

The New York Life Foundation Aim High RFP Grant Program: *Tips to Apply*

Thank you for joining us. The webinar will begin shortly.

Housekeeping Notes



Experiencing Delays?

Try closing out the other programs running on your computer.



Audio difficulties? Keep this number handy!

Dial: 1-877-860-3058

Code: 1135574



Have a comment?

Use the group chat to interact with presenters and other participants.

Please save your questions for the Q&A section at the end of the webinar.

In the follow-up to the webinar, we will be creating an FAQ document for your reference.

Speakers:

- **Marlyn Torres**, Corporate Vice President, New York Life Insurance Company and Senior Program Officer – Corporate Responsibility, New York Life Foundation
- **Dan Gilbert**, Project Manager, Afterschool Alliance

Award Overview

Top 6 Tips

Common Questions

What to Remember

Q&A

OVERVIEW

Aim High RFP Program

\$1.95M to support OST programs serving middle schoolers

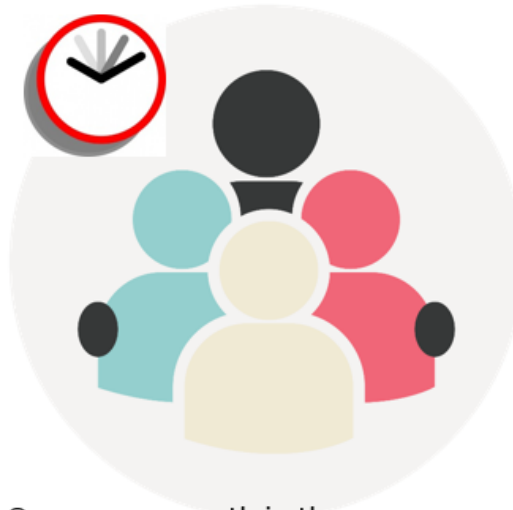
Targeted for:

- Afterschool, summer or expanded learning
- Disadvantaged youth
- Support transition to 9th grade



National Middle School OST Investments

Organizations supported by the New York Life Foundation provide **493,844 youth** with afterschool and summer programming.



On average, youth in these programs spend an additional **214.6 hours** of OST programming



That's a total of **6.2 million hours** with caring adults, engaging in learning activities

28,889 middle school youth

are in programs funded by the New York Life Foundation.

Aim High RFP Program

Modeled after national grantmaking strategy

2-year grants (\$50-100K)

Indicators of success:

- Academic performance
- School attendance
- On-time promotion to 9th grade

1-year grants (\$15K)

- Family Engagement



Timeline

- **The Applications are currently OPEN.**

Link to RFP: http://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/NYLF-Aim_High-Request_for_Proposals.pdf

- **The RFP will close at 11:59 PM ET on February 17th, 2017.**
- **Applications will be reviewed on a competitive basis by a group of experts in the out-of-school and youth development fields.**
- **Grant awards will be announced in May 2017.**
- **The two-year grant period will begin in May 2017 and end in May 2019.**
- **The one-year grant period will begin in May 2017 and end in May 2018.**

Grant Tiers

	Number of Grants Awarded	Individual Grant: Year 1	Individual Grant: Year 2	Total 2-Year Grant Amount	Annual Organizational Budget
Tier 1	4	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	At Least \$500,000
Tier 2	4	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	Between \$250,000 and \$500,000
Tier 3	10	\$15,000	N/A	N/A	At least \$150,000

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be 501(c)3 organizations.
- Applicants must either serve middle school youth (grades 6, 7, and 8) or use grant funds to begin serving middle school youth.
- Applicants must either:
 - A)serve a high percentage (75%) of low-income youth; and/or
 - B)use grant funds to serve a population that is high percentage low-income youth.
- Applicants must not currently receive funding from the New York Life Foundation, either directly or as ‘pass-through’ funding.

Use of Funds

Grant funds may be used for **technical assistance** and/or **enhancing direct service activities**.

Technical assistance includes:

- Program enhancements (e.g. staff development and evaluation efforts);
- Operations enhancements (e.g. fiscal or development efforts); and/or
- Governance enhancements (e.g. board development and improving internal systems).

Direct service components include:

- Expanding program capacity to serve middle school students;
- Adding a new program component (such as helping the program transition to a year-round model); and/or
- Enhancing programming to better support students' transition to the 9th grade.

Reporting Requirements

Grantees that are awarded any of these competitive grants are required to submit a progress report two times per year during each grant period.

