

**Ralph C. Wilson Jr.,**  
**Youth Sports and Recreation COVID 19 Fund**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. What are the areas of interest for these funds?**

**The Youth Sports and Recreation COVID 19 Fund is a source of funding to provide alternative and safe youth sport and recreation activities during the summer and fall of 2020, or to cover COVID 19 related safety costs for such programs.**

**2. Do these funds have geographic requirements?**

**The Youth Sports and Recreation COVID 19 Fund is open to all of Western New York, which is Allegany, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans, and Wyoming counties.**

**3. Approximately how much money is available for grants in 2020?**

**Approximately \$200,000 will be available to fund alternative and safe youth sport and recreation activities during the summer and fall of 2020 or to cover COVID 19 related safety costs for such programs.**

**4. What size grant can I request?**

**Grants of up to \$25,000 will be awarded to organizations providing alternative and safe youth sport programming.**

**5. How do I apply?**

**We will begin accepting applications on Wednesday, June 17, 2020. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, June 26, 2020. Applications are accepted online only at <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=greaterbuffalo>.**

**Project Play WNY will hold to informational town hall zoom meetings to discuss the fund and the application process.**

**6. May I email or mail my grant request?**

**No, applications are accepted online only at <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=greaterbuffalo>.**

**7. When are funds available?**

**Award will be distributed after July 2020 for projects that begin and end during the time period of July 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021.**

**8. Will the fund consider a multi-year request?**

**No, multi-year grant requests will not be considered.**

**9. Are municipalities eligible to apply for funding?**

**Both organizations with an IRS 501(c)(3) designation and government agencies are eligible for funding.**

**10. Will requests outside of the fund's areas of interest be considered?**

**No.**

**11. Are there restrictions on what the grant can support?**

**Yes. Requests for endowments; religious purposes; attendance at or sponsorship of fundraising events; partisan political activity; schools not registered with the New York State Education Department; and for actions or activities that take place before the grant funding period will not be considered.**

**12. What do you mean by 'religious purposes'?**

**Requests that specifically promote religious activities. Applications for programs/projects that do not focus on religion and that are open and utilized by the general community are eligible for consideration.**

**13. Will the fund consider requests for general operating support?**

**Preference will be given as noted in each field of interest area. See funding guidelines for more information.**

**14. May I submit more than one application to the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation Youth Sports and Recreation COVID 19 Fund at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo?**

**Organizations are limited to one application per funding category but can apply to multiple funding categories.**

**15. If I received a 2020 Ralph C. Wilson, Jr, Legacy Fund grant, can I apply again to the Youth Sports and Recreation COVID 19 Fund?**

Organizations can apply again to the Youth Sports and Recreation COVID 19 Fund. However, please keep the following points in mind: the fund was established to reach a wider variety of organizations to offer alternative and safe youth sport programming. So, if the fund receives a large number of equally strong proposals, a previous grant may be one factor in the decision to give to another organization.

**16. Can my 501(c)(3) organization serve as a pass-through agency for a non-incorporated group?**

No, 501(c)(3) organizations may not serve as pass-through agencies for non-incorporated groups.

**17. Can my organization apply for a grant from this fund at the Community Foundation and funding from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr., Foundation?**

Yes. The purposes of the two funding pools are slightly different. The Ralph C. Wilson Jr., Youth Sports, and Recreation COVID 19 Fund at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo was established to address WNY youth sport programs during the COVID 19 crisis and recovery. The grants made from these funds are distinct from the grants made by the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation directly.

In most cases, the Ralph C. Wilson Jr., Youth Sports and Recreation COVID 19 Fund support localized projects for which a small grant can make all the difference.

The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation aims to support more significant initiatives with broad impact and reach with its grantmaking. More information about their grantmaking can be found at <http://www.ralphwilsonjrfoundation.org/>.