

New York Life Foundation

Aim High Grants: FAQ

Q: How many grants will be given?

- 4 grants of \$50,000/year, for a total 2-year grant amount of \$100,000.
- 4 grants of \$25,000/year, for a total 2-year grant amount of \$50,000.
- 10 1-year grants of \$15,000.

Q: Are nonprofit organizations that are not 501(c)3 eligible to apply?

- **No**, only 501(c)3 organizations are eligible to apply.

Q: Are schools and/or school districts eligible to apply?

- Only if they are registered 501(c)3 organizations.

Q: Can 501(c)3 organizations serve as a fiduciary agent for programs run by organizations that are not 501(c)3?

- **No**, the 501(c)3 organizations must be the program provider.

Q: What is the geographic scope of the grants?

- Applicants will be accepted from anywhere within the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Applicants from U.S. Territories, such as Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, are ineligible to apply.

Q: Can I get a recording of this webinar?

- **Yes**, the webinar was recorded and is available on the Afterschool Alliance's webinars page at <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/webinars.cfm>.

Q: Are there any exceptions to the organizational budget requirements?

- **No**, to be eligible for any of the grants your organization's most recent organizational operating budget must meet the minimum requirement for that specific grant tier.

Q: Is it the program budget or the organizational budget that will need to meet the budget requirement? And what particular budget will be used to determine this eligibility?

- It is the **full organization's operating budget from the most recent fiscal year** that determines eligibility. For most organizations this will be the final FY16 budget. Programs do not need to meet any particular budget requirements to be eligible.

Q: Is there any maximum budget limit that would make organizations ineligible for these grant opportunities?

- **No**, there is no maximum budget that would render organizations ineligible.

Q: Are 501(c)3 organizations that provide supports to middle school youth—but do not directly provide program services in out-of-school time settings—eligible to apply?

- **No**, only programs that are direct providers of out-of-school programming are eligible to apply.

Q: If an organization runs multiple programs—some of which meet the low-income requirement and some of which do not—are they eligible to apply? If so, should only the program sites that meet this requirement be included in the application?

- **Yes**, and **yes**.

Q: The Request for Proposals say that organizations that currently receive funding from the New York Life Foundation—either directly or indirectly—are ineligible to apply. Are there any exceptions?

- **Yes**, there are two exceptions:
 1. Organizations that receive funding from the New York Life Foundation through the Volunteers for Good program are eligible to apply for the Aim High grants.
 2. Organizations that receive funding through the New York Life Foundation’s program that matches New York Life employees’ donations are also eligible to apply for the Aim High grants.

Q: Can organizations submit applications for both the 1-year and 2-year grants?

- **No**, organizations must choose a single grant tier for which to apply.

Q: Can multiple programs or program sites from the same organization submit applications separately?

- **No**, each organization can only submit one application. However, if an applicant is an affiliate of a national organization, more than one affiliate is able to apply for funding so long as the affiliate is currently not receiving grant funds from the New York Life Foundation.

Q: Can programs that do not currently meet the 75% low-income eligibility requirement apply if they use the funds to serve a population that meets the 75% low-income requirement?

- The answer to this is complicated. If the applying program does not meet the 75% FRPL standard, it may still be eligible **if and only if** it meets the following requirements:
 1. The program must **currently serve** at least 50% low-income youth; and
 2. The grant funds, if awarded, must be used to either **A)** expand the current program such that it will ultimately serve, **in total**, a population that is at least 75% low-income; or **B)** help create a **new program** that will ultimately meet the 75% low-income requirement.

We have received questions as to whether programs are eligible if 75% of the **beneficiaries** would be low-income

youth. Unfortunately, **if a program does not meet the requirements of either option A or option B above, the program would remain ineligible.**

Lastly, were you to apply using this exception, you would need to provide a **detailed plan** within the “Additional Information” section (Section J for the 2-year grant application, Section I for the 1-year grant application) as to how you plan to track and reach this new low-income population.

It should be noted that if you do meet the requirements listed in the second bullet above, you will still need to answer “Yes” to question A4, even though it would technically be untrue; due to the finalized survey logic, answering question A4 with a “no” will cause the survey system to reject your application.

Q: Can Aim High grant funds be used for capital improvements?

- **No**, capital improvements do not fall within the grant program’s acceptable uses.

Q: Are programs that only serve youth during the school year or only serve youth during the summer eligible to apply?

- Yes, programs that currently only operate during the school year or during the summer are eligible to apply. Furthermore, expanding programs to offer year-round services is one of the acceptable uses for Aim High grant funds.

Q: Are 501(c)3 organizations allowed to act as fiscal agents for direct service providers that are not registered 501(c)3 organizations in applying for this grant?

- **Maybe.** 501(c)3 organizations are allowed to act as fiscal agents for non-501(c)3 program providers **if and only if** that fiscal agent was originally established and currently operates solely to support the particular organization that is the recipient of the grant.

Q: Are indirect costs allowed to be billed to the Aim High grants, and, if so, what is an allowable indirect cost ratio for the project budget?

- **Yes**, indirect costs may be included in your Aim High project budget proposals. The Foundation will allow the inclusion of indirect costs of between 10% and 15% of the total grant budget.