

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Laureus USA Funding Opportunity in Illinois

General Overview

Funding Opportunity

Laureus USA is pleased to announce a \$4,000,000 funding opportunity for sports-based youth development organizations operating in the state of Illinois. This program is funded by the American Recue Plan Act through Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority's (ICJIA).

Eligibility

Laureus USA funds non-profit sport-based youth development organizations that intentionally address a particular and relevant social issue facing youth, while increasing physical activity and enhancing social-emotional development. This grant opportunity will focus on organizations creating impact in the following two ways:

1. Organizations working on violence prevention and intervention services/ focused on creating access to safe spaces, building protective factors for youth through positive relationships, and developing transferrable life skills/competencies
2. Organizations with expertise in providing training and technical assistance (TA) on sports-based youth development program quality, healing-centered coaching/programming, and/or restorative justice practices and implementation

Organizations can only submit one application for this funding opportunity and must choose between the two eligibility pathways.

Organizations must meet the following criteria to be considered for funding:

- Provide direct-service sports programming for youth or provide training or TA to organizations as described above
- Have an active 501(c)3 status and EIN #
- Operate in, serving youth from, or planning to serve youth from within the state of Illinois
- Have a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) or Unique Entity ID (UEI) number
- Be registered with the System for Award Management (SAM)

Organizations that meet the following criteria will be prioritized for funding:

- Operate in an R3 Zone. R3 Zones were identified via an analysis of community-level data on gun injury, child poverty, unemployment, and state prison commitments and returns. Organizations from these areas will be prioritized for meeting the intended impact of this program to expand equity of access in youth sports and impact levels of youth violence.
- Intentionally prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion in recruiting, hiring, and engaging program staff/ participants
- Demonstrate a sustainable organizational structure

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- Demonstrate commitment to leadership and resource development in the field of sport for development

We do not fund:

- Organizations that do not emphasize positive youth development through their programming
- Other foundations or intermediaries that do not provide direct sports-based youth development programming or training
- Pay to play organizations such as for-profit youth sports leagues
- Projects focused on training for elite-level athletic achievement
- Government Agencies (Including Parks, Schools and/or scholastic sports leagues)

Important Dates

Task	Date
Request for Proposals (RFP) Opens	August 19 th
RFP Informational Webinars	August 24 th and 30th
Applications Due	September 19th
Applicants Notified	September 30th
Contracts Signed	November 1st
Estimated Period of Performance	October 1 st , 2022– June 30 th , 2023

[To register for the RFP Webinar on Wednesday, August 24th from 9-10am CT, click here.](#)

[To register for the RFP Webinar on Tuesday, August 30th from 9-10am CT, click here.](#)

In addition to the RFP Informational Webinars, Laureus USA will host weekly webinars on Wednesdays from 11-12pm CT for organizations that have questions in completing their application. Organizations can join each meeting at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83080831789>

- Wednesday, 8/31: Obtaining a Unique Identity Number and Registering in SAM.gov
- Wednesday, 9/7: Creating Your Grant Budget and Filling in the Standard Template
- Wednesday, 9/13: General Q&A / Grantee Assistance

All webinars will be recorded and posted to our website: <http://laureususa.com>

Grant Amounts

Direct Service Organizations

Direct Service Organizations can apply for \$50,000, \$100,000, or \$200,000 to support specific projects or programs that their organization delivers. We expect the vast majority of these grants to be made at the \$100,000 level.

These grants are distributed through monthly reimbursement (rather than a single grant payment).
Reimbursement should be expected 2-4 weeks after expenses are submitted. The entire grant budget

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must be spent between October 1st, 2022 and June 30th, 2023. Any funds that are not spent will be reallocated or returned to ICJIA.

While organizational budget is only one indicator of readiness, our general recommendation is for organizations to follow the guidance below.

- Organizational Budget <\$200,000 – Apply for \$50,000 funding
- Organizational Budget \$200,000 - \$1,500,000 – Apply for \$100,000 funding
- Organizational Budget >\$1,500,000 -- Apply for \$100,000 or \$200,000 funding (understanding that \$200,000 will be much more competitive due to fewer grants)

Training Organizations

Training organizations can apply for \$50,000 or \$100,000 to support specific training projects or programs.

These grants are distributed through monthly reimbursement (rather than a single grant payment).
Reimbursement should be expected 2-4 weeks after expenses are submitted. The entire grant budget must be spent between October 1st, 2022 and June 30th, 2023. Any funds that are not spent will be reallocated or returned to ICJIA.

**Note that there is no match requirement for either type of grant award.*

Application

We will begin accepting applications on **Friday, August 19th at 8am** and will accept applications until **Monday, September 19th at 11:59pm**. Late submissions or submissions made outside of the provided link will not be accepted under any circumstance.

- [Apply as a Direct-Service Applicant Here](#) (Organization that works directly with youth)
- [Apply as a Training Applicant Here](#)

Successful applicants will:

- Highlight their work in violence prevention and intervention
- Demonstrate basic standards in the areas of child protection, governance, monitoring and evaluation, partnership, and financial stewardship
- Demonstrate a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion across internal practices (leadership, staffing, and governance) as well as in programming and community engagement
- Commit to implementing the [Hello Insight](#) check-in tool once during the grant year (or supply description of how outcomes will be measured using a different tool)

In accordance with ICJIA's policies and procedures, organizations will be selected purely based on their application and rubric scores.

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Questions, Debrief, and Appeal Process

Questions – Organizations may submit questions via email to Ben Schornack at ben.schornack@laureus.com until Thursday, September 15th at 5pm. All questions and answers will be posted on [this FAQ Google Document](#).

Debrief – Applicants who do not receive funding may request a debriefing for feedback to improve future applications. Debriefings include written advice on the strengths and weaknesses of applications using the evaluation and review criteria. Requests for debriefings must be made via email to Ben Schornack at ben.schornack@laureus.com and submitted within seven calendar days after notice of declination. The written debriefing requests shall include:

- The name and address of the requesting party
- Identification of grant program
- Reasons for the debrief request

Appeal – Unsuccessful applicants may request a formal appeal of the evaluation process. Evaluation scores and funding decisions may not be contested and will not be considered – this is only to appeal the process itself. The appeal must be submitted via email to Ben Schornack at ben.schornack@laureus.com within 14 days after notice of declination. The appeal must include the following:

- Statement indicating request for formal appeal
- Name and address of appealing party
- Identification of the grant program
- Statement for reason of appeal

Once the appeal is received, Laureus will acknowledge receipt within 14 days and will respond to the appeal, in writing, within 60 days by including:

- Review of the appeal
- Appeal determination
- Rationale for the determination
- Standard description of the appeal review process/criteria

About Laureus USA

Laureus USA works to change the lives of youth and empower communities through the power of sport. We are a part of the global network of Laureus Foundations using sport to tackle violence, discrimination, and disadvantage.

About Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA)

Created in 1983, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) is a state agency dedicated to improving the administration of criminal justice. ICJIA works to ensure the criminal justice system in Illinois is efficient, effective, and equitable.