COVID Relief Grants for After School and Student Enrichment Programs

The State of Alabama will offer grants in an amount up to $30,000 for After School and Enrichment Programs that meet eligibility requirements. Total approved disbursements will be awarded to eligible applicants. The Alabama After School and Enrichment Programs Grants are to are to support organizations that provide afterschool and educations enrichment programs with their Covid-related expenses in addressing learning loss and social engagement gaps caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The application process for this grant program is being administered by the Alabama Department of Finance. This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number SLFRP2635 awarded to the State of Alabama by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

The application period for the Alabama After School and Enrichment Programs Grants will be open from noon Friday, September 8, 2023 through noon Friday September 22, 2023.

Eligible applicants for this grant program are After School and Enrichment Programs which have Tax Identification Number's separate from the local government entity (County, City or Town) and/or local education organizations (County or City Schools Boards).

COVID-19 Recovery Grant Program Website: https://alabama.submittable.com/submit

For questions, please contact the Coronavirus Recovery Funds Office at (334) 353-2749 or submissions@finance.alabama.gov. Please include "After-School and Student Enrichment Programs Grants" in the subject line of the email.

Frequently Asked Questions

General

- **What is the Alabama After School and Student Enrichment Programs Grant Program?**

This program is an initiative of Governor Kay Ivey and the Alabama Legislature to provide support to Alabama's After School and Student Enrichment Programs that have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. U.S. Treasury guidance allows the State to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars for qualified expenditures. Therefore, the State of Alabama will offer grants in an amount up to $10,320 for providers that meet eligibility requirements. More information about the grant application process and eligibility requirements is included in the responses to "Frequently Asked Questions" below and on the Alabama Fiscal Recovery Fund website at https://frf.alabama.gov/.

- **Where did the funding come from?**

    The Alabama Legislature appropriated $55,000,000 from Alabama's ARPA State Fiscal Recovery Fund to provide assistance to local community organizations which support Alabama's children. $4.5 million of these funds will be distributed to Alabama's After School and Student Enrichment Programs as grants up to $30,000.

- **Is there any cost to me associated with the grant?**

No.

- **What is the timeline of the application?**

Friday, September 8, 2023 through Friday September 22, 2023

Starting at noon on Friday, September 8, 2023, eligible organizations may submit an application through the Department of Finance's Submittable Online Portal. The application period closes at noon on Friday, September 22, 2023.

Please note that, if your organization participated in any Alabama CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund programs, you will be able to use those credentials to log into the portal.

- **What is the deadline to complete the application?**

On Friday, September 22, 2023, at noon.

- **How many providers will receive the funds?**

Grants will be awarded to eligible after school and student enrichment programs across the State of Alabama on a first come, first served basis.

- **What type of Expenses are not permissible uses of this grant award?**

This grant award is to be utilized to support the provision of after school and student enrichments programs. The Funds may not be used for the following:

  - *To offset a reduction in net tax revenue;*
  - *For deposit into pension funds;*
  - *For debt service or replenishing financial reserves;*
  - *For satisfaction of settlements or judgments;*
  - *Or, any project or use that conflicts or contravenes the purpose of the American Rescue Plan Act*

- **How will I be notified about the status of my application?**

To find out the status of your application, please log into your online portal.

- **Is there a way for me to know that my application was successfully submitted?**

You will receive an email confirmation letting you know your application has been submitted. You may also log into your online portal.

- **Who can I contact to follow up with my application?**

Please log into your online portal to find the status of your application.

Eligibility

- **Who is eligible to apply? Eligible applicants include:**

  Eligible applicants for this grant program are After School and Enrichment Programs which have Tax Identification Number's separate from the local government entity (County, City or Town) and/or local education organizations (County or City Schools Boards).

  Ineligible Applicants include:

  After school or student enrichment programs operating under the Tax Identification Number of a City or County.

- **Are there eligibility requirements?**

  Yes, the program must verify that it was operational as of March 11, 2021 and continues to be operational as of the date of the application.

- **Are After School and Student Enrichment Programs that are located out of the State of Alabama eligible to apply?**

  No.

- ***Can I apply more than once for the same Program location?***

  No. Each program can only apply for and receive one grant award through this program.

Application Process

- **What information do I need to have to complete my application?**

  You will need contact information for the program organization, including the EIN, copy of an updated W-9, a copy of a voided check or bank memo, and any other supporting documentation that may be deemed necessary for award. You will also need to upload a one-page description of the program and how the applicant intends to utilize an award including, but not limited to, covid mitigation expenses, addressing learning loss or social emotive loss of school aged children due to Covid-19, mental health resources for program participants, and other educational enrichment resources.

- **Will I have the option to save my application to make any changes and submit later or will I be required to complete the application in one setting?**

  You may save your application and come back to it at a later date (prior to application deadline) using your online portal credentials.

- **Can the application be changed after it has been submitted?**

  No. Once the application has been submitted, you will not be able to make any changes.

- **Can I resubmit my application if I fail to submit supporting documentation with my application?**

  Only one application per program will be accepted. If you omit information, your After School and Enrichment Programs may be contacted as the application is processed and allowed to submit supporting documentation as required for the program.

- **Can I submit my application via regular mail or email?**

  No. Currently, the program is only accepting applications through Submittable [Online Portal](.).

- **If I received notice that my application needs more information, how long do I have to correct it?**

  Once correspondence is sent to correct an application for more information, the form will be open for edit and the applicant has 48 hours to complete the required updates. If the application has not been updated at that time, the application will be reviewed as is and may not be eligible for payment.

Payment Information

- **How will I receive my funds (by check or direct deposit)?**

  Grant funds will be disbursed by direct deposit using the bank information provided on the application. To help ensure that payments are properly distributed, bank information submitted with an application will be subject to review prior to the distribution of funds. To avoid delays in the disbursement of grant funds, applicants must provide bank account information for a depository account with a valid bank routing number. Please verify with your bank that this information is correct before submitting the application. We will not accept banking information for a prepaid debit card or similar payment medium. (Please note, although these verification measures may slow down the disbursement of grant funds, they are necessary to ensure that your organization is the one receiving any grant funds awarded and that an application has not been submitted on your behalf without your knowledge.) If the bank information provided with the application has previously been designated as fraudulent, the grant application will be denied.

- **Will these funds be issued to me as a loan or a grant?**

  A grant.

- **Do I have to repay these funds?**

  No, unless it is determined the information contained within the application was false, fraudulent, or materially misleading or if it is determined that the funds were utilized for an impermissible use.

- **How much can I apply for?**

  Each eligible After School and Enrichment Programs may apply for a grant award of up to

$30,000.

- **Do I need to document or report how I use the funds I receive?**

  Yes, you should document the use of the grant funds and retain that documentation for the purpose of possible future federal, state, or other audits.

Account Registration

- **Will I have to create an account/profile in order to complete the application?**

  Yes. To apply, please go through the [Online Portal](#).

Technical Troubleshooting

- **Who can I contact if I have any technical difficulties with the application process or if I'm unable to log into my account?**

  For Application Customer Support, please contact:
  Submittable
  Monday-Friday 10-6pm (CST)
  [Submittable Help](#)