Reporting Requirements

Progress Reports Due	1-Year Grants	2-Year Grants
October 1, 2017	Progress Report Due	Progress Report Due
March 1, 2018	Progress Report Due	Progress Report Due
October 1, 2018	Final Report Due	Progress Report Due
March 1, 2019	N/A	Progress Report Due
October 1, 2019	N/A	Final Report Due

Top 6 Tips

Tip #1

Tip #1: All Questions Have A Purpose

- Every open-ended question is an opportunity for you to explain and illustrate the value of your program
- Pay attention to the prompts
- Make sure to read the full RFP before beginning the question to gain a better understanding of what reviewers will be looking for

Tip #2

Tip #2: Be an Advocate

- Make sure to share details on how the program is helping to meet the needs of its community
- Think about ways to differentiate your program from others
- Demonstrate the program's impact through quantitative and/or qualitative data

Tip #3

Tip #3: Provide Lots of Details

- Details matter! We rely on your application to give reviewers a complete and concrete picture of your program
- Don't assume that reviewers know anything in particular about your program, curriculum, or community

Tip #4

Tip #4: Keep it Relevant

- Always keep in mind the specific goals and priorities of the RFP – and the intent of each question - when answering questions

Tip #5

Tip #5: Have Your Answers In Advance

- All of the questions for the grant applications can be found in the PDF of the full RFP at http://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/NYLF-Aim_High-Request_for_Proposals.pdf
- For the applications, you must finish the application in one sitting, so make sure to generate all of your answers in advance so you can just copy and paste them into the application.

Tip #6

Tip #6: Read, Re-Read, Have Someone Else Read, then Read Again

- Be clear in your answers
- Reviewers notice spelling and grammatical errors
- Ask someone outside of your organization to review your answers prior to submitting your application

REMINDER

The RFP includes links to **Downloadable Template Charts** for you to use in the **Project Description** and **Budget and Narrative** sections of both applications. Use these templates to create your **Project Description** and **Project Budget** charts in advance.

The grant application **will require** you to upload these documents as part of your application.

Links to these downloadable templates will be available in the **Links** box during the Q&A Portion at the end of the webinar.

Common Questions

Common Questions

How many grants will be given?

- 4 grants of \$50,000/year, for a total 2-year grant amount of \$100,000.
- 4 grants of \$25,000/year, for a total 2-year grant amount of \$50,000.
- 10 1-year grants of \$15,000.

Are non-profit organizations that are not 501(c)3 eligible to apply?

- **No**, only 501(c)3 organizations are eligible to apply.

Common Questions

Can multiple programs or program sites from the same organization submit applications separately?

- **No**, each organization can only submit one application. However, if an applicant is an affiliate of a national organization, more than one affiliate is able to apply for funding so long as that affiliate is currently not receiving grant funds from the New York Life Foundation.

Are organizations with annual budgets of less than \$150,000 eligible to apply for any of the grants?

- **No**, they are not. The minimum organizational budget to be eligible for the grants is \$150,000.

Common Questions

What is the geographic scope of the grants?

- Applicants will be accepted from anywhere within the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Applicants from US Territories are ineligible to apply.

Are schools and/or school districts eligible to apply?

- Only if they are registered 501(c)3 organizations.

Common Questions

Can 501(c)3 organizations serve as a fiduciary agent for programs run by organizations that are not 501(c)3?

- **No**, the 501(c)3 organizations must be the program provider.

Can I get a recording of this webinar?

- **Yes**, this webinar is being recorded and we will be sending a link to the recording to all of the webinar registrants in the next week.

Common Questions

Is it the program budget or the organizational budget that will need to meet the budget requirement?

- It is the full organization's operating budget from the most recent fiscal year that determines eligibility. For most organizations this will be the final FY16 budget.

Are 501(c)3 organizations that provide supports to middle school youth – but do not directly provide program services in out-of-school time settings – eligible to apply?

- **No**, only programs that are direct providers of out-of-school programming are eligible to apply.

What to Remember

Remember:

Due Date: Nominations must be submitted by Friday, February 17th at 11:59 PM EST.

Draft, Edit, Review: Download the application, review the questions, and draft your answers first before filling out the application form online.

Data Matters: The strongest applications include robust program data.

Don't Assume: The reviewers will be unfamiliar with your program; provide detailed information that will help reviewers gain a stronger understanding of the supports your program provides.

Q&A

More questions? Email Dan Gilbert at
dgilbert@afterschoolalliance.org