

SWIM SAFE BOSTON
LESSON ACCESS GRANTS
APPLICATION

Mayor Michelle Wu, the Office of Human Services (OHS), and the Boston Centers for Youth & Families are pleased to announce applications are now being accepted for the Swim Safe Boston Accessibility Grant. Through this competitive grant application, up to **\$150,000** will be awarded to Boston nonprofit organizations to provide **free beginner swim lessons** to Boston residents.

Swim Safe Boston seeks to improve water safety in Boston, address the public health threat posed by drowning, and increase access to swimming for Boston families. Drowning is the leading cause of death among children in the U.S. according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Swim lessons are one effective strategy to reduce drowning risk; some studies estimate that swim lessons can cut a child's risk of drowning by up to 90 percent. Providing lessons that are free and easily accessible to families lowers barriers to access, especially for low-income residents.

The Swim Safe access grants are competitive grants. The maximum award that will be considered for this round of Swim Safe funding is \$25,000, although most awards are expected to be in the range of \$5,000-10,000. Awards will vary in size. Any funding awarded must be used to fund programming that will be completed before the end of the City's fiscal year (June 30, 2024). The City may award full funding, partial funding or no funding. Swim Safe will prioritize non-profit applicants that operate pool locations in Boston, have an established track record of offering aquatics programming to Boston residents, and are able to collect and submit data on program outcomes.

Applicant Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- Applicants must be a non-profit 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. Boston Public Schools-affiliated entities are encouraged to apply.
- Applicants may apply for programs that run on an ongoing basis. Funding will

NOT be available for one-time events.

- Programming sites must be located in the city of Boston.
- Only beginner level swim programs will be eligible under this grant. The goal of this program is to get as many residents as possible to have basic water safety skills, so this funding is not available for intermediate or advanced-level swim classes.
- Programs funded by this grant must be free for participants.
- Programs must be able to demonstrate that they either operate the aquatics facility where the programming will take place or that they have a partnership with an aquatics facility that can accommodate the proposed program.
- Preference will be given to programs that serve Boston residents that are predominantly made up of socially and economically disadvantaged and historically underrepresented groups or underserved markets.

SwimSafe Award Recipient Requirements

If selected, the following will be required to remain in compliance:

- Applicants or programs must be currently in operation or starting no later than **April 30, 2024**.
- Award recipients will be required to attