

# 2023 VOREC Community Grant Program

## OPEN CALL FOR SCORING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are looking for volunteers from outside the Departments of Forests, Parks and Recreation to help score applications for the 2023 VOREC Community Grant Program. Scoring committee members should have:

- Personal or working experience in outdoor recreation.
- Awareness of current ecosystem of outdoor-focused organizations and opportunities in Vermont – what is available and what is not for people across the state.
- Ability to follow written directions and score applications using a provided rubric.
- Ability to enter scores and notes in an Excel Spreadsheet (or in Google sheets that can be downloaded to Excel)

**Commitment:** Scoring committee members will review approximately 15 assigned applications during the month of January. We estimate it will be a 5-10 hour commitment, but that will depend on each reviewer’s reading/ranking speed.

**How does scoring work?** Scoring committee members will receive their assigned applications and scoring sheet via email. Scoring committee members will review proposals on their own schedule during the assigned timeframe and email their completed score sheets back to FPR staff. These scores will be averaged for each application and then a separate review committee will make the final recommendations for awards based on both the average score and additional assessments and discussion (ex: checking for equitable geographic distribution).

Our goal is to have at least three people independently score each application. We anticipate we will receive a large number of applications, so we are seeking volunteers to expand our review team to ensure every application is evaluated with comparable levels of energy and focus.

**Will you help? If so, please [complete our online form](#) to share your interest in joining this committee.**

You Might Be Thinking:	Our Response:
<b>“I only have limited grant experience. Can I help?”</b>	Yes! Helping to review grants is actually a great way to build your own personal grant writing skills. You’ll get a behind-the-scenes look at how FPR evaluates proposals and learn from reading other proposals about how to make your own future proposals stronger. Even if you have limited grant experience, so long as you’re willing to follow our scoring guidance, you are welcome to be a part of this process.

<p><b>“I’m applying for a VOREC Community Grant this year. Can I still help score?”</b></p>	<p>Yes! Whether you’re a lead applicant or partner on another organization’s proposal, you can still volunteer to score applications, you just won’t be assigned to score any of the applications in the same track you are applying in. For example, if you submit a proposal under Flood Recovery, we may assign you to score Project Development proposals.</p>
<p><b>“I’ve previously helped review one of FPR’s grants. Can I help?”</b></p>	<p>Yes! Our review processes have changed from previous years in part due to the significant increases in funding amounts and the addition of the four tracks, but if you’re excited about helping guide the distribution of outdoor recreation funding in our state through this new process, we’d love your help.</p>

Please contact [ANR.FPRRecreationGrants@Vermont.gov](mailto:ANR.FPRRecreationGrants@Vermont.gov) with any questions about the process.