The AstraZeneca HealthCare Foundation’s *Connections for Cardiovascular Health* (CCH) program awards Foundation grants annually to U.S.-based, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations or similar nonprofit organizations working to improve cardiovascular health in their communities.

The intent of the grants is to support innovative initiatives or programs at the community level to help improve cardiovascular health in the community during the grant year and beyond. Our aim is for funded programs to maximize the benefit to participants and to work toward sustainability beyond our funding.

To qualify for a Foundation grant, an organization is required to be a U.S.-based, nonprofit organization with a 501(c) designation or a public school, government entity or municipal institution that is eligible to accept tax-deductible, charitable contributions. Organizations that are 501(c)(3) and also have an IRS designation as a 509(a)(3) are ineligible for funding.

The nonprofit organization must be engaged in charitable work at the community level or otherwise. The program must address the Foundation’s *Connections for Cardiovascular Health* mission and meet five key criteria:

1. Address patient cardiovascular health issues within the United States and its territories
2. Recognize and work to address an unmet need related to cardiovascular health in the community
3. Respond to the urgency around addressing cardiovascular health issues, including cardiovascular disease or conditions contributing to cardiovascular disease
4. Improve the quality of participants’ and non-professional caregivers’ lives in connection with the services provided and work done
5. Demonstrate a clear plan for long-term program sustainability, to further improve cardiovascular health after Foundation grants are expended.

Foundation grant applications that meet the criteria and describe innovative initiatives with clearly defined outcomes, measurable results and processes will be considered for funding.

**Organizational Criteria**

- The organization and its program must be based in the United States and its territories.
- The Foundation provides grants to organizations that are:
  - Nonprofits with a 501(c) designation. (Organizations that have a 509(a)(3) designation are ineligible for funding.)
  - Public schools
  - Municipal institutions (e.g., city health department, municipal hospital or county board of health).
- Applying organizations will be required to provide 1) a copy of their current IRS 990 form or documents that establish eligibility to receive charitable donations and 2) audited financials for the past fiscal year. (If audited financials are not available,
unaudited financial statements may be submitted. The *Connections for Cardiovascular Health*SM* program preference is to provide funding to organizations that have both a current audited financial statement and IRS Form 990 available.*

- After submitting the application, organizations cannot make substantive changes to their tax status. Once selected for a grant award, organizations cannot reassign, transfer or credit their grant to another entity, including any related entity, without prior written approval by the Foundation. Any changes in an organization’s tax status after submitting the application or being selected for a grant award must be reported immediately and may impact the organization’s eligibility to receive the grant.

**Funding Criteria**

The Foundation preference is to support new organizations with innovative programs to expand the reach of the *Connections for Cardiovascular Health*SM* program. In addition, the Foundation maintains our commitment to support sustainability by providing reduced funding to support a limited number of previously-funded organizations with programs that demonstrate positive outcomes.

The Foundation will only accept one application per organization for a single year of funding. There is no guarantee of funding. Applicants who are approved for a Foundation grant award must meet program objectives and reapply annually for continued funding.

- The AstraZeneca HealthCare Foundation has two levels of grants to support program operations:

  o **Level 1 - Organizations with New or Existing Programs with 0-1 Year of CCH Funding:**
    - Organizations that have not received CCH funding in the past and organizations that have received one year of CCH funding may apply for funding between $125,000 and $150,000.
    - Organizations that received one year of CCH funding must apply with their previously CCH-funded program to be considered.

  o **Level 2 – Previously-Funded Organizations with 2+ Years of CCH Funding for Established Programs:**
    - Previously-funded organizations that received two or more years of CCH funding may apply for up to $75,000 to sustain a previously CCH-funded program.

- Programs should be designed with funding for equipment less than 30% of the total budget for equipment that is integral to the specific program design and not for equipment that might support other ongoing, routine programs run by the organization. Equipment costs over 30% of the total funding request will not be considered. Incidental equipment and costs necessary to complete or sustain a project are allowed.

- The Foundation will not fund vehicle purchases.

- Costs over 10% in the budget category “Other” will not be considered.
Program Design

- **Exclusions.** The Foundation does NOT fund programs that focus exclusively on the following:
  - Capital investments and unsolicited capital campaigns
  - Media/awareness campaigns
  - Hospital software systems, hospital in-patient programs or enhancement of existing hospital services
  - Professional education and/or training for healthcare professionals that is more than incidental to the program
  - Research or clinical trials
  - Healthcare provider/cardiologist salaries
  - Faith-based programs that are NOT open to the community-at-large.

- The Foundation does NOT support:
  - Cardiovascular initiatives outside the United States or its territories
  - Individuals
  - For-profit organizations
  - Endowments
  - Journals or advertising
  - Political causes, lobbying, fraternal or social organizations
  - Religious organizations whose activities are not open to the general public
  - Nonprofit organizations that discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, military service, veteran status or disability.

- **Program Design.** The Foundation seeks programs that:
  - **Are focused on measurable results.** The program should demonstrate clear, defined and designated outcomes, measurements and processes, and include clinical outcome goals. To support these efforts, it is recommended the organization utilize:
    - Healthcare providers to collect clinical metrics.
    - An outside evaluator to analyze and evaluate data, which may include staff who are internal to the organization with the necessary expertise but who are not involved in the program’s operations, management or delivery.
  - **Provide an innovative approach.** The program should find innovative ways relevant to the program, population and goals to maximize benefits for the participants and impact to the community.
  - **Demonstrate sustainability.** Programs should be able to continue beyond the potential grant period and potential AstraZeneca HealthCare Foundation funding.

- **Measurable Outcomes and Participant Goals.** The Foundation requires that all programs:
  - Collect and measure program outcomes.
  - Be designed to track at least 100 unduplicated participants by year-end.
  - Demonstrate measurement outcomes at both the mid-year (May 2019) and year-end (December 2019) time frames following the grant award.
Report on program outcomes for approximately half of the planned unduplicated tracked participants by May 31, 2019.

Program Execution

- Prior written approval from the Foundation is required from Grant Awardees prior to making a major change in program objectives, budget or scope. Some examples include, but are not limited to, program location, target audience, number of participants reached and tracked, and behavioral and/or clinical measures.

- Award recipients will be required to submit regular program reports and other requirements to the Foundation according to deadlines and processes set forth in the Letter of Agreement. These requirements include:
  - Mid-year progress report, sustainability efforts and program outcomes submitted in June 2019 (covers progress from November 2018 through May 2019)
  - Comprehensive year-end report, sustainability efforts and program outcomes submitted in January 2020 (covers progress from November 2018 through December 31, 2019)

Note: Criteria for assessing applications may be changed or updated by the AstraZeneca HealthCare Foundation from year to year. Application cycles are planned on a year-by-year basis.