3 Questions to Answer for Your Potential Funder

Any time you apply for a grant, make sure you can answer these questions.

1) Why is your project important/relevant?

“My project will teaching more people to practice backyard beekeeping, a skill that makes a positive contribution to our local food systems in a moment of climate change and potential bee colony collapse.”

2) What makes your project important right now?

“Anybody who likes to eat food should be interested in my project because, without bees to pollinate them, crops won’t grow. In a moment when an increasing number of people in the Northeastern US are interested in local food movements, backyard gardens, and DIY/homesteading projects, my beekeeping education program fills a clear need.”

3) Why are you the perfect one to lead this project? (What special skills do you or your team bring to the project that will ensure its success?)

“I have over 30 years of experience as a beekeeper, first as a backyard hobbyist and later, as a professional hivekeeper and educational outreach coordinator for Vermont Honey Co. For the past six years, I have lead the beekeeping demos at the state fair. Before I began working for Vermont Honey in 2008, I spent 20 years as a high school science teacher.

Remember your audience. Make clear how your project fits with the funder’s priorities.

“My beekeeping course supports your first and third priorities, “Local Food Systems” and “Community Skillbuilding.”