Building Opportunities for Out-of-School Time (BOOST) Grants

Applicant Workshop

August 9, 2021
Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network (GSAN)

Who are we? Champions for quality time for kids.
Our mission is to advance, connect, and support high quality afterschool and summer learning programs to promote the success of children and youth throughout Georgia.

What do we do? Provide direction and resources for high quality afterschool time.
We are an effective resource for afterschool and summer learning programs in Georgia. We cultivate environments that allow these programs and the youth they serve to thrive.
1. Overview
American Rescue Plan Act

American Rescue Plan, March 2021
The Georgia Department of Education will receive approximately $4.25 billion

- **School Districts**
  - $3.8 billion will go directly to school districts
    - $764 million must be spent on learning loss
    - $3 billion can be spent on a long list of activities, programs, etc.

- **Georgia Department of Education**
  - $450 million will stay at the Georgia Department of Education
    - $212 million must be spent on learning loss
    - $42 million must be spent on summer activities
    - $42 million must be spent on afterschool
BOOST Purpose

BOOST Grants are intended to support the learning acceleration, connectedness, and well-being of Georgia’s students, utilizing a whole child approach.
Learning Acceleration

• Strategically prepares students for success in the present—this week, on this content
• Addresses past concepts and skills in context of future learning
• Jump-starts underperforming students into learning new concepts before their classmates even begin
• Creates opportunities for struggling students to learn alongside their more successful peers
• Establishes and maintains strong and intentional links to the school day
Whole Child Approach

- Develops and prepares students for challenges and opportunities by addressing comprehensive needs
- Acknowledges AND addresses non-academic factors that impact academic outcomes while expanding learning opportunities
- Ensures each student is healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged
Applicant Grant Purposes

1. Expand access to serve more youth, with an emphasis on children who were most impacted by the pandemic
2. Reduce barriers to participation to ensure access for all
3. Increase programmatic quality and expand or enhance supports/services offered
2. Who is eligible to apply? For what can you use BOOST funds?
Eligible Applicants: must meet all criteria to apply

- Nonprofit organizations, colleges/universities, and municipalities, such as Park & Recreation Departments*
  - Nonprofit charter schools that did not receive funding from the ARPA are eligible to apply
  - Private and independent schools and faith-based organizations are eligible to apply only if the program is open to all children and not just those who are of a particular faith, enrolled in a particular school or members of the applicant organization

*City/County Park & Recreation Departments cannot apply individually as the Georgia Recreation & Park Association is applying for a Statewide Grant
Eligible Applicants: must meet all criteria to apply

- Organizations located and providing services *(see below; must provide one or both)* to public school students in grades K-12 in the state of Georgia:
  - Comprehensive afterschool programming during the school year for youth 5-18 years-old
  - Summer enrichment programming for youth 5-18 years-old
Eligible Applicants: must meet all criteria to apply

- If a nonprofit, must be registered with the Georgia Secretary of State as a nonprofit
- All applicants must offer learning acceleration, as well as programming in at least 2 other critical content/service areas:
  - Learning acceleration (required component)
  - Enrichment activities, such as the arts, and career exploration
  - Healthy eating & physical activity
  - Well-being and connectedness, such as mental health supports, problem solving, and team building
Ineligible Applicants

- Public schools and school districts, private and independent schools.
- Nonprofit charter schools that received funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.
- For-profit afterschool and summer enrichment programs/organizations.
- Child-care centers serving only children under age 5.
Statewide Grants

- Provide year-round youth development programming
- Serve at least 2,000 youth (5-18 years old) annually
- Provide programming across at least 15 counties in GA
- Offer programming at least 4 days per week, with at least 2.5 hours offered per day during the school year and at least 6 hours offered per day during the summer

Organizations were selected through letter of intent process last week
Statewide Grants: Applicants

- Georgia Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
- Georgia Alliance of YMCAs
- Georgia Recreation and Parks Association
- Communities in Schools of Georgia

