**Northern Star Scouting**

**INNOVATION FUND APPLICATION**

**Overview and Who May Apply:**

* Any individuals or organizations connected to Northern Star Scouting may apply to finance their innovation.
* Designed to encourage creation of programs that respond to youth’s changing needs and interests, with timely responses to requests.

**Guiding Principles**

* Generation, development and implementation of ideas that add value to Scouting.

**Funding Process:**

* Leaders, members, committees, districts units and individuals are encouraged to apply
* Grants have ranged from $300 to $50,000
* Applicants should secure a staff champion and have project reviewed by a related committee
* An Innovation Committee Member will be assigned to help guide the process
* Applications should be submitted one week prior to presentation to committee which meets bi-monthly - in person presentation recommended
* Approved projects will be submitted to Council's Board of Directors for final decision; notification will immediately follow

**Innovation Committee Mission:**

* To encourage, review and evaluate ideas that can help Scouting programs continue to be responsive and relevant, focused on effective ways of fulfilling NSC's mission of positive youth development.

**Council Mission:** We prepare young people to be leaders and individuals of strong character by helping them discover and live by the principles of Scouting.

**Council Vision:** Northern Star Council is a positive influence in the lives of all young people in our communities.

**Council Strategic Plan Pillars - Initiatives**

* Strengthen Core Programs
	+ Attain maximum membership
	+ Evolve programs to fit desires and needs of youth and families
	+ Provide effective support to units and volunteers
* Broaden Impact Beyond the Core
	+ Expand Base Camp Programs
	+ Expand impact of key programs
	+ Evolve impact measurement approach

**Project Name:**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted By:**  \_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Requested:**  \_\_\_\_\_

**Brief Project Description** (75 words or less)**:**

**Please address the following funding criteria:
*(Note - for project requests under $3,000, simply complete questions 1, 2, 3 and 9)***

1. **Impact Level** – *How do you feel this positively impacts Scouting?*
2. **Strategic Fit** *– Describe how this project fits with the Council’s Strategic Plan.
(Full Strategic Plan on our* [*website*](http://www.northernstarbsa.org/our-strategic-plan) *www.northernstarbsa.org/our-strategic-plan)*
3. **Plan/Timeline** – Three parts:
 A. *Describe the implementation plan for this project.
B. Which council committee has reviewed this project and what is their input?
C. Who on the staff will advise this project?*
4. **Leveraging of other resources** *– Describe leverage of new resources (people, materials, location, etc.)*
5. **Targeting of priority populations** *– Describe how this project will help deliver programming to targeted groups.*

(Priority populations include: disadvantaged, underserved by Scouting, youth and families at the entry points of Scouting and our increasingly diverse community)

1. **Sustainability of Idea** – *Will funding lead to sustained program improvements?*  Yes No

Brief Explanation:

1. **Availability of other funds** *- Are there other means of funding?* Yes No

Brief Explanation:

1. **Recurring need for funds** *– Is this a one-time request?* Yes No

Brief Explanation:

1. **Budget -** *List key income and expense items*

**Attach additional pages as necessary.**

**All successful applicants will be required to meet reporting requirements.**