



Application Process and Criteria for Grant Awards from Porto Charities, Inc.

1. Porto Charities, Inc. awards grants to Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia for activities consistent with its mission.

The **Mission of Porto Charities** is to provide children with special needs the opportunity for inclusive Catholic education, and adults with special needs, assistance with meaningful employment in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington:
2. The process is competitive, and awards are given for a one-year period. Applications may be submitted no later than March 1, 2021. Decisions will be made by the Board of Directors of Porto Charities, Inc. The applicant must submit its request on the application form provided by Porto Charities shown appearing on the Porto Charities, Inc. website: Portocharities.org
3. The Board will consider factors such as, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. The school's background and experience in providing services to students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities;
 - b. The school's ability; financial, expertise and skills to successfully execute its program;
 - c. A detailed description of the use of the funds and justification;
 - d. The number of individuals with special needs currently being served by the program and growth potential, or, for new programs, the number of individuals to be served at opening and the number planned over time;
 - e. The impact that the Porto Charities' grant will have on the program's ability to successfully execute its proposal;
 - f. The ability of the organization and its program to become self-sustaining and financially independent;
 - g. After this transition year, meetings or presentations by applicants to the Board or its members would be expected.
 - h. The following additional criteria will also be required:
 - The school's desire to enroll students with special needs who would otherwise not be able to attend without professional support.
 - The school's commitment to adopting a philosophy of inclusive education.
 - The school's commitment to hiring a credentialed special educator with experience in educating students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

- The school's commitment to communicate information provided by Porto Charities on its events, fundraisers and news to parents and school staff, and strongly encourage participation by parents in the mission, fundraising and activities of Porto Charities.

4. We welcome all applicants to support the mission of Porto Charities.
5. Grants will require the approval by a majority of the members of the Board of Porto Charities, Inc. and its affiliate, Porto 104 of the International Order of Alhambra.