If your organization is a member of or associated with one of the above-named organizations, you may not apply separately for a Community Grant. Organizations receiving Statewide Grants will determine how to disseminate grant funds to local members/affiliates. Grants will range from $1 million to $5 million per year.
Community Grants

- No letter of intent needed
- Grants will range from $7,500 to $550,000 per year
- No additional eligibility criteria
Eligible Expenses

**Find the complete list in the RFP**

- Reduction in costs to families for participation
- Expansion of existing program: number of summer weeks and hours, number of children served, staffing, space, activities, add a site, etc.
- Establishment of a new program
- Salaries and fringe benefits
- Field trips (must get pre-approval from GaDOE)
- Program materials and supplies
- Transportation
- Food
- Planning and partnership development
Eligible Expenses

**Find the complete list in the RFP**

- Hands-on enrichment programs
- Integration of STEM programming to build skills
- Arts and music education activities
- Integration of whole child supports
- Provision of resources to allow for full participation of BOOST target populations
- Activities that support healthy and active lifestyle
- Increase of youth supports (e.g., mental health provider and/or a social worker, tutors, mentors, etc.)
- Family engagement and parenting skills activities
Ineligible Expenses

**Find the complete list in the RFP**

- Pre-award expenses
- Field trips purely for entertainment purposes
- End-of-year celebrations or food associated with parties or socials
- Incentives including plaques, trophies, stickers, certificates
- Advertisements, promotional or marketing items
- Purchase of facilities and vehicles (e.g., buses, vans, cars) or land acquisition
- Capital improvements and permanent renovations (except for instruction space improvements related to preparation and/or response to COVID)
3. Timeline, Application Process, Grant Details, Reporting
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 8/5</td>
<td>Application opens. Application must be completed online [here].*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 8/9</td>
<td>Optional Applicant Workshop at 11:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 8/10</td>
<td>Submit questions by noon, for posted answers by noon on 8/11/21</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 8/11</td>
<td>FAQ updated by noon. Applicant Workshop recording posted on [GSAN’s website].</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 8/19</td>
<td>Application deadline at 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thursday, 9/30</td>
<td>Funding recommendations for approval at Georgia State Board of Education meeting.</td>
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<td>Friday, 10/1</td>
<td>GSAN notifies all applicants of the status of their request.</td>
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<tr>
<td>By Friday, 10/15</td>
<td>Georgia Board of Education sends grantees official Grant Award Notification and agreements/contracts.</td>
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**Apply online through the FLUXX Grants Portal linked to in the RFP**

1. Eligibility Quiz and Organizational Profile
   - It takes up to 24 hours for your Profile to be approved and for applicants to receive their username and password for FLUXX
   - If your organization already has a profile, UW staff will link your request to start a BOOST application and any updated information you just provided to your existing profile.

2. Complete your BOOST application

Stay on from 12-1 p.m. for the deep dive on FLUXX
Grant Period

• 3-year grants awarded in October 2021
  o All grants will close by end of July 2024

• Grant periods will vary based on what type of programming grantee provides:
  o Afterschool only: October 2021 – May 2022 / August – May 2022-2024
  o Summer only: June – July 2022-2024
  o Year-Round: October – July 2021-July 2022 / August – July 2022-2024
Assurances

**Find the complete list in the RFP**

- Adhere to the Program Quality Requirements
- Adhere to the GaDOE 2021-2024 Program Assurances for Subgrantees
- Participate in any data collection that is required
- Unannounced, on-site monitoring visits
- Participate in GSAN training and technical support
- Submit requested reports
- Make every reasonable effort to be accessible to individuals with disabilities
- Complete the GaDOE Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Policy
Reporting

Grantees will report on an annual basis using the following schedule.

- Afterschool only: June 2022, 2023, and 2024
- Summer only: August 2022, 2023, and 2024
- Year-Round: August 2022, 2023, and 2024
Reporting: what will be requested?

