Foundation Center’s Subject Terms

Subject terms describe WHAT is being supported and refer to grantmakers’ area(s) of focus, the primary work of the nonprofit, or the program/activity/service being funded. In Foundation Directory Online, the subject terms are included in “Fields of Interest” in Search Grantmakers and “Subjects” in Search Grants.

18 Broad Fields by Subject

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agriculture, fishing and forestry</th>
<th>Agriculture</th>
<th>Human rights</th>
<th>Public safety</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts and culture</td>
<td>Human services</td>
<td>Information and communications</td>
<td>Religion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and economic development</td>
<td>International relations</td>
<td>Philanthropy</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Public affairs</td>
<td>Unknown or not classified</td>
<td>Social sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sports and recreation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Unknown or not classified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Agriculture, fishing and forestry

- Agriculture cooperatives
- Agricultural education
- Farm bureaus and granges

Farmlands

Irrigation and water management

Livestock and ranching

Fishing and aquaculture

Fish farms and hatcheries

Sustainable fishing

Food security

Community food systems

Food sovereignty

Subsistence farming

Sustainable agriculture

- Agrodiversity
- Agroecology
- Genetically modified crops
- Organic farming

Forestry

Non-timber forestry

Sustainable forestry

Arts and culture

- Opera
- Orchestral music
- Vocal music
- Performance art
- Performing arts education
- Spoken word
- Theater
- Musical theater
- Playwriting

Public arts

Visual arts

Architecture

Art conservation

Ceramic arts

Design

Drawing

Painting

Photography

Printmaking

Sculpture

Textile arts

Community and economic development

- Business and industry
- Business promotion
- Construction
- Corporate social responsibility
- Entrepreneurship
- Manufacturing
- Mining and resource extraction
- Real estate
- Social enterprise
- Tourism
- Trade
- Transport and storage
Foundation Center’s Subject Term Authority List

Community improvement
- Community beautification
  - Gardening
  - Landscaping
- Community organizing
- Community service
- Neighborhood associations

Economic development

Employment
- Job benefits
- Job counseling
- Job creation and workforce development
- Job retraining
- Job training
- Organized labor
- Pensions

Rural development

Urban development
- Bicycling and pedestrian-oriented development
- Green building
- Public transportation
- Urban planning
- Urban renewal
- Urban sprawl

Financial services

Anti-predatory lending
Banking
Credit unions
Development finance
- Community development finance
- Microfinance
- Sustainable finance

Financial counseling
Home financing
Insurance
Investment services

Housing development
Foreclosure prevention
Home ownership
Housing loss prevention
Housing rehabilitation
Public housing
Tenants’ organizations

Sustainable development

Education

Adult education
Basic and remedial instruction
- Adult literacy
- Adult numeracy
- High school equivalency

Continuing education
ESL and second language acquisition

Education services
College preparation
Computer literacy
Cooperative education
E-learning
Educational exchanges
Educational software
Educational testing
Out-of-school learning
Parent-teacher involvement
Reading promotion
Student retention
Tutoring

Educational management
Elementary and secondary education
Bilingual education
Charter school education
Child educational development
Early childhood education
Elementary education
Gifted education
Middle school education
Multicultural education
Secondary education
Special needs education
STEM education

Equal opportunity in education
Graduate and professional education
Business education
Law education
Medical education
Social work education
Teacher education

Higher education
Community college education
Undergraduate education
University education

Student services
Alumni relations
Sororities and fraternities

Vocational education
Vocational post-secondary education
Vocational secondary education

Environment

Biodiversity
Forest preservation
- Forest management
- Rainforests
- Reforestation

Plant biodiversity
- Botanical gardens
- Invasive plant species

Wildlife biodiversity
- Aquariums
- Aquatic wildlife protection
- Bird preservation
- Endangered species protection
- Invasive animal species
- Wildlife rehabilitation
- Wildlife sanctuaries
- Zoos

