



SCI ARTIST-INNOVATOR FUND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I have to be a person with spinal cord injury to apply to this grant?

The SCI-Innovator Fund aims to provide funds for people living with spinal cord injury who are artists and/or innovators. CCI uses the definition used by the program's funder, the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation:

We consider those with SCI to be individuals with neurological and functional impairment due to traumatic SCI, degenerative disease primary to the spinal cord (transverse myelitis), or damage to the spinal cord due to tumors and surgery. Individuals with spinal dysfunction, paralysis, or pain syndromes caused by other disorders are not eligible (e.g., multiple sclerosis, ALS, Chiari malformation and other developmental disorders, primary orthopedic disorders, and peripheral nerve injury).

What kind of projects are eligible to apply?

We are looking for artist-driven social enterprises. Projects must have a positive social impact and the potential to be revenue-generating. To help you understand the scope and variety of eligible projects please review sample applicants and past projects. [Examples of Competitive Profiles](#) and [2019 Press Release](#)

What kinds of items can I request funding for?

Some possible items in your proposed budget can include: salaries, equipment, fees for training on a particular subject, disability-related expenses, hiring a personal assistant, marketing and promotional materials, prototype development, business strategy consultant, patent fees, and the like.

Do I have to be an artist to apply for this grant?

You do not have to be an artist to apply for this grant. However, if you do not self-define as an artist, your innovation should reflect sustained refining much like a craft, or artistic practice would, to a degree that it reflects your unique identity and is a form of creative or cultural expression.

How many grants will you make?

Ten grants of up to \$7,500 will be awarded to individual artist-entrepreneurs with spinal cord injuries who meet eligibility criteria.

If I receive the funds all at once will it impact my disability services?

This funding may be taxable. Grantees are advised to consult with an accountant, tax expert, and/or benefits specialist. We understand fund disbursement may impact disability-related community supports and are willing to structure options that work for each person's unique financial situation.