

The Dow Chemical Company Foundation Texas Operations Community Grant Program Freeport, TX

In 2004, The Dow Chemical Company Foundation established a Community Grants program at its Texas Operations site. It provides funding to projects that help meet the needs of area residents and make local communities better places to live and work. Since 2004, local groups have received approximately \$600,000 to support their efforts to make a positive difference for the people of southern Brazoria County.

The program is not intended to provide on-going operational funding. Instead, it is directed at specific project costs that relate to long-term sustainable initiatives.

There are two categories of grants: Heritage Grants of up to \$25,000, and Diamond Grants of up to \$5,000.

The program will be conducted on an annual basis. Applications received before the program opens, or after the deadline of April 20, 2007 at 4:00 p.m., will not be accepted.

Application criteria

- Applicants must be charitable or non-profit organizations (have a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax designation) or be municipal or government agencies. Schools and school districts are asked to apply for funding through Dow's Education Grants program, rather than through this program
- Groups with religious affiliations *are* eligible, provided the project benefits are available to any community member, not just members of the organization
- Applicants must have a Dow employee sponsor
- Applicants must be based in Southern Brazoria County. This includes the communities of Lake Jackson, Clute, Angleton, Freeport, Brazoria, Danbury, Sweeny and West Columbia
- Funding requests cannot exceed \$5,000 for a Diamond Grant or \$25,000 for a Heritage Grant
- Funding requests below the maximum allowable are encouraged, as they allow Dow to increase the number of projects that can be funded
- A maximum of one application per organization will be accepted
- Applications received after 4:00 p.m. on April 20, 2007 will not be accepted.
- Incomplete applications will not be accepted

Projects must provide positive community impact in at least one of the following areas: Science in Society, Contributing to Community Success, and/or Sustainability.

Science in Society means:

- enhancing understanding of the roles of chemicals and plastics and the chemical industry and/or
- having the potential to increase interest in careers and opportunities linked to chemistry, engineering, technology and other sciences

Contributing to Community Success means:

- promotes job creation and/or
- meets community-defined needs and/or
- provides permanent improvement to the social infrastructure within a disadvantaged or underprivileged sector of the community and/or
- provides funding for materials or tools which will be widely available within a community or will offer long-term benefit to the community as a whole

Sustainability means

- enhances or protects the natural environment and/or
- raises awareness among a broad public audience of environmental issues and relationship to social and economic consideration

Preference will be given to projects that:

- Are one-time, well-researched contributions with visible impact
- Meet an identified community need
- Are from organizations that are financially well administered and organized
- Have measurable results
- Generate community support and involvement
- Encourage the participation and involvement of Dow employees and retirees

What kinds of projects DO NOT qualify?

- Those submitted by for-profit businesses, religious organizations for the sole benefit of that organization, individual sports teams, political organizations or candidates, labor unions, homeowners associations or individuals
- Schools and school districts do not qualify for this program. They are encouraged to apply for a Dow Education Grant later in the year
- Funds cannot be used for operating expenses, personal computers, travel expenses, advertising, fund raising events, dues and memberships or lobbying expenses
- Projects outside the designated funding area

Some of the types of programs that have historically been supported include:

- Home construction and repair projects for the disadvantaged
- Building or restoring wildlife or recreation areas
- Community health programs
- Youth education
- Expanding educational and workforce development

How are the winners determined?

A selection committee comprised of community members, external representatives from the Texas Operations Community Advisory Panel, and Dow employees will review the applications and select the successful projects.

How to Apply

Please complete all sections of the 2007 Dow Community Grants Application Form. Be sure to include all the required information, and use additional pages if necessary.

Send or deliver application to Dow or mail to:

**The Dow Chemical Company
Attention: Community Relations---Community Grants Program
2301 N. Brazosport Blvd.
Freeport, Texas 77541**

APPLICATION DEADLINE - 4:00 P.M., FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2007. Applications received after this day will not be accepted.