

# Jacques Pépin Foundation Principal Grant Program 2026

## Guidelines

### **About the Program**

The Jacques Pépin Foundation (JPF) supports nonprofit, community-based culinary training programs that provide free culinary and life-skills training to individuals facing barriers to employment. JPF invests in organizations that use culinary education to build confidence, improve health outcomes, and create pathways to sustainable employment in the food industry.

### **Grant Overview**

The Principal Grant Program provides one-time unrestricted grants of up to \$10,000 to help strengthen and expand eligible culinary training programs across the United States. The JPF welcomes requests that strengthen systems, staff capacity or infrastructure.

### **Who Is Eligible**

Organizations must:

- Be a U.S.-based nonprofit organization
- Operate a community-based culinary training program
- Provide training at no cost to participants
- Serve individuals who are unemployed or under-employed
- Provide wraparound services (e.g. case management, job placement, social services)

Important eligibility notes:

- Organizations that have never received a JPF grant are eligible for a Principal Grant.
- Organizations that have previously applied but were not funded are eligible for a Principal Grant.
- Organizations that have received a JPF grant are not eligible for *Principal Grants Program* and should apply to the *JPF Partnership Circle Grant* instead.

Please Note: The JPF's support is directed at workforce development for unemployed or underemployed individuals. We support and encourage upskilling and management training for culinary training program alumni, but we do not support advanced training and upskilling programs that are not connected to a foundational community-based culinary training program.

**What the JPF Funds:**

Grants are unrestricted and may support:

- General operating costs
- Staff salaries/compensation
- Membership fees for community kitchen networks
- Facility improvements
- Program expansion
- Instructional improvements
- Industry certifications
- Alumni support
- Employer partnerships
- Any combination of above examples

**What the JPF Does Not Fund:**

- Programs not connected to a foundational, community-based culinary training program
- Standalone or advanced management training not linked to a community training pipeline
- Programs that charge participants for training
- Programs that promote religious doctrine

**Application Timeline**

February - Application Opens

Submit for Round 1 May 1 at 11:59 PM EST - Application Closes

June - Applicants notified of Round 1 awards or declinations

Submit for Round 2 October 2 at 11:59 PM EST - Application Closes

December- Applicants notified of Round 2 awards or declinations

Important: Applicants not funded in Round 1 will automatically be considered in Round 2. You do not need to re-apply.

**Questions:** Please email [grants@jp.foundation](mailto:grants@jp.foundation)