Minnesota Microgrant Partnership FAQ

What is the Minnesota Microgrant Partnership?
The Minnesota Microgrant Partnership offers small amounts of money to persons with to achieve their competitive employment, inclusive housing, and community integration goals. The program is administered by The Arc of Minnesota and is funded by the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Who is eligible to apply for a grant?
Minnesota residents with disabilities, age 18 and older are encouraged to apply for funding who are receiving Home and Community Based Services or on an Active Individual Education Plan (IEP level 3 or 4).

How much money is available per application?
Microgrants awards may range from $100 to $1000. Requests above $1,000 may be considered. The maximum award allowed is $2,000.

What are some examples of opportunities that will be considered?
The following list includes only a few examples of opportunities eligible for funding. We expect applicants will have other creative, exciting ideas about how to use funds to overcome financial barriers to their own competitive employment, inclusive housing, and community integration goals.

- Job coaching or training
- Job related uniforms or tools
- Application fees
- Moving expenses
- Home furnishings to establish a safe living space
- Class registration fees
- Membership fees
- Assistive technologies

Are there any opportunities that will not be considered?
Camps, conferences, vacations, and out-of-state travel that is not related to employment, are not eligible for funding through the Minnesota Microgrant Partnership.

What if an applicant needs help completing the application?
Applicants may receive help with the application from a friend, family member or supporter. The Arc regional offices serve as local contacts to assist with application completion.

Who determines if a grant request will be funded?
A review panel, including self-advocates, will review applications to make decisions on which applications receive funding.

How long will it take to find out if a grant is funded?
The award process may take up to 45 days, including a review by Minnesota Department of Human Services for requests over $500.

How will funds be distributed?
Awards that are granted will be paid directly to third party entities such as vendors or landlords. Funds will not be distributed directly to individual grant recipients.

What happens if a request is not granted?
Applicants are encouraged to re-apply if their request is not funded.

May I receive more than one grant?
Applicants may receive one grant per calendar year.

How can an individual apply for a grant?
The fastest way to apply will be online at bitly.com/Apply4MMGP. You can also visit www.arcmn.org. Follow the link to the Microgrant. If required, request a paper application from Susan Sochacki at susans@arcmn.org or 651-604-8056. Response times may be longer for a paper application.

Is there an application deadline?
We expect to accept applications through August 31, 2018. The application may be closed if all funds are dispersed before September 1, 2018.

Who can answer any other questions about the Minnesota Microgrant Partnership?
Contact Wendy Gerlach at wendyg@arcmn.org or 651-604-8070 or Susan Sochacki at susans@arcmn.org or 651-604-8056 with your unanswered questions.