

At a Glance

Youth Athletic Facilities

Large Grants	
Purpose	The program provides grants to buy land and develop or renovate outdoor athletic facilities serving youth.
Who may apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities • Counties • Park districts • Native American tribes • Qualified nonprofit organizations
Is a plan required?	No
What types of projects are eligible?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition • Development and renovation • Combined land acquisition and development or renovation
What kinds of athletic facilities are eligible?	For example, athletic fields (baseball, football, lacrosse, rugby, softball, soccer), skating rinks, sports courts (basketball, handball, tennis, volleyball), sports facilities (BMX track, golf course, track and field), and swimming pools
What are the grant limits?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$25,000 to \$1.5 million • No limits on the total project cost.
What must the project sponsor contribute?	50 percent, except match may be reduced for communities in need, underserved populations, counties in need, or communities providing facilities in federal disaster areas.
How is the project evaluated?	RCO reviews the application for eligibility, completeness, and clarity. An advisory committee reviews written responses to evaluation questions then scores and ranks the projects.
When are applications due?	May 1, 2024
When are grants awarded?	June 2025 estimate
What's new this year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition-only projects are eligible now. • Increased the grant limit to \$1.5 million. • Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Local Parks Category grants no longer may be used as match. • Changed the evaluation criteria to address priorities in recently completed studies including RCO's equity review and state comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. • Included in the manual existing rules about time limits, extensions, inspections, acknowledgments, and signs.

Youth Athletic Facilities

Small Grants

Purpose	The program provides grants to develop or renovate outdoor athletic facilities serving youth in small communities.
Who may apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities (Ten thousand or fewer residents) • Counties (Sixty thousand or fewer residents) • Park districts (Ten thousand or fewer residents) • Native American tribes • Qualified nonprofit organizations (The population of the jurisdiction where the project lies must meet the cities/counties criterion.)
Is a plan required?	No
What types of projects are eligible?	Development and renovation
What kinds of athletic facilities are eligible?	For example, athletic fields (baseball, football, lacrosse, rugby, softball, soccer), skating rinks, sports courts (basketball, handball, tennis, volleyball), sports facilities (BMX track, golf course, track and field), and swimming pools
What are the grant limits?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$350,000 • Total project cost may not exceed \$700,000.
What must the project sponsor contribute?	50 percent
How is the project evaluated?	Exceptions: Match may be reduced for communities in need, underserved populations, counties in need, or communities providing facilities in federal disaster areas. RCO reviews the application for eligibility, completeness, and clarity. An advisory committee reviews written responses to evaluation questions then scores and ranks the projects.
When are applications due?	May 1, 2024
When are grants awarded?	June 2025 estimate
What's new this year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased the grant limit to \$350,000. • Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Local Parks Category grants no longer may be used as match. • Included in the manual existing rules about time limits, extensions, inspections, acknowledgments, and signs.