

13 Free Nonprofit Budget Templates You Should Try

Published May 30th, 2017 by [Nick Morpus](#) in [Nonprofit Technology](#)

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There are lots of things I despise but understand the need for, like rain, politicians, and worst of all... spreadsheets. There are few things that come to mind that bore me as much as the thought of sitting in front of a computer screen, staring at a spreadsheet.

While I view spreadsheets as evil (some will disagree with me), they are a necessary evil for banks, many businesses, and, in this case, nonprofits. Spreadsheets are important for your nonprofit, especially when compiling budgets for fundraising, [nonprofit software](#) purchases, charity/learning programs, and [grant proposals](#).

Free budget templates

Budgets help keep your nonprofit organization's financials on track, and to help you create those budgets, I have compiled a list of templates from five different sources. Here are thirteen free nonprofit budget templates your organization should try.

1. The Wallace Foundation

- [Program-Based Budget Builder](#)

This Excel template will help you build your nonprofit's program budget, including revenue sources, personnel expenses (whether direct or indirect), and non-personnel expenses.

The Wallace Foundation also includes a thirty-minute step-by-step instructional video to teach you how to use the tool:

- [Cash Flow Projections Template](#)

The Wallace Foundation built this budgeting template for nonprofits looking to monitor their cash-flow. This budget template will help you project your cash-flows and plan out expenses for the future.

Similar to the program budget template, The Wallace Foundation offers a twenty-minute instructional video so users can learn the ins-and-outs of this tool:

2. Nonprofit Works

- [Line-Item Budget](#)

This budget is used for grant proposals and other project funding causes rather than general budgets, making it perfect for laying out the expenses of a single project or program.

- [Multiple-Program Budget](#)

If you need a more general budgeting tool, this multiple-program budget template will help you build a framework for your overall program spending for the year. This template can be great for assessing your overall general budget.

3. SampleTemplates.com

Sample Templates offers multiple templates and guides on nonprofit budgeting. All download links are available at the source in PDF and Excel format:

[Nonprofit Budget Templates](#)

- **Annual Nonprofit Budget:** This template will help you schedule out your annual expenses and income for your nonprofit.
- **Basic Nonprofit Budget:** This simplified budget template is perfect for building an overall budget, especially when compiling the expenses and incomes of individual programs.
- **Nonprofit Startup Budget:** Finally, this budget template is just what your nonprofit needs when starting out. If you're proposing your initial budget when applying to your first grants or for early startup funding, this is a great option.

4. GlobalGiving Foundation

- [Do-It-Yourself: Nonprofit Budget Template](#)

This colorful nonprofit budget template from the GlobalGiving Foundation covers all aspects of your potential general budgeting needs. The template includes fields for projected income (gifts, grants, membership fees, and income from fundraising events and investments) as well as planned expenses (overhead, program expenses, fundraising expenses, and supplies).

In order to access this template, you will have to provide GlobalGiving with your email address. A small price to pay for a useful tool.

5. Template.net

Lastly, Template.net offers a lengthy list of useful nonprofit budgeting templates, some are similar to previously listed resources, while others are new to this list. Just like Sample Templates, all links are provided at the source in PDF format:

Nonprofit Budget Templates

- **Nonprofit Development Budget:** This template is useful for fundraising departments that have grown big enough to warrant their own separate budget report. It includes fields for employee expenses, client expenses, utilities, facilities, vehicles, and office expenditures.
- **Nonprofit Fundraising Budget:** Before your fundraising department is accounted for, it is best to budget out all fundraising activities or fundraisers with this budgeting tool. This template includes fundraising events, individual campaigns, and acquisition fields.
- **Nonprofit Grant Budget:** Say you're looking to fundraise through grants, but all grant proposals must have all program expenses accounted for. This grant budget template is great for organizing current and future spending for new projects so that grant writers get a grasp on what it is they intend to fund.
- **Nonprofit Project Budget:** Your project finally has funding, but now you need to allocate that funding properly. Use this template to organize all individual project spending down to the last penny.
- **Nonprofit Business Plan Budget:** This last template is used by [newly formed nonprofits](#) when drafting up their business plans and amending those plans in the future. It includes revenue and spending from the current and previous years of operation.

Source: <https://blog.capterra.com/13-free-nonprofit-budget-templates-you-should-try/>