

**2023 Summer Programming Request for Proposals Info Session
December 1, 2022**

Q&A Portion

Q: The current deadline to apply for this RFP is January 16, 2023, which is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

A: This is an error! The Hartford Foundation is closed to observe this holiday. The new deadline will be Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 11:59pm.

Q: Can a nonprofit submit more than one application for different programs?

A: While a 501c3 organization can serve as a fiscal sponsor for more than one project proposal, nonprofits can submit only one project of their own for 2023 summer programming.

Q: Can other work experiences offered to youth be included in the request or does the summer program RFP consider only counselor in training (CIT) experiences?

A: Other work experiences provided for older youth campers that mirror similar training or work experiences of CIT programs can still be considered for funding.

Q: Is there information about past summer program grants you have given?

A: The Hartford Foundation [has funded an array of summer programs](#) in the past. They range from STEM-based learning, farming and agriculture, music, dance, and the arts, science-based, overnight, residential camps, equine learning and therapy, summer literacy, and additional enrichment programs offered to other summer programs and camps.

Q: What if the location of the summer program is yet to be determined?

A: It is fine to put the office location as an address if a program site is not yet identified; however, it would be good to note in the project description that a site has not been identified, share any potential or likely sites, and offer a timeline of when a site will be determined. A program site is an important consideration for funding, so someone from the Community Impact team would inquire for an update based on the projected timeline that is disclosed.

Q: Can you briefly review any budgetary items that the Hartford Foundation will not cover in this grant?

A: Budget requests vary on programmatic need; however, the Hartford Foundation is interested in providing support for camperships or CIT programs for Hartford children and youth *or* individuals of any age with disabilities across our 29-town region. Therefore, this RFP will not fund budget line items that cover costs for other populations to be served. On occasion, organizations submit budgets with most line items of project costs across the board. In this instance, the request to the Hartford Foundation should be proportionate to the number of Hartford children versus total camp participants with total program costs.

Q: If an organization only needs \$5,000, are they encouraged to apply?

A: Absolutely! Requests can be “up to” \$50,000, but there is no need to ask for the full amount.

Q: We typically apply for 5 days/4 nights camp sessions, is this still eligible?

A: Yes. Overnight camps are eligible to apply.

Q: Is there a preference for programs that last most of the summer as compared to programs that last one or two weeks?

A: Because this RFP seeks to support working families by providing Hartford children with a place to go during the traditional workday while school is out of session in the summer, a longer summer program may be preferred because it is providing a stable, steady form of summer “childcare” so to speak. However, there are many factors that contribute to the strong eligibility of a summer program (e.g., accessibility, cost efficiency, number of Hartford children served, etc.), and there is inevitably likely to be variation in funded programs’ number of sessions.

Q: How many programs/grants will you award?

A: This depends on the number of applications received as well as the total amount requested. The Hartford Foundation has allocated a budget of approximately \$850,000 for 2023 summer programming. Requests do not always ask for the full available grant amount of \$50,000. In recent years, we have funded over 30 summer programs during one season. Sometimes portions of the requested budget are funded and sometimes the full request is funded.

Q: Is the CIT budget part of the \$50,000 total request or a separate budget?

A: CIT program budgets would need to fall under the \$50,000 request; they would not have a higher grant amount threshold available.

Q: In previous years, organizations were not allowed to request a funding amount higher than was awarded the previous year. For example, if we were given \$8k last year, we could not request more than that this year. Is that still the case?

A: No, this is not the case. Organizations can request a higher amount than what was received in previous years. However, staff will certainly note what amount the Hartford Foundation has supported for programs in previous years and seek to understand any reasoning behind an increased requested amount.

Q: Are any matching funds required? Or will programs with matching funds be viewed more favorably?

A: No, matching funds are not a requirement. Though, the rubric will ask application reviewers to assess a program’s sustainability, which includes the securement of other funds or revenue. Programs that have multiple revenue sources will score higher on that question of the rubric.

Q: Does the Hartford Foundation have a preferred way for grantees to report assessments done of the summer programs? Is there an excellent sample of a past one that could be shared?

A: We do have a standard reporting template that is specific to summer program grants.

Organizations are not expected by the foundation to perform assessments that extend beyond some of the basic reporting questions we ask for these grants, though they are certainly welcome to do so for their own assessment or benefit. For those who may have questions about the reporting template and examples of what is considered to be “strong” responses, please reach out to Kate Piotrowski, Community Impact Officer, at kpiotrowski@hfpg.org to discuss.