



GENERAL GRANT PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

About the USA Football Grant Program

The USA Football Grant Program enables youth, middle school, and high school programs to upgrade equipment and improve playing fields. Applications for equipment, field and product grants are available each year.

Who is eligible for a USA Football grant?

Eligibility Requirements for all grant applicants:

1. Operate in the United States: Grants are available to football programs or projects located in the United States. Organizations that are based in the United States, but only offer programming abroad, are not eligible for a grant.
2. Tax-exempt: Application must be submitted by an organization with IRS-approved tax-exempt status at the time of application. We recognize the risk that this requirement may exclude organizations that do in fact have a “nonprofit” mission but simply have not completed the IRS application process yet. The tax-exempt status requirement is an important screening tool for us to ensure that we are investing our grant funds in organizations that will be good stewards of those grants. The 501(c)(3) or tax-exempt status ensures that the grant recipient has a charitable mission, is not operated for the benefit of private interests and has been vetted by the IRS through its application process. In addition to gaining eligibility for USA Football’s grant program, it will provide other benefits, including: opportunities to apply to other grant making bodies (e.g., private foundations), the ability to offer individual and corporate donors a tax deduction for their charitable donations to the organization, potential savings on postage rates and potential savings on state sales and other taxes (depending on specific state law). Some examples of tax-exempt organizations are 501(c)(3) status, churches, individual schools or school districts, cities, or municipalities, etc.

More help on determining your 501(c)(3) status can be found at: <http://www.irs.gov/Charities-&-Non-Profits/Charitable-Organizations/Exemption-Requirements-Section-501%28c%29%283%29-Organizations> »

Individuals or for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for a grant.

Who can fill out the grant application?

We prefer the person who can sufficiently answer the questions and provide the correct information 501(c)(3) status, financial information, etc. fill out the grant application. This is typically the Commissioner, Athletic Director, or Treasurer of a program.

Can a program apply for more than one grant?

Yes, a program is eligible to apply for all grants that USA Football offers. We allow one application per organization or school for each type.

Can a program ship to a post office box on the application?

Applicants must use a street address when completing the grant application. Our vendors will not ship to P.O. boxes because of the size of the shipments.

Who should I contact with more questions?

Our team is ready to help at grants@usafootball.com or by phone at 1-877-5-FOOTBALL.

EQUIPMENT GRANT FAQs

About USA Football Equipment Grants:

USA Football and the NFL Foundation are committed to enhancing the football experience of all youth and amateur football athletes. We award equipment grant credits based on need, merit, and an organization's involvement with USA Football programs.

If selected for a USA Football Equipment Grant, recipients are eligible for awards with a variety of USA Football partners. Click the links below to view products that were available from some of our 2019 partners. Please note that offerings may be different for the 2020 season.

- [Riddell](#)
- [Shadowman](#)
- [Gilman Gear](#)

When can a program apply for an equipment grant?

Applications are available in the spring each year. USA Football will grade and award grants within the four weeks following the close of the application. The application does not need to be completed in one sitting. Applicants may begin completing the online form, save their progress, and come back later to finish their applications. Applicants can always sign up for a notification at www.usafootball.com/grants to receive communications throughout the year.

What are some tips for completing the application?

1. Participate in USA Football programs and work to achieve all program requirements
2. Complete your answers as accurately as possible, especially the budget information

Can I apply for both a youth and middle or high school equipment grant?

Yes, if you have all the eligible information provided with both the youth football organization and the school-sponsored program. We accept one application per organization or school.

How does USA Football select the organizations who will receive an equipment grant?

Equipment grants are awarded based on need and merit as well as an organization's participation and compliance within Heads Up Football. We ask that applicants provide basic information for the categories below:

- Organization information

- Shipping address (No P.O. Boxes will be accepted)
- Program details, such as player participation numbers
- Financial information (revenue vs. expenses)
- Essay explaining why your organization deserves an equipment grant

How many equipment grants does USA Football award?

USA Football awards over \$1 million in grants each year. The number of quality applications we receive determines the actual number of grant awards.

How are equipment grants distributed?

Grants are distributed in the form of product credit with our partners. Credits must be applied to new orders and may be used to purchase specific football equipment available within the equipment grant program and available in the selected partners' digital grant catalog. Pricing on equipment grant goods has been negotiated by USA Football to ensure the grantee gets the best value and may be different than retail list pricing. **Grant credits do not take into account freight or state sales tax, although many organizations will qualify for tax-exempt status. Any grant orders that exceed the grant credit amount (product, freight, and taxes) will be the responsibility of the grantee.**

When will the equipment be delivered?

The delivery of the equipment is based on when you place the order. Expected delivery for grant orders is typically 4 to 6 weeks from the date you placed the order with USA Football's partner.