

Introduction

Writing a grant proposal can be intimidating and overwhelming. This resource can help you as you prepare to put together a proposal.

Getting started

Before writing a grant proposal, identify the specific problem/goal that the funding will be used for. Focusing on single, specific goals (rather than general improvement) can help steer grant proposals and project ideas.

Develop relationships with grantmakers when possible. Communicate with grantmakers about your work periodically, even when you are not in the process of submitting an application. This may help you learn about future funding possibilities, give you ideas for your own projects and may improve your chances for a successful proposal. (Cristina Vélez is our Sport Development Manager for grants and can be reached at cvelez@worldlacrosse.sport.)

Check the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) page. This can help answer any questions you may have before getting started or inform you of things you might not have originally considered.

Review all eligibility criteria and grant proposal requirements. Failing to meet requirements is one of the main reasons proposals are not successful. Check out our World Lacrosse Grant Program Diagram (below) to help you decide which one might be the best fit for your needs. This diagram can also be found on our website on our Grants Programs page.

Content of the proposal

1. Create a framework for the project. This will communicate how the activities will lead to the expected results.

- Outline the vision and mission of your project.
- Clearly state the aims and objectives and have a straightforward work plan.
- State the direct results of the proposed activities (e.g. number of people trained, or activities organized) along with anticipated effects (short, intermediate or long-term).
- Address any potential complications and explain how you will handle them.
- Convey your skills, competencies, genuine interest, understanding and enthusiasm about the proposal.
- Be realistic. Don't propose more work than can be reasonably done within the prospective timeframe and make sure that it is proportionate to the number of personnel available and their capabilities.

2. Create an evaluation plan. This will help both you and the grantmakers keep track of progress and success.

- Specify what success will look like (e.g. Number of new coaches trained or athletes signed up for a new team) and be specific about how success will be measured (e.g. Number of certificates issued or attendance sheets reports).

- Determine who will be responsible for collecting data (coordinators, developers, coaches etc).

3. Prepare a budget. Remember that everything in the budget must be justified and support the work you propose to do.

- Explicitly outline the amount of funding requested for each activity (e.g. field costs, travel, equipment) and include a justification for each expense. (Why is each one necessary?)
- Include other forms of possible revenues (e.g. Local funding, membership dues, additional collaborations) and consider appropriate matching funds.

4. Plan for sustainability. Grantmakers generally want to see a plan for how the project or initiative will be maintained after the grant period.

- Show a business plan that outlines what resources will be necessary to sustain the program and how it will be achieved.
- Discuss specific tactics that will be used to sustain the effort.

What to consider

When writing your proposal, think like a reviewer. Funders often read many proposals in great detail so submitting a clear, well-written and organized application can really improve your chances. Keep in mind the following points that reviewers generally consider when evaluating proposals.

- Project quality, anticipated success and impact (short, intermediate or long-term).
- Aims and objectives and their link to methodology.
- Planning and project management.
- Ability of applicant(s) to do the project.
- Organization's commitment to the sustainability of the project after grant funding ends.

Which Grant is Best for Your Organization?

World Lacrosse Grants

CF/NGB Development Grants

CFs and NGBs are eligible to receive grant funding to undertake a grassroots development project or activity that furthers the education of coaches or officials, supports organizational development, or creates measurable programs designed to recruit, train, and retain athletes.

BCH Youth Development and Equipment Grants

BCH grants provide support to programs that have an emphasis on recruiting, training, and retaining participants between 4 and 16 years of age. Applicants can request support starting programs, obtaining equipment, educational clinics, and a variety of other areas.

Instructional Clinic Grants

WL offers clinic support for players, coaches, and officials of all ages, genders, and skill levels. WL can provide funding and guidance for NGBs hosting their own clinics as well as hands-on support from experienced facilitators.

Emerging Member Support Grants

Organizations with a unified group of leaders and a detailed development strategy are eligible to receive funding and organizational support. Recipient organizations should be working towards becoming a recognized NGB.

Our Organization Needs :

		Equipment	Coach Development	Officials Development	Player Development	Organizational Support
Our Organization Is:	Continental Federation	CF/NGB Development	CF/NGB Development	CF/NGB Development	CF/NGB Development	CF/NGB Development
	National Governing Body	CF/NGB Development	CF/NGB Development	CF/NGB Development	CF/NGB Development	CF/NGB Development
		BCH Youth Development	Instructional Clinic	Instructional Clinic	Instructional Clinic	
Emerging Governing Body or Lacrosse Organization	Emerging Member Support	Emerging Member Support	Emerging Member Support	Emerging Member Support	Emerging Member Support	
		BCH Youth Development			BCH Youth Development	