Climate change

Domesticated animals

Animal training

Animal welfare
- Animal adoptions
- Animal population control
- Animal rescue and rehabilitation
- Humane education
- Research on animals
- Vegetarianism

Human-animal interactions

Veterinary medicine

Environmental education

Environmental studies

Nature education
Outdoor education

Environmental justice

Natural resources

Air quality

Energy resources
- Energy efficiency
- Fossil fuels
- Nuclear energy
- Renewable energy

Hazardous waste management
- Radiation control
- Toxic substance control

Land resources
- Deserts
- Grasslands
- Highlands
- Land degradation
- Tundra

Solid waste management
- Composting
- Recycling

Water resources
- Coral reefs
- Groundwater
- Oceans and coastal waters
- Rivers and lakes
Foundation Center’s Subject Term Authority List

- Water conservation
- Water pollution
- Wetlands

Health

Diseases and conditions

Brain and nervous system disorders
- ALS
- Alzheimer's disease
- Autism
- Cerebral palsy
- Epilepsy
- Meningitis
- Multiple sclerosis
- Parkinson's disease
- Spinal cord injuries and diseases

Cancers
- Breast cancer
- Colorectal cancer
- Leukemia
- Lung cancer
- Pancreatic cancer
- Prostate cancer

Digestive system diseases
- Celiac disease
- Crohn's disease and colitis
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Liver diseases

Ear, nose and throat diseases

Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases
- Diabetes
- Malnutrition

Eye diseases

Genetic conditions and birth defects
- Cystic fibrosis
- Down syndrome
- Hemophilia

Heart and circulatory system diseases

Immune system diseases
- HIV/AIDS

Infectious and parasitic diseases
- Cholera
- Ebola
- Malaria
- Tuberculosis

Kidney diseases

Mental and behavioral disorders
- Alcoholism
- Depression
- Learning disorders
- Stress

Musculoskeletal diseases
- Arthritis
- Muscular dystrophy

Respiratory system diseases
- Asthma
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Pneumoniosis

Skin conditions

Health care access

Health care administration and financing
Bioethics
Electronic health records
Health care financing
Health care management
Health insurance
Managed care
Medical counseling
Patient social services
Patient-centered care
Patients’ rights

Health care quality

Holistic medicine

In-patient medical care
Burn care
Community health care
Convalescent care
Hospital care
- Children’s hospital care
- Emergency care
- Intensive care
- Specialty hospital care

Medical specialties

Biomedicine
Cardiology
Dermatology
Diagnostic imaging
Gastroenterology
Genetics
Geriatrics
Hematology
Immunology
Internal medicine
Neurology
Obstetrics and gynecology
Oncology
Ophthalmology
Orthopedics
Pathology
Pediatrics
Pharmacology
Psychiatry
Stem cell therapy
Surgery
- Organ transplantation
- Reconstructive surgery
Urology

Medical support services

Blood banks
Emergency medical services
Home medical equipment
Organ and tissue banks
Pharmacies
Prosthetics

Mental health care

Addiction services
- Eating disorders
- Smoking
- Substance abuse prevention
- Substance abuse treatment

Community mental health care
Crisis intervention
- Sexual assault victim services
- Suicide crisis intervention

Mental health counseling
- Bereavement counseling
- Support groups

Psychiatric care

Residential mental health care
Transitional mental health services

Nursing care

Home health care
Hospice care
Palliative care

Out-patient medical care

Dental care
E-health

Health care clinics
Hearing care
Preventive care
School-based health care
Urgent care
Vision care

Public health

Communicable disease control
Environmental health
Epidemiology

Occupational health
Physical fitness
- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Obesity

