



3101 Beach Blvd. South, Suite 1 • Gulfport, Florida • 33707

GMC Gecko World Grant Application

The Gulfport Merchant's Chamber (GMC) believes in giving back to the local community. Gecko World grants will be awarded to local organizations within the city of Gulfport or with programs that benefit the community of Gulfport.

Before applying, please note:

- The application deadline for the 2022 cycle is May 31, 2022.
- Organizations must be described as one of the following:
 - An organization holding a current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3), (4), (6) or (19) of the Internal Revenue Code;
 - A recognized local government entity: including law enforcement or fire departments, that are requesting funds exclusively for public purposes;
 - A local public or private school, charter school, community/junior college, state/private college or university; or
 - An organization with a proposed project that benefits the community at large.
- Applications must be completed in full and submitted in writing to be considered.
- Submitting an application does not guarantee funding.
- The GMC Board reserves the right to adjust the amount awarded to each organization without prior notice.

Eligibility Checklist

1. Potential grantees should be nonprofit organizations with programs that benefit the Gulfport area.
2. Organizations who can provide volunteers and media promotion for Gecko World events (Gecko Crawl, Gecko Ball, and Gecko Fest) will be considered first.
3. An employee, board member, or official representative of the organization needs to be available to attend the Gecko Ball in August.

Selection Process

- The Gulfport Merchant's Chamber Board of Directors will review and make initial funding decisions on all submitted requests.
- Applications are typically reviewed within 90 days of the submission date, and organizations will be notified of decisions via email after June 2022. All funding decisions are final.
- If an organization is approved, grant checks will be awarded at a public recognition event in Fall 2022 (date/location to be determined).

Funding Exclusions

- Association/chamber memberships
- Individuals (requests made solely for the benefit of one person or family)
- Nationally-sponsored organizations
- Organizations that deny service to a potential client or beneficiary on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, veteran or disability status
- Organizations whose services do not benefit the community at large
- Political causes, candidates, organizations or campaigns
- Projects that send products or people for relief efforts to a foreign country
- Religious Organizations

Community Support Request Form (PLEASE PRINT)

Organization Name:	Contact Name:
Address:	City, State, Zip:
Phone:	Email Address:
Today's Date:	Organization Website:
501 Number: (Please attach a copy of your designation letter)	# of Volunteers Available to GMC:
Year Founded:	# of social media followers and/or constituents:
Grant Amount Requested:	
Organization Mission Statement:	
Brief Statement of Organization's Overall Community Impact:	
How will this funding be used to benefit the Gulfport community?	
Please complete and return to GMC, via email to geckoworldgrant@visitgulfportflorida.com or via mail to Gulfport Welcome Center, Attn: Gecko World Grant, 3101 Beach Blvd S, Ste 1, Gulfport, FL 33707	