



## **US Lacrosse BRIDGE Grant**

### **What is the purpose for the BRIDGE Grant?**

US Lacrosse awards the BRIDGE Grant to lacrosse programs that support youth lacrosse in low-income communities through lacrosse and education programs designed to improve health, build character and strive for academic excellence. The grant is intended to serve and give special emphasis to those groups or communities that demonstrate strong financial need.

### **Who is eligible to apply for a grant?**

*Programs Must:*

- Provide lacrosse programming for youth ages 19 and under, with life skills enrichment (Examples: tutoring, mentorship, college guidance, character education etc.)
- Demonstrate financial need or hardship.\*
- Deliver a minimum 8-week lacrosse program with preference given to organizations working consistently with youth throughout the year.
- Commit to growing the game effectively and responsibly using US Lacrosse national standards and best practices.

### **The grant may provide financial support for the following purposes:**

- Athletic equipment
- Supplies
- Facility rental
- League/tournament fees
- Travel
- Camps or clinics
- Academic Support
- Coaches training
- Scholarship



### **What is the amount of the grant?**

There are grants available for up to \$5,000 for an awarded organization. Grants are awarded on an annual basis. Awardees must re-apply the following year for re-consideration.

*\*Examples of low-income or financial hardships:*

- High percentages of participants utilize the National Free and Reduced Lunch Program
- Evidence of extreme community physical and/or emotional conditions that will lead to extreme hardship
- High percentage of one income or low-income families
- Unforeseen circumstances
- High percentage of participants meet the National Poverty Standards
- Homeless or transient present.

### **US Lacrosse is particularly interested in:**

- Organizations providing opportunities for ongoing lacrosse participation.
- Organizations whose activities provide direct services to individuals and produce tangible results, rather than those that are policy oriented.
- The potential impact of the program/project and the number of people who will benefit.
- The organization's fiscal responsibility and management qualifications.
- The ability of an organization to obtain the necessary additional funding to implement a program or project and to provide ongoing funding after the term of the grant has expired.
- Programs that conduct necessary outcome and metrics data at two or more time intervals throughout the year.
- Programs that provide long-term play opportunities beyond elementary school.
- Nonprofit organizations with a 501(c)(3) designation.

### **US Lacrosse will not accept:**

- Organizations that unlawfully discriminate as to race, religion, income, gender, disability or national origin.
- Applications that are incomplete or late.
- Applications requesting funding towards the purchase of land, construction of buildings or event sponsorships.
- Applications requesting funding for costs associated with capital projects.
- Applications requesting funding for costs associated with building or resurfacing of fields.
- Applications requesting funding towards non-playing/participation equipment (for example, public address systems, banners, trophies, videos, sunshades, carpet/limo, clubroom items, wicket covers, GPS).

**Awardee Grant Requirements:**

- Demonstrate a continuous dedication to providing opportunities for active lacrosse participation in diverse communities.
- Program must demonstrate the impact of the program and the number of people who receive direct benefit from their services.
- Commit to growing the game effectively and responsibly using US Lacrosse national standards and best practices.
- Organization must demonstrate organization's fiscal responsibility and the ability of an organization to obtain ongoing funding and sustainability.
- Provide program statistics, photos and updates upon request.
- Serve as informational reference or representative for the grant when called upon by US Lacrosse and Diversity Grant Selection Task Force.
- Complete USL surveys and Grant Accountability Forms upon request.
- Provide program statistics, photos and updates upon request.

**What are the deadlines and other relevant dates?**

All grant applications must be completed online. Deadlines and other important dates are stated on the National Diversity Grant Program page

(<http://www.uslacrosse.org/diversity-inclusion/diversity-inclusion-national-grant-program>)