

2021 SKATE PARK GRANT PROGRAM

Information and Guidelines

WELCOME

The Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission is pleased to announce that the 2021 Skate Park Grant Program was funded by the Minnesota Legislature through a bonding bill in October of 2020. We look forward to receiving your applications and thank you for the work you do to improve the quality of facilities that the citizens of Minnesota experience through skate boarding. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission, welcome. ~Todd Johnson, Executive Director

GENERAL INFORMATION

The State of Minnesota, acting through its agency, the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission (MASC), is seeking proposals from interested communities to build, improve and/or update skate parks.

The 2021 grant program has funding of \$250,000 to help Minnesota communities to build, improve and update skate parks. Grant recipients must have at least one local partner who is a political subdivision of the state and all grant applications require a minimum one-to-one dollar match from non-state sources. The LGU will be the fiscal agent for the grant funds and will execute the application form and resolution. Other entities can be the owner and/or operator of the skate park, thus the beneficiary of the grant award. The grants are for reimbursement of costs for completed projects. The maximum grant award for 2021 will be \$125,000. Funds from this program CANNOT be used for programs.

The MASC reserves the right to cancel or amend this solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest.

GRANT TYPES

There is only one type of grant through the 2021 program and that is for facilities of a local or statewide draw. The maximum award is \$125,000.

The result of a successful grant shall be to develop skate parks capable of hosting competitions and training, serve as a recreational amenity for the community for users of all ages, and maximize the community's ability to generate economic benefits.

GOALS

The MASC intends for this grant program to accomplish the following goals:

1. Encourage communities and organizations to work in partnership to develop and operate skate parks.
2. Provide increased opportunities for female participation in skate boarding.
3. Encourage the development of skate parks that serve community sport and non-sport needs and ensure skate boarding groups will also have adequate access to the facility.

TASKS

Respondents are asked to complete the following tasks:

1. Complete responses to the content sections of the application, including addressing the evaluation criteria.
2. Respondent may submit additional information and documentation if they enhance the goals of the project.
3. Successfully comply with the grant terms and complete the project on a timely basis.

AGENCY CONTACTS

Prospective responders who have questions regarding this application may contact:

Karah Lodge	Jayme Murphy	Lynda Lynch
Program Director	Program Administrator	MASC Fiscal Administrator
klodge@mnsports.org	jmurphy@mnsports.org	llynch@mnsports.org

Other agency personnel are NOT allowed to discuss the proposal with anyone, including responders, before the proposal submission deadline. Interested applicants can review and complete an application on the agency's website: www.mnsports.org/skate-park-grant or request an application from the above contact.

DEADLINE

All applications must be received no later than Monday, March 15, 2021. Send three physical copies and one electronic version (to grants@mnsports.org) of the application to:

MASC – Skate Park
1750 105th Avenue NE
Blaine, Minnesota 55449

A complete application will include:

1. Application Form
2. Resolution of LGU
3. Responses to content sections of the evaluation criteria

Grant Amount

The MASC is authorized by the 2020 Legislature to appropriate up to \$250,000 for this program. Respondents must demonstrate how they intend to augment the state grant with matching funds. Maximum grant awards for the 2021 program will be \$125,000.

Project Completion

For 2021 grant award recipients, the project must be completed by October 15, 2022.

APPLICATION FORM

1. Enter the name of the Local Government Unit (LGU) responsible. This is the agency with whom the grant agreement will be executed.
2. The LGU Application Contact is an official that can legally sign agreements and will receive all official communications.
3. Project name and physical address.
4. The Primary Contact is an individual who will have direct responsibility for the day-to-day activities of the project and to whom project inquiries can be directed (e.g. Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, Mayor, City Manager, County Engineer, etc.).
5. Minnesota Tax ID Number of the LGU. Federal Employer ID Number. List the federal employer identification number assigned to the LGU by the Internal Revenue Service.
6. Minnesota House of Representative District Number where the facility is located. See gis.leg.mn/OpenLayers/districts/
7. Signature of authorized official of the LGU, such as Chairperson of the County Board, Mayor, or other person as authorized by resolution from the LGU.

