



## What is Binc?

- Binc (Book Industry Charitable Foundation) helps members of the book industry: bookstore owners, booksellers, comic shop owners and employees, with unforeseen emergency financial needs.
  - Since 1996, Binc has helped nearly 10,000 booksellers, comic shop employees, and bookstore and comic shop owners, distributing more than \$11 million in emergency financial assistance.

## What does Binc do?

- Awards grants for situations of personal financial hardship. *Average grant is \$2,100.*
- Offers Matching Grants of up to \$2,000 to help with a variety of financial emergencies.
- Gives professional development scholarships: *Winter Institute, Children's Institute, BookExpo, regional IBA conferences, etc.*

## What are examples of "Financial Hardship"?

- Serious medical expenses
  - *Ex.: High deductibles that make it hard to meet other monthly expenses, expensive medications, transportation and housing costs related to treatment*
- Loss of household income
  - *Ex.: A spouse or partner leaves and rent assistance is needed temporarily until a new housing situation can be arranged, a bookseller breaks a leg and cannot work for several weeks, a spouse loses a job involuntarily and assistance is needed with monthly bills while a new job is found, a bookseller or comic shop employee must cut back hours and work part-time to care for child or parent.*
- Domestic abuse
  - *Ex.: A bookseller, comic shop employee, or comic/bookstore owner needs assistance with fees associated with finding new housing and transportation after leaving a situation of domestic abuse.*
- Utility Shut Off
  - *Ex.: Assistance for a book industry store employee who has received a utility shut-off notice*
- Disaster
  - *Ex.: A bookstore is flooded and closed for three days; hourly booksellers lose over 50% of their weekly income and cannot meet their essential household expenses.*

## Other Typical Questions

- **Who will know my information?** All applications and inquiries are completely confidential.
- **Do I have to pay the money back?** **NO**. Financial assistance and scholarships are grants, not loans. They do not have to be paid back.
- **Why does Binc give these grants?** Often an unforeseen setback can derail a life. Binc's philosophy is to help booksellers, comic shop employees, and comic/bookstore owners so that they can keep doing the work they love.
- **Where does the money come from?** Binc is funded by individuals and companies in the book industry – from booksellers to industry leaders. Ongoing fundraising is essential to ensure there will be funds for all. If you want to donate, volunteer or learn more, visit [bincfoundation.org](http://bincfoundation.org).

## How to Apply/Inquire About Assistance/Find Out More

- Encourage any interested bookseller, bookstore owners, comic shop employee or owner to contact Binc with questions: **866-733-9064**, or mail to [info@bincfoundation.org](mailto:info@bincfoundation.org).
- Include information about Binc in new employee paperwork and in routine store meetings.
- Resources and Inquiry Form can be found on Binc's website: [bincfoundation.org/](http://bincfoundation.org/)
- Contact Binc for posters/flyers/bookmarks to post in bookstores and comic shops and pass along to all employees.
- Share Binc's social media posts so help available is top of mind when it is needed.