



Youth Sports Grants – FAQ

What is the N.C. Youth Outdoor Engagement Commission’s Youth Sports Grant?

The N.C. Youth Outdoor Engagement Commission provides funding for nonprofessional youth sporting teams to compete at in-state or out-of-state events and funding for organizations to host nonprofessional youth events.

What organizations are eligible to apply for a Youth Sports Grant?

Eligible organizations must qualify as either a North Carolina city, county, or local school administrative unit or nonprofit organization as follows:

A. **North Carolina City/County Government Unit or Pre-K-12 School:**

A city/county administrative unit (e.g., parks and recreation departments) or Pre-K-12 public, private, or charter school (including preschools, elementary, middle, and secondary schools) based in North Carolina.

B. **Nonprofit Organization**

A nonprofit organization with tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Organizations must have the ability to adopt the Commission’s branding as part of their grant; this includes promoting the Commission as a sponsor in any marketing materials.

C. **Other Applicants**

Organizations that do not meet the eligibility requirements of category A or B may still apply if they are working in partnership with an eligible party. For example: Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Sports Commissions, Local Organizing Committees, and Parent Teacher Associations, etc. may apply on behalf of an eligible organization if they are working in partnership and the application is signed by both parties.

Who can fill out the application?

Any staff member of a city/county government unit, Pre-K-12 school, or 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization may apply for a Youth Sports Grant. If two organizations are working in partnership, the application must be signed by both parties.

What are the funding guidelines for Youth Sports Grants?

Grant awards are dependent upon the type of Youth Sports Grant that is being applied for:

A. **Travel Funding:**

Up to \$5,000 for travel costs associated with established nonprofessional sporting teams/groups competing in in-state or out-of-state team-based athletic competitions. Travel funding may include gas, charter bus costs, hotel accommodation, etc.

B. **Host Funding:**

Up to \$25,000 to attract State, regional, area, and national sporting events, tournaments, and programs for nonprofessional sporting participants in programs administered by city, county, and local school administrative units, or appropriate 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organizations. Host funding requests may include bid/event rights fees and costs for sports equipment, venues, administration, structures

(permanent and temporary), marketing, etc. Applicants may contact GoOutside@nc.gov to check if a request can be funded.

What do you mean by established nonprofessional sporting teams/groups?

Nonprofessional teams/groups that have a history of competition.

When is the grant submission period?

There is no application deadline. Youth Sports Grant applications are accepted on a rolling basis and awarded throughout the year, as funds allow.

How soon should I apply to ensure I receive funding in time?

To receive funding in time, applications should be submitted at least 6 weeks from the date of your event. If you are applying for travel funding and your event date is under 6 weeks, contact GoOutside@nc.gov to see if we can work with your timeline.

When are grant funds made available?

Grant awards will be sent directly to the recipient school system or nonprofit organization within 45 days of the proposed event. If you need to make deposits ahead of 45 days out, ensure you have detailed this in your application.

Where do I go to apply?

Youth Sports Grant applications for Host Funding and Travel Funding can be found [HERE](#). Applications are to be submitted to GoOutside@nc.gov, faxed to 919-707-0148 or mailed in (the mailing address can be found on the application).

Can I reapply for a Youth Sports Grant?

Applicants seeking travel funding are eligible to receive one Youth Sports Grant per sporting team/group per year. Once a sporting team/group or county has been awarded the annual maximum of \$5,000, applications will no longer be accepted for that sporting team/group or county until the following year. To check whether your county has reached its annual \$5,000 award cap, visit the Youth Sports Grant webpage found [HERE](#).

Applicants seeking host funding may reapply. During the review process consideration is given to fund geographically diverse projects, so repeat applications or multiple applications from the same county may be rejected or held for future review.

When will I find out the status of my grant?

The grant review process may take up to 6 weeks. Typically grant recipients will be notified of the status of their application within 6 weeks of submission. Exceptions may occur for travel funding applications with short notice of their event date, or for grant applications that require the submission of additional documentation or further review.

What kind of documentation am I required to submit for expense reporting?

Within 30 days of the completion of your event you are required to submit proof of payment and photographs. You can view and download a reporting checklist [HERE](#). The following documentation is required:

A. **Proof of Payment**

For each purchase we require two forms of proof of payment, to include a copy of a check stub and/or account transaction summary AND a receipt, invoice, or purchase order.

B. Photographs

Recipients must submit digital photographs of youth participating in the event, that we may use on our website, social media, and in our print and other materials.

What if I'm awarded a Youth Sports Grant but I need to make a change to the grant?

Grant awards must fund the purchases and costs listed in an approved application. If you need to make a change to your grant, you must first complete and submit an Amendment Form, found [HERE](#), and email it to GoOutside@nc.gov. Please note that an amendment request must be approved by the Commission before grant awards can be spent.

What if we were awarded a Youth Sports Grant but the original applicant has left the school/organization?

If you wish to use the grant for its intended purpose, you must first complete and submit an Amendment Form designating a new lead contact. The Amendment Form can be downloaded [HERE](#), then emailed to GoOutside@nc.gov. Please note that an amendment request must be approved by the Commission before grant awards can be spent.

What if there are funds leftover?

Leftover grant funds must be returned to the Commission within 30 days of grant completion. Checks can be mailed to:

N.C. Youth Outdoor Engagement Commission
1715 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1715