



Youth Learn to Swim (YLTS) Grant FAQ

- **What can USA Swimming Foundation Youth Learn to Swim Grant funding be used for?**
 - Free or reduced-cost swim lessons for children under 19 years of age (i.e. scholarships)
 - Transportation to and from a pool facility
- **What expenses are NOT allowed under USA Swimming Foundation grant funding?**
 - Youth Learn to Swim Grant funds are not intended to provide budget relief, support facility overhead, construction or renovation, aid in the purchase of material goods (including equipment, apparel, etc.), or be used for advertising, promotional, or marketing purposes.
- **When are applications due?**
 - Completed applications must be submitted by December 15 at 11:59pm MT.
- **Where can I apply?**
 - Once open, the application is available at <https://usaswimming.smapply.io>
- **I'm being asked for a Federal Tax ID Number or employer identification number (EIN) to create an account—what is that?**
 - In order to establish a SurveyMonkey Apply account, you will be asked to create a new user account using your program's **Federal Tax ID Number/Employer Identification Number (EIN)** and a valid email address. A business tax ID number, also called an employer identification number (EIN) or federal tax ID, is a unique nine-digit number that identifies your business with the IRS. If you do not know this number, please check with your accounting or payroll department. This number can also be located on your last Federal Tax Return or your W9 form (which you will need during the application process).

Note: organizations being asked to establish a SurveyMonkey Apply account have not met the pre-requisite requirement of the Network application. Please continue establishing a SurveyMonkey Apply account then proceed to the Swim Lesson Provider Network Application prior to completing the Grant application. Interested applicants must be an approved provider no later than December 1 to be eligible for the current grant application cycle.

- **I operate several facilities under one Federal Tax ID number, does that mean I can only apply for one grant?**
 - **Yes.** Which means you only need to fill out ONE (1) grant application; however, each of your facility's funding requests can still be represented. For example, franchisees and YMCA associations holding a single Federal Tax ID Number for multiple locations/branches will need to coordinate efforts among all locations/branches to submit one (1) application under the entity, rather than multiple applications for each individual location/branch. This process applies to both the Network Application and the Grant Application.

- **SurveyMonkey Apply says there is already an account with my program’s Federal Tax ID Number/Employer Identification Number (EIN)—how do I proceed?**
 - If an account has already been created with your Federal Tax ID Number or EIN, chances are someone within your organization, perhaps at an alternate location or branch, or a previous employee, has created a profile and/or application in advance of you. Since only ONE profile and grant application is permitted per Tax ID Number/EIN, you will need to coordinate efforts to combine your funding requests across all locations, including the number of children to be served.

If you cannot locate the individual who created the original account, please contact Hilary Perez at support@usaswimming.org, or 719-866-3567, to help identify the primary account holder or to update to the primary user.

- **How are applications being categorized for the Grant Review Committee?**
 - Non-USA Swimming member Team applications will be reviewed and categorized based on the **total** number of children receiving swim lessons from the applying organization on an **annual basis**. USA Swimming member Teams will be separated into a stand-alone category. The categories are as follows:

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| • Less than 500 children | • 2,501-5,000 children | • USA Swimming Team |
| • 500-1,000 children | • 5,001-10,000 children | |
| • 1,001-2,500 children | • 10,000+ children | |

- **What is the maximum award that can be received by an applying program?**
 - There is no maximum limit, however our typical annual budget of \$500,000 provides funding for an average of 70 programs. The minimum grant award is \$1000. Grant funding will be awarded based on your budget, reflecting the number of *additional* children you will be able to serve who are outside of your current scope of service and existing outreach programs.
- **How do I know if my application was successfully submitted?**
 - The Grant Application is divided into multiple tasks. All tasks must be completed prior to application submission in order to be considered and reviewed by the Grant Review Committee. **Each task has a “Mark as Complete” button at the bottom. Once all tasks are complete the applicant MUST also select “Submit” for the entire application on the left side of the screen in order to complete the application process.** A pop-up confirmation will appear once the application has been successfully submitted, and a confirmation email will be generated. If you do not see or receive these communications, the application has not been marked as submitted and will not move to the review stage for consideration.
- **What kinds of information will the application require?**
 - Applicants will be asked for the projected cost per participant and to provide a breakdown of expenses for each participant. Additionally, applicants should be prepared with a detailed narrative outlining the proposed program. Note, the more information and detail provided regarding the proposed program, the better; this is the chance to tell your story.
- **How do I know if my costs are reasonable?**

- The average grant awarded has a cost per child of \$19 to \$50. It is understood the average cost per child varies based on geographical location, and for adaptive programming where one-on-one instruction may be necessary and more costly. For example, New York City may have a higher programming cost than Belle Chasse, LA.
- **What is the Grant Review Committee looking for?**
 - The Grant Review Committee looks most favorably upon programs and projects that:
 - Outline spending in the most cost-effective manner
 - Demonstrate long-term sustainability without continued USA Swimming Foundation funding support
 - Coordinate community partnerships within the proposed project that expand the reach and impact
 - Obtain or raise matching (or incremental) dollars within the local community
 - Have and communicate a clear and detailed plan of execution for the proposed project
 - Provide opportunities or connections with programs which allow for participation in pre-competitive or competitive programs once the appropriate skills have been mastered
- **Who reviews my application and how do I keep track of its status?**
 - The Grant Review Committee is comprised of volunteers from USA Swimming, including the Board of Directors, Committee members, and staff. To protect from any potential or perceived conflicts of interest, the programming team does not review submitted applications as part of the Grant Review Committee. Additionally, each Review Committee member is instructed to abstain from reviewing of any application where they may have a pre-existing relationship with the program or submitting organization.

Applicants may log in to their [SurveyMonkey Apply](#) account at any time to view the status of their application; status is updated in real time as applications move through workflow.

- **Who should I contact if I have questions about my eligibility or the grant process, or need assistance in accessing our organization's account?**
 - For Learn to Swim Grant questions and support, please contact Hilary Perez at support@usaswimming.org or 719-866-3567.