Sexually transmitted disease control

Water access, sanitation and hygiene
- Clean water supply
- Hygiene
- Sanitation

Rehabilitation

Animal therapy
Art and music therapy
Physical therapy
Play therapy
Speech and hearing rehabilitation
Reproductive health care
Abortion
Childbirth
Family planning
Maternal and perinatal health
  - Infant care
  - Prenatal care
Sexual education
  - Abstinence-only sex education
  - Comprehensive sex education
Youth pregnancy prevention
Traditional medicine and healing

Human rights
Antidiscrimination
Children’s rights
Disabled persons’ rights
Immigrants’ rights
LGBTQ rights
Minority rights
Prisoners’ rights
Rights of the aged
Women’s rights
Diversity and intergroup relations
Individual liberties
Freedom from slavery
Freedom from violence and torture
Freedom of association and expression
Freedom of religion
Reproductive rights
Right to die
Right to free movement and asylum
Right to life
Right to privacy
Justice rights
Capital punishment
Due process
Social rights
Cultural rights
Economic justice
Environmental and resource rights
Freedom of information
Labor rights
Marriage equality
Traditional marriage
Voter rights

Human services
Basic and emergency aid
Food aid
  - Dining services
  - Food banks
  - Food delivery
Free goods distribution
Gift distribution
Thrift shops
Travelers’ aid
Victim aid
Family services
Adolescent parenting
Adult day care
Child welfare
  - Adoption
  - Child care
  - Child development
  - Foster care
Family counseling
Family disability resources
In-home aid and personal assistance
Parent education
Single parent support
Human services information
Human services management
Job services
Sheltered workshops
Unemployment compensation
Vocational rehabilitation
Personal services
Adult peer mentoring
Cemeteries and burial services
Paratransit
Self-advocacy
Self-help groups
Transition planning
  - Aging out of foster care
  - Benefits planning
Shelter and residential care
Elder housing
  - Nursing homes
  - Retirement housing
  - Senior assisted living
Homeless shelters
Housing services
  - Home accessibility
  - Home repairs
  - Rent and mortgage assistance
  - Utility expense assistance
Supportive housing
  - Domestic violence shelters
  - Group homes
  - Housing for people with disabilities
  - Housing for the homeless
  - Orphanages
  - Transitional living
Temporary accommodations
Special population support
Developmental disability services
Homeless services
Immigrant services
Independent living for people with disabilities
Senior services
Women’s services
Youth development
Agriculture for youth
Civics for youth
Community service for youth
Economics for youth
Religion for youth
Scouting programs
Youth mentoring
  - Adult and child mentoring
  - Intergenerational mentoring
  - Youth peer mentoring
Youth organizing
Youth services

Information and communications
Communication media
Audio recording
Film and video
Mobile media
Publishing
Radio
Television
Web-based media
  - Social media
  - Webcasting
  - Websites
Information communications technology
Computer security
Software applications
  - Assistive software
  - Business applications
  - Cloud computing
  - Content management software
  - Data management software
  - Financial applications
  - Geographic Information Systems
  - Interactive games
  - Media development software
  - Simulation software
  - Web applications
Telecommunications
  - Internet
  - Intranets
  - Mobile communications
  - On-line conferencing
Libraries
Academic libraries
Archives and special collections
  - Digital collections
  - Institutional archives
**Foundation Center's Subject Term Authority List**

### Government libraries
- Media access and policy
- Information and media literacy
- Media democracy
  - Digital divide
  - Internet neutrality
- Media justice

### News and public information
- Journalism
  - Advocacy journalism
  - Citizen journalism
  - Constituency journalism
  - Investigative journalism
  - Photojournalism
- Open data

### International relations
- Democracy and civil society development
- Foreign policy
- Goodwill promotion
- International development
- International economics and trade
- International exchange

### International peace and security
- Arms control
  - Arms trafficking
  - Disarmament
  - Landmines
  - Nuclear non-proliferation
- Conflict resolution

