
- A minimum of 5 years’ field experience in the nonprofit industry

## HOW TO APPLY

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A complete application includes an Organizational Profile and CNP & Incentive Grant application. You can find a link to the Organizational Profile along with the application and other documents relevant to the application process at [cobbfoundation.org](http://cobbfoundation.org).

## 2023 SCHEDULE

<b>Wednesday, Sept 13</b>	<b>Grant Seekers' Informational Session</b>
<b>Thursday, Sept 14</b>	<b>Application opens for 2023 CNP &amp; Incentive Grant</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 1</b>	<b>Deadline for CNP &amp; Incentive Grant Application</b>
<b>Monday, November 13</b>	<b>Finalists Notified for CNP &amp; Incentive Grant</b>
<b>Friday, December 1</b>	<b>Finalist in-person interviews conducted at CCF</b>
<b>Friday, December 1</b>	<b>CNP &amp; Incentive Grant Recipients Notified</b>
<b>Friday, December 15</b>	<b>CNP &amp; Incentive Grant Recipients, Check Presentation &amp; Photo Op</b>

*Selected recipients will begin their online CNP coursework in January of 2024 with an expected completion date in June of 2024.*

## **REPORTING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Each individual recipient of the CNP & Incentive Grant will be responsible for their own reporting. CCF asks that CNP candidates notify Cobb Community Foundation upon successful completion of the online course. Recipients will also be required to report on their in-person workshop attendance and provide an overview of topics covered at each session. The final workshop will culminate with each participant presenting how they have chosen to apply for their \$10K unrestricted completion grant.

CCF welcomes the opportunity to share about your work and progress throughout the credentialing process. If you are willing to share a story and/or picture for our social channels, please send an email to [Mary@CobbFoundation.org](mailto:Mary@CobbFoundation.org).

All organizations and recipients selected for the CNP & Incentive Grant are welcome to publicize it. Please tag Cobb Community Foundation's social media handles.

## **STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?**

Please review our video on the 2023 Thrive Program page of our website at [cobbfoundation.org](http://cobbfoundation.org).

For more information, please email [Shelly@CobbFoundation.org](mailto:Shelly@CobbFoundation.org).