



Camp Initiative Application Guidelines

Deadline for applications: 5:00 PM (AKST) February 29, 2024

Maximum Award Amount: Up to \$45,000

The Alaska Community Foundation has partnered with Rasmuson Foundation, Mat-Su Health Foundation, and The George & Stephanie Suddock Foundation to provide support to summer camps across Alaska.

Purpose & Context

Summer camps are a rite of passage for Alaskan youth and essential childcare infrastructure for Alaskan families. The Camp Initiative supports summer enrichment programming for Alaskan youth, including both overnight and day camps. These funds are not intended to support early childhood education or summer programming for year-round childcare providers.

Successful proposals will focus on reducing financial barriers to access, increasing the quantity of young people who have access to camp experiences and improving the quality of the camp experience, particularly through staff training and professional development. **Camp capital needs are not eligible for this grant program.**

Key Considerations

1. Large camp providers¹ and organizations providing camps in remote, rural² locations are eligible for grants of up to \$45,000. All other camp providers are eligible for grants of up to \$20,000. In 2023, the average Camp Initiative grant award was just over \$16,000.
2. Funding must support summer programming between May and September of 2024. Grant funds must be used towards expenses incurred *after* the award date. Grant reports will be due at the end of October.
3. Applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:
 - **Capacity to Implement:** Does the organization demonstrate that it can implement this camp (or these camps) safely and responsibly?
 - **Reach & Impact:** To what extent will the proposal *reduce financial barriers, increase the quantity* of young people with access to camp experiences or *improve the quality* of camp experiences?

¹ Large camp providers serve at least 250 youth through overnight programming or at least 500 youth through day programming.

² Remote, rural locations are off the road and marine highway system. Outdoor recreation camps offered within state and national parks are *not* considered remote, rural locations.



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- **Equitable Access to Diverse Camp Experiences Statewide:** To what extent will this proposal contribute to ensuring youth statewide have equitable access to a diverse range of camp experiences?
 - The Camp Initiative will prioritize projects to distribute grant funding, to the extent feasible, equitably across Alaska’s geographic regions.
 - The Camp Initiative will also prioritize projects to distribute grant funding, to the extent feasible, to a diverse range of camp types, including traditional, culture, specialist, faith-based, special needs, etc.

Eligibility

Your organization is eligible for funding through this grant opportunity if it is one of the following:

- 501(c)3 public charitable organization with 509(a)(1), 509(a)(2), or 509(a)(3) public charitable status as designated in your IRS Determination letter (including qualified faith-based organizations)
- Faith-based organization providing social services to the broader community
- Federally recognized Tribes or Tribal nonprofit organizations
- City governments or Boroughs
- K-12 Schools

The following are not eligible for grant funding:

- Individuals
- State or federal government agencies
- For-profit organizations or businesses
- Private nonprofit organizations (those not identified in their IRS determination letter as 509(a)(1), 509(a)(2), or 509(a)(3))
- Expenses incurred prior to award
- Capital expenses
- Activities that improperly discriminate as to race, gender, marital status, sexual preference, age, disability, creed or ethnicity, or grants for religious indoctrination or other religious activities.



Process

1. Review the guidelines to ensure your organization is eligible for funding.
2. Contact The Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) grant staff at (contact information below) if you have questions.
3. Log in to your account in ACF's online grant management account at <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=alaska>. If you are new to ACF's grant management system, you will need to create a new profile before applying.
4. Applicants will be asked to provide:
 - Organizational background (Mission Statement, services provided, geographical area served, brief history)
 - Organizational budget
 - Background of camp and/or programming offering(s)
 - Requested amount
 - Description of need as specifically related to camp and other youth programming as described above
 - Project budget and budget narrative
5. Applications can be saved in process and returned to for completion. Once an application is submitted, it cannot be modified by the applicant.
6. Grants will be reviewed soon after submission and award announcements should be expected by April 1st. **Applications are due: February 29th by 5:00 PM (AKST)**

We look forward to hearing from all interested organizations that would like to apply for the Camp Initiative grant opportunity.

ACF Contact Information

The Alaska Community Foundation
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