



Bridge2Hope 2011 Grant Applicant Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in a Bridge2Hope grant for adult service program funding. We look forward to receiving your application. The purpose of this guide is to assist grant applicants in anticipating and planning for the requirements of the Bridge2Hope grant, however, this guide is informal and the contents are subject to change. Please contact us at 708-710-4321 or bridge2hope@bridge2hope.com with any questions.

Please note that all awards issued through Bridge2Hope are subject to the availability of funds.

It is an expectation of Bridge2Hope that all grant recipients, who are full SSI beneficiaries, pay the first \$449.34 per month toward day programming costs. By filling out and submitting an application for a Bridge2Hope Day Program Grant, applicant is acknowledging and agreeing to this expectation.

General Information:

Bridge2Hope is an Illinois 501(c)(3) charity that has been established to provide a temporary funding source for young adults with developmental disabilities who are need of transitioning into adult service programs but are unable to do so due to state budget limitations.

- It is not a Bridge2Hope objective to secure programming placement for an individual.
- A service provider should be selected and applied for by the individual and/or guardian prior to applying for the Bridge2Hope grant if possible.
- Funding awarded will be paid directly to the chosen service provider and must be used for day programming services (vocational training, developmental training or workshop program).
- Service provider must be a 501(c)(3) organization.

Who is eligible to Apply?

The Bridge2Hope grant is available to individuals without consideration to severity of disability; however, recipient must meet Social Security Income Disability Determination criteria and must meet all of the following eligibility criteria.

- Must be in PUNS database. (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services)
- Would be eligible to apply for or has already applied for and been denied Department of Human Services funding for adult services.
- Available to South Suburban Cook County recent (within past 2 years) or impending 2011 graduates only. (Available to residents of all Cook County Suburbs south of 63rd Street)
- Age 21 or greater.
- Current SSI and Medicaid medical recipient.
- Grant recipient must have a sponsor that will commit to 24 hours per calendar year of volunteer services to the Bridge2Hope cause.



Application Deadlines:

Bridge2Hope will announce grant application cycles as funds determine. Once a grant application cycle opens, applications will be available online, email, or mailed upon request. The deadline date for application acceptance will be announced at the beginning of an application cycle; however, it will be 30 calendar days from the start of cycle.

Grant Application Process:

- Applications should be submitted by email to: bridge2hope@bridge2hope.com, or by mail to:
Bridge2Hope
17816 Bishop Rd.
Tinley Park, IL 60487
- Executive Director will screen completed application for initial eligibility criteria.
- Once determined to meet all initial criteria, and service provider has been confirmed, application will be forwarded to the Bridge2Hope Grant Review Committee. If additional information is required, the applicant/guardian will be contacted to provide supplemental materials or answer additional questions. Please send additional or supplemental materials to bridge2hope@bridge2hope.com
- Failure of an applicant/guardian to respond to questions from the committee will result in the application being deemed incomplete. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Once the committee has made a grant selection, it will be forwarded to the Board of Directors of Bridge2Hope for final approval.
- Applicants awarded a Bridge2Hope grant will be provided with a contract outlining additional details about the grant. This contract must be signed by the applicant/guardian before any grant funds will be disbursed to the Service Provider.
- All decisions of the Bridge2Hope Grant Review Committee and the Board of Directors of Bridge2Hope are final.

Funding Details:

After a grant is approved and the contract is signed, fund disbursement will be arranged with the Service Provider on a monthly payment schedule for twelve (12) consecutive months. The contract will supply further details of payments.

Grant renewal:

The Bridge2Hope grant is renewable annually if guardian has shown that they are actively securing DHS or alternate funding source for programming, Grantee is fulfilling his/her responsibilities as a grant recipient, and there is Bridge2Hope fund availability. The contract will provide further details regarding grant renewal requirements.