

Summer Experiences & Enrichment for Kids (SEEK) Grant

June 10, 2021
11am – Noon
Virtual Information Meeting



WRPA & AWC are excited to announce the rollout of a new Washington State grant opportunity that will provide local parks and recreation agencies with funding to support youth summer programming during Summer 2021 and Summer 2022.

The Summer Experiences & Enrichment for Kids (SEEK) Grant has been made possible by federal COVID-19 relief funds given to the Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

These grants will support local agencies in expanding their current summer programs or creating a new program in order to provide more kids with access to outdoor learning opportunities, especially those who are typically underserved and who are most impacted by the COVID -19 pandemic.

What to Expect from this Informational Meeting:

- Overview of the Grant Program
- Application Process
- Anticipated Funding Period
- Important Deadlines
- Deliverables
- Open Q&A

Introductions

- **Jenny Plaja** (she/her)
 - Assistant Director, Government Relations with Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
- **Jacob Ewing** (he/him)
 - Legislative & Policy Analyst, Association of Washington Cities (AWC)
- **Tiffany Hanzo** (she/her)
 - WRPA Executive Director
- **Doug Levy** (he/him)
 - WRPA Lobbyist
- **Jennifer Papich** (she/her)
 - WRPA President, Recreation Director, City of Spokane
- **Dave Johnson** (he/him)
 - WRPA President Elect, Director of Parks and Recreation City of Maple Valley
- **Paul Simmons**(he/him)
 - WRPA Past President, Director of Parks, Recreation & Arts City of Olympia

EXPANDING ACCESS TO SUMMER PROGRAMMING

- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund, American Rescue Plan ESSER (ARP ESSER) program
- Address students' **social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs** through a combination of activities that include strong partnerships with community-based organizations and other summer providers, including summer camps.
- Create partnerships to help **support and sustain summer programs**, especially those in rural and remote communities.
- Focus of the state is to **maximize enrollment** in summer programs, for students of all ages, with a particular focus on underserved students and students most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Prioritize activities or programs that promote **social connections** amongst peers, encourage **physical activity, and support families** who are struggling with childcare needs.

ABOUT THE SEEK GRANT PROGRAM

- The SEEK grant program is for summer programs serving school aged youth
- Summer 2021 Grant applicants may expand existing programs or create new programs to accomplish the goals outlined in this opportunity
- Purpose of the SEEK grants are to increase access to quality, outdoor summer programming for youth and communities who have historically been underserved and who have been most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2021 Grant Cycle will only cover 1 ½ months of reimbursements; mid – July through August. Another grant round for summer 2022 will open this Fall.
- Recipients must also prioritize activities or programs that promote social connection, encourage physical activity, and support families who are struggling with childcare needs.

WHO MAY APPLY?

Local Government Agencies

- City run, County run, Metropolitan Park Districts, Park & Recreation Districts and Service Areas

WHO HAS BEEN MOST IMPACTED BY THE PANDEMIC?

Funding is provided to carry out evidence-based summer enrichment programs that respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on student subgroups:

- Each major racial and ethnic group
- Children from low-income families
- Children with disabilities
- English learners
- Gender
- Migrant students
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Children and youth in foster care

(PROJECTED) GRANT APPLICATION SCHEDULE

Item	Date
Information Webinar	June 10, 2021
Application Opens	TBD
Application Deadline	Thursday, July 1, 2021
Evaluation Period	July 6-9, 2021
Rank Lists Approved	July 12, 2021
Applicants Notified	July 12, 2021
AWC issues Project Agreements	TBD

Funded by Reimbursement:

All grant funds will be distributed on a **reimbursement** basis. Grant awardees may request reimbursement only after they have paid their employees and vendors and reported on their use of grant funds.

GRANT EVALUATION TIERS

Three funding categories for the SEEK Grant

Tier 1: Up to \$50,000

Tier 2: Up to \$100,000

Tier 3: Up to \$250,000

Four Population Ranges Applicants are Evaluated in:

- 100-10,000
- 10,001 – 50,000
- 50,001 – 100,000
- 100,001 & Up

GRANT SCORING & CRITERIA

An advisory committee consisting of 5 emeritus WRPA members will individually evaluate and score all applications to determine which projects will be recommended for funding.

PROGRAM DESIGN: 1-5 POINTS (X2)

Prioritize activities or programs that promote:

- Social connection
- Encourage physical activity
- Affordable, accessible to all

YOUTH SERVED: 1-5 POINTS (X3)

Engaging and involvement of school-aged youth who are:

- Underserved
- Disproportionately impacted by COVID-19
- Addressing access and equity for those who have previously had a more difficult time participating due to lower income level, language barriers, communities of color etc.

OUTDOOR ENGAGEMENT/ENRICHMENT: 1-5 POINTS

- Evaluate the quality and quantity of evidence based outdoor education and recreation focus

ASSISTING COVID-IMPACTED STUDENTS, FAMILIES: 1-5 PTS.

- Connecting to families who are struggling with childcare needs coming out of the pandemic, so they can return to the work force and have a safe enriching place for their children to be
- Emphasis on supporting the social & emotional well being of youth participants



QUESTIONS?
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