



## **JOURNALISM GRANT PROGRAM**

### ***Statement of purpose***

To provide financial support for specific journalism initiatives by ONMA members that fit the Foundation's mission to uphold high standards of excellence and professionalism. Funded projects or proposals will be those, that in the estimation of the Grant Review Committee, are of a.) high value to the audience the member serves and b.) could not otherwise be accomplished or would not be accomplished to a level of high journalistic quality without the grant.

### ***Program funding***

The ONMA executive director will budget an annual amount for funding the program, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees as part of the Foundation's annual budget. The amount budgeted for each year shall not be exceeded unless the Board or the ONMA Executive Committee authorizes additional funding.

In the first program year, \$15,000 will be budgeted with the proposed maximum grant for an individual proposal for a minimum of \$250 and maximum of \$1,500, although special requests could be considered at the board's discretion.

### ***Examples of possible uses for program funding***

- Out-of-state travel for reporting.
- Engagement of outside experts, free-lancers, journalistic organizations or independent contractors to support the project.
- Purchase of reports or other materials critical to the approved project.
- Hiring of temporary or part-time staff to substitute for staff assigned to the project.

### ***The Review Committee***

Requests are considered by the Grant Review Committee. The committee must include at least three members. It will consist of the ONMA Foundation president (typically the vice president of the ONMA Board of Trustees), members of the ONMA Board of Trustees who have current or past experience as executive editors (or the equivalent title), and the ONMA executive director. The ONMA Foundation president may appoint others to the committee at his/her discretion – for example, a journalism educator or retired editor.

### ***Grant application process***

ONMA will create an online form that must be submitted for all applications. Each submitted form will include a description of the project or proposal, timelines for the project, a specific requested amount, a specific explanation of how grant funds would be spent and contact information for the submitter. Supplemental material may be attached, especially related coverage.

Upon receipt of the form, the executive director will share the form with other Review Committee members via email. The committee, at its discretion, may deliberate via email, conference call or a physical meeting with a goal of approving or denying all requests within 30 days of receipt.

### ***Expectations of grant recipients include the following***

- Any published/posted content and contest entries resulting from the grant program will include credit for the Ohio News Media Foundation Local Journalism Grant Program as a funder.
- Grant recipient will provide relevant pdfs, links and/or newspapers that show project results.
- Grant recipient grants permission to the Ohio News Media Foundation to make reasonable fair use of the project, including links and selected pdfs at the Foundation/ohionews.org website.
- Grant recipient will submit a final report within 45 days of project completion that specifies how the grant dollars were spent and summarizes the outcomes and results, if any, achieved by the project work.

### **2018 GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE / OH NEWS MEDIA FOUNDATION JOURNALISM GRANT PROGRAM**

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