RESOLUTION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT

The LGU is required to execute a resolution which authorizes filing of the application and the execution of final agreements with the MASC if their project is selected.

Local Financial Commitment. The LGU is required to provide either documentation of funds secured or demonstrate how it intends to fundraise for the local financial commitment. All awards must be matched by non-state funds equal to or greater than the award amount.

Description of Project. Indicate if the skate park will be a bowl, street plaza, flow, or combination of these elements. Will elements be permanent or movable fixtures?

Project Budget. Submit a complete budget for the project.

Operating Budget. The LGU receiving the grant must maintain the skate park. What is the annual budget the LGU has dedicated to the maintenance of the skate park?

Response to Evaluation Criteria. Either within the above sections or in a separate section, provide material responsive to the Evaluation Criteria listed here:

1. **Partnerships**
Projects that have active partners – other public entities or private organizations – involved in contributing funds or a formal agreement to manage, maintain, or use the facility will receive more points for this category.
2. **Increased capacity**
Projects receive the highest scores for building new facilities. Creating new or expanded athletic or recreational opportunities at existing facilities will also receive higher scores for this category.
3. **Improved conditions**

Demonstrating existing recreational opportunities would be improved.

4. **Matching funds ratio**

Applications are scored on a sliding scale according to the ratio of the amount of matching funds to the total project cost. A higher percentage of matching funds receive more points.

5. **Community support**

Demonstrated non-monetary support of community organizations, such as volunteer hours or official letters of support, will receive points in this category.

6. **Number of youth served**

Self-explanatory.

7. **User demographic characteristics**

Socio-economic factors of the user groups.

8. **Environmental improvements**

List and describe environmental improvements.

9. **Stewardship and sustainability**

Demonstrate that the applicant has responsibly maintained current facilities and has the ability to provide long-term operational support and maintenance for the proposed facility.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Applicants should note the specific statutory priorities found in Minnesota Statutes Section 240A.20, Subd.3. as amended in 2020:

Subd. 3. Criteria for grants to local units of government for public skate parks.

(a) The commission shall administer a site selection process for the skate parks. The commission shall invite proposals from cities or counties or consortia of cities. A proposal for a skate park must include matching contributions including in-kind contributions of land, access roadways and access roadway improvements, and necessary utility services, landscaping, and parking.

(b) The location for all proposed facilities must be in areas of maximum demonstrated interest and must maximize accessibility to an arterial highway, transit, or pedestrian or bike path.

(c) To the extent possible, all proposed facilities must be dispersed equitably, must be located to maximize potential for full utilization, must accommodate noncompetitive family and community skating for all ages, and must encourage use of skate parks by a diverse population.

(d) The commission will give priority to proposals that come from more than one local government unit.

(e) The commission may also use the money to upgrade, rehabilitate, or renovate current facilities.

(f) To the extent possible, 50 percent of all grants must be awarded to communities in greater Minnesota.

(g) A grant awarded under subdivision 2, clause (2), may not exceed \$250,000 unless the grantee demonstrates that the facility will have a regional or statewide draw. A grant awarded under subdivision 2, clause (2), may be for up to \$750,000 for a skate park with regional impact. A grant awarded under subdivision 2, clause (2), may be for up to \$2,000,000 for a skate park with statewide draw.

(h) In selecting projects to be awarded grants under this section, the commission must give priority to those projects that are designated by experts in the field of skate park design and are to be constructed by professionals with experience in the construction of skate parks.

(i) To be eligible for a grant under this section, a local government must have engaged or must commit to engage youth in the planning, design, and programming for the skate park.

DISTRIBUTION OF AWARDS

To the extent possible, the MASC Board of Directors will attempt to balance awards between the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area and greater Minnesota.

The MASC Board will make final determinations for grant awards. The MASC will prioritize the grant awards based on satisfying the goals of the program as stated above, the legislative requirements expressed in statute, and the specific criteria for each grant type listed above.

STATE CONTRACT RULES

State of Minnesota contract rules will apply to this project.

Updated: February 9, 2021