



WORLDWIDE FOUNDATION FOR CREDIT UNIONS

Financial Literacy Grant 2026 — Applicant Instructions

Please read these instructions carefully before completing your application.

About the Grant

Purpose: Support grassroots financial literacy initiatives delivered by credit unions, financial cooperatives and apex organizations worldwide.

Grant amount: USD \$10,000 per award

Who can apply: Credit unions, financial cooperatives and apex organizations. Applications are open globally.

Eligibility

Your organization must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible:

- **Registered credit union, financial cooperative or industry apex organization.**
- **In operation for at least one full year** prior to the application date.
- **Able to implement the project and submit a final report** by June 2027.
- **Able to provide photographic or video documentation** of the project for use in WFCU communications.
- **Not currently in default** on any previous WFCU grant obligation.

What We Fund

Eligible topic areas include, but are not limited to:

- Savings and budgeting workshops for community members
- Youth financial education programs in schools or credit union branches
- Women's financial empowerment initiatives
- Digital and mobile banking literacy campaigns
- Entrepreneurship and microfinance training
- Credit and debt management education
- Retirement and long-term planning

Projects must be implemented between December and May. Projects that have already started or been completed before the grant announcement are not eligible.



How to Complete the Application

The online application is organized into 6 sections (A–F). Work through each in order:

A

Organization Information

Your organization's name, country, year established, contact details, type, total members served, total assets and number of staff.

B

Project Overview

Project title, start and end dates, project type (new / expansion / continuation / pilot), primary topic area and primary target group. You may select multiple topic areas and target groups.

C

Program Design

Number of sessions or events, duration per session, delivery format (in-person / online / hybrid), translation plans, documentation plans, and your organization's prior experience with similar work.

D

Expected Outcomes & Reporting

Projected numbers for communities reached, direct beneficiaries, knowledge improvement (pre/post test), savings accounts opened, referrals to credit union products, and instructors/volunteers trained. Also your data collection method, whether you will use a pre/post test, and your visual documentation plan.

E

Brief Project Description

Three short-answer narrative questions. Maximum 3–5 sentences each: (1) What problem does this project solve? (2) Why is your organization best placed to implement it? (3) How will the project continue after the grant period?

F

Budget Overview

Total program budget, the amount requested from WFCU (up to \$10,000), the amount your organization will self-fund, any other co-funding sources, and a brief description of how WFCU funds will be used.

Section E (narrative) is intentionally short. Reviewers will score your application primarily on the quantitative data in Sections C and D. Strong numbers carry more weight than strong writing.

Budget Guidance

- **The maximum WFCU grant request is USD 10,000.**
- Co-funding from other sources is encouraged but not required.
- All costs must be directly related to project implementation during the grant period.
- Be specific about how WFCU funds will be used — vague descriptions may affect your score.
- Provide realistic figures — over-budgeting or under-budgeting may affect your score.



Reporting Requirements

If awarded, your organization will be required to:

- **Submit a final impact report** by June of the grant year.
- **Provide photographic or video documentation of project activities.**
- **Respond to any follow-up questions from the WFCU review committee.**

Failure to submit a final report will disqualify your organization from future WFCU grant cycles.

Key Dates

Period	Milestone
1 June 2026	Application window open
1 August 2026	Application deadline — no late submissions accepted
15 October	Grant recipients announced (on International Credit Union Day)
November	Grant funds disbursed
December – May	Project implementation
June	Final impact report due

Tips for a Strong Application

- **Lead with numbers.** State how many people you will reach, how many sessions you will run, and how you will measure change.
- **Set ambitious but realistic outcome targets.** Reviewers will assess whether your projected numbers are credible given your budget and timeline.
- **Keep narratives short and factual.** Avoid general statements. Every sentence in Section E should carry specific, verifiable information.
- **Use your budget description wisely.** The Section F field asking how WFCU funds will be used is your chance to show clear, purposeful allocation — make it count.

Questions?

For questions about eligibility, the application process or technical issues, contact:

Alisa Stetsyshyn, WFCU Marketing, Communications and Grant Management Lead

Email: AStetsyshyn@woccu.org

We aim to respond to all enquiries within 3 business days.