

2021 Boston Summer Eats Grants Request for Application

Background

The City of Boston Mayor's Office of Food Access (OFA)'s mission is to improve equitable access to nutritious food concerning affordability, physical accessibility, and cultural appropriateness. To fulfill this mission, OFA has partnered with Project Bread's Child Nutrition Outreach Program (CNOP), and YMCA of Greater Boston to increase the number of non-traditional Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sites in the City of Boston.

The SFSP, known as Summer Eats in Massachusetts, is a federal program administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in Massachusetts. The SFSP ensures that low-income children ages 18 and under receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. Because of COVID-19, SFSP sites have remained open throughout the 2020-21 school year and will continue to be open for summer.

The Boston Summer Eats program is an innovative effort to close the meal gap by increasing non-traditional meal sites in the city, making meals available to all children in the entire city of Boston. For the last four years, the Office of Food Access has provided grants to community organizations to host meal sites and make them the driving force of change.

Eligibility

In 2021, Boston Summer Eats grants are open to any new or existing Summer Eats sites serving the City of Boston hosting free summer meal sites. All Boston Summer Meal sites will be required to use the YMCA of Greater Boston as a meal sponsor.

Award Range and Allowable Expenses

There are three categories of grants available for Community Based Organizations depending on the number of days hosting a meal site:

- Five days a week, up to \$4,000
- Three days a week, up to \$2,400
- Two to one day a week, range up to \$1,600

- For summer 2021, grant funds are to be used exclusively for personnel to help staff the site and the funding is determined based on the number of operational days/hours.
- Monetary awards are accompanied by comprehensive technical assistance and support.
- All sites use the grab & go model, and distribute breakfast and lunch together.

Criteria Used for Grant Review

All applications will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- The applicant organization should operate in the City of Boston.
- Existing resources available within the community to meet the need.
- Inclusion of the above funding priorities within the grant proposal.
- Commitment to administer and do community outreach for Boston Summer Eats in their respective neighborhoods.
- Pledge to provide meals to all children and teens ages 18 and under. Recipients shall not discriminate based on race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.

Application Process and Deadline

- You can apply for the Boston Summer Eats Grant [here](#).
- All applications must be submitted by **June 11, 2021**. Only applications with complete and accurate application materials to be considered for funding.

Reporting Requirements

- Daily reporting submission of number of meals distributed

Required Marketing

All 2021 awardees are expected to work with The Mayor's Office of Food Access, Project Bread's Child Nutrition Outreach Program, and YMCA of Greater Boston to promote Summer Eats within their community, including the incorporation of the Boston Summer Eats brand.

- For summer 2021, all Boston Summer Eats sites will have access to a variety of outreach and promotional resources free-of-charge, provided by CNOP in

partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. 2021 available materials include:

- Customizable Posters (in multiple languages)
 - Customizable Palm Cards (in multiple languages)
 - Sandwich Boards
 - T-shirts for youth and staff
 - Social media resources
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- The materials above will be provided at no cost.

Contact Information

Please contact the Office of Food Access at food@boston.gov or at 617-635-3717 with any questions.