Preliminary list of metrics:
• Number of youth served
• Demographics of youth served
• Program attendance
• Dosage: number of days and hours of programming offered
• Types of programming and services offered
• Youth satisfaction and sense of belonging
• Grantee specific goals/outcomes as outlined in grant application

Budget for year 2 (submit in 2022) and year 3 (submit in 2023)
Annual Renewal

Following the receipt and review of the grantee’s annual report, grants will be renewed using the following schedule:

• Afterschool only: July 2022 and 2023
• Summer only: September 2022 and 2023
• Year-Round: September 2022 and 2023

Grant awards will be equal amounts for all three years. If a grantee serves significantly fewer students during its grant year, GSAN and GaDOE may reduce the grant award for subsequent years.
Payments

• BOOST grants are reimbursement grants

• GaDOE will manage reimbursements on a monthly basis starting no later than January 2022
  o Grantees are expected to have 3 months of working capital to start their programs while trainings are conducted and budgets/invoices are reviewed
4. Program Requirements, Target Populations & Geographic Priorities
Program Requirements: use of Evidence-Based Strategies

- All applicants must demonstrate their use of evidence-based afterschool and/or summer learning program practices.

Resources:
- Georgia Afterschool and Youth Development Quality Standards
- Evidence-Based Interventions: Summer Learning or Enrichment and Comprehensive Afterschool Programs
- Planning for Impactful Summer Learning 2021
- Help Kids Recover Evidence-Based Strategies
- Recognizing the Role of Research and Evidence in Out-of-School Time
Program Quality Requirements

**Find the complete list in the RFP**

- Safety training and safe operations
- Staffing (age and qualifications)
- Staff : student ratios
- Plans and practices related to emergencies
Target Populations

- Youth with disabilities
- Youth experiencing homelessness
- Youth in foster care
- English language learners
- Youth receiving free or reduced-price lunch
- Migratory youth

At least 75% of Community Grant funds will support programs that serve these population groups.
Geographic Priorities

- Organizations operating programs in counties with no current programs receiving government funds through 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program or the Afterschool Care Program will receive additional points during the scoring process.
- List of counties with no such programming.

At least 10% of Community Grant funds will support programs that serve these counties.
5.

Funding Matrix
How can I determine how much my organization can request?

Determinations on maximum grant size applicant organizations may request are based on:

1. Do you afterschool OR summer enrichment programming only or programming year-round?
2. How many unduplicated youth do you serve annually?
3. What % of youth served receive free or reduced-price lunch? Three tiers of funding based on the percent of youth served who receive free or reduced-price lunch.
# Community Grants

The amounts listed in the table are amounts that organizations may apply for per year for each of the three years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of UNDUPPLICATED Students Served Annually</th>
<th>Afterschool OR Summer enrichment</th>
<th>Year-round programming*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 40% of students receive free &amp; reduced-price lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less than 25</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
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<td>$9,500</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$17,000</td>
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<td>$550,000</td>
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*When completing the budget worksheet, organizations applying for funding for year-round programming should divide the funds equally between afterschool and summer enrichment programming.*
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<td>$5,000,000</td>
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6. Application Questions & Rubric
Application Questions

- All questions included in the RFP

- Application Guidance document is full of helpful information on answering questions and includes resources
Application Questions

- Mix of narrative questions and data points

- Important for applicants to select what kind of program they are requesting funding for as that will determine which questions will be required throughout the application:
  - Summer enrichment
  - Comprehensive afterschool
  - Year-round (afterschool + summer)
Application Questions

- Organizational History & Program Design
- Programming Overview
- Staffing & Partnerships
- Outcomes & Evaluation
- Budget
- Statewide Applicants
Rubric

- Different total possible points based on type of program offered and whether applying for Community or Statewide Grant

- Scale:
  - Not addressed – information not provided = 0 points
  - Weak – lacks sufficient information
  - Fair – requires additional clarification
  - Good – clear and complete
  - Excellent – well-conceived and thoroughly developed

- Additional points for target populations, geography, critical content/service areas, program dosage, etc. included throughout
Questions?
Thanks!

Contact us at:

BOOST@georgiavoices.org
FLUXX grant application portal deep dive

United Way of Greater Atlanta