### Multilateral cooperation

### Philanthropy
- Foundations
- Nonprofits
- Philanthropy and public policy
- Venture philanthropy

### Voluntarism

### Public affairs
- Democracy
- Civic participation
- Elections
  - Campaign finance
  - Election regulation
  - Political organizations
  - Voter education and registration
- Public integrity
- Leadership development
- National security
- Bioterrorism

### Public safety
- Abuse prevention
- Bullying
- Child abuse
- Domestic violence
- Elder abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Consumer protection
- Drug safety
- Food safety
- Universal design
- Corrections and penology
- Offender re-entry
- Prison alternatives
- Probation and parole
- Rehabilitation of offenders
- Services for offenders
- Courts
- Dispute resolution
- Family courts
- Juvenile justice
- Crime prevention
- Cybercrime
- Gun control
- Impaired driving
- Law enforcement
  - Community policing
  - Police agencies
- Missing persons
- Narcotics control
- Disasters and emergency management
- Civil protection
- Disaster preparedness

### Disaster reconstruction
- Disaster relief

### Disasters
- Droughts
- Earthquakes
- Extreme temperatures
- Famines
- Floods
- Mass movements
- Non-natural disasters
- Storms
- Tsunamis
- Volcanos
- Wildfires
- Internal resettlement
- Search and rescue

### Fire prevention and control
- Legal services
- Child advocacy
- Guardianship
- Housing law
- Immigration law
- Intellectual property
- Legal aid
- Public interest law

### Safety education
- First aid training
- Home safety
- Poison control
- Traffic safety
  - Automotive safety
  - Bicycle safety
  - Pedestrian safety

### Religion
- Baha'i
- Buddhism
- Christianity
- Catholicism
- Christian Science
- Evangelicalism
- Mormonism
- Orthodox Christianity
- Protestantism
  - Baptist
  - Episcopalianism and Anglicanism
  - Lutheranism
  - Methodism
  - Presbyterianism
- Confucianism

### Hinduism

### Interfaith

### Islam
- Shi'a

© Foundation Center  
For more information visit taxonomy.foundationcenter.org
Sufism
Sunni
Judaism
Conservative Judaism
Orthodox Judaism
Reconstructionist Judaism
Reform Judaism
Shintoism
Sikhism
Spirituality
Theology
Tribal and indigenous religions

Science
Biology
Biochemistry
Botany
Ecology
Genetic research
Human physiology
Molecular biology
Paleontology
Zoology
Engineering
Aerospace engineering
Chemical engineering
Civil engineering
Electrical engineering
Mechanical engineering
Forensic science
Mathematics
Physical and earth sciences
Astronomy
Atmospheric science
Chemistry
Geology
Hydrology
Marine science
Physics
Technology
Assistive technology
Biotechnology
Computer science
Nanotechnology
Robotics
Social sciences
Anthropology
Archaeology
Cultural anthropology
Physical anthropology
Economics
Geography
Interdisciplinary studies
American studies
Ethnic studies
- Black studies
- Indigenous studies
- Latino and Hispanic studies
Gender and sexuality studies
- LBGTQ studies
- Men’s studies
- Women’s studies
Gerontology
International studies
Labor studies
Poverty studies
Rural studies
Urban studies
Law
Paranormal and mystic studies
Political science
Population studies
Psychology and behavioral science
Sociology
Sports and recreation
Community recreation
Camps
Clubs
Festivals
Parks
Playgrounds
Sports
Adaptive sports
American football
Baseball and softball
Basketball
Combat sports
Cycling
Equestrianism
European football
Golf
Gymnastics
Olympics
Outdoor sports
- Fishing and hunting
- Hiking and walking
- Mountain and rock climbing
- Orienteering
Paralympics
Racquet sports
Running
Special Olympics
Sports training
- Intramural sports
- School athletics
Table tennis
Track and field
Volleyball
Water sports
- Boating
- Swimming
Winter sports
- Ice hockey
- Ice skating
- Skiing and snowboarding
- Sledding
Unknown or not classified