



March 7, 2018

To: AVC Faculty and Staff

RE: Upcoming changes to the AVC Foundation Grants Program

Historically, the AVC Foundation Grants program has been funded by donations made to unrestricted funds. However, there has been a trending decline in the funds donated to unrestricted funds and an increase in donations to restricted funds, such as endowments. (To learn more about what an endowment is and how it works [click here.](#))

Last year, the Antelope Valley Community Students' Endowment was established to become the funding source for future grant requests. The Wine Walk fundraiser event was created specifically for raising funds for this endowment. Last year's event raised enough money to establish the endowment at \$25,000. Thanks to additional donations, including employee payroll deductions, this fund has now reached nearly \$42,000.

In reviewing historical awards, there have been many requests that relied on grant funds to sustain their event or program. There have also been many awards given to faculty or staff that went unused. Over the last 5 academic years, nearly 40% of the funds awarded were not spent by the requestor.

Effective in the 2019 – 2020 school year, all funding for the AVC Foundation Grants program will come from the designated endowment, in the Fall, once per year. The awards will focus on high impact, one-time materials, services, or events. Requests that require recurring funding should be requested from departments' district budgets. Deans and Directors have already been made aware of this change and support discussing funding request within the department 2019-2020 budget.

Since the budgets for the 2018-2019 year have already been requested, we understand that there may be events or programs planned during this year that typically use the AVC Foundation grant funds. We are extending this deadline to spend the Spring 2018 grants to June 1, 2019.

With your support, we look forward to creating a sustainable grant program that will create continuous funding to support the college's needs.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa O'Leary at extension 6055 or loleary@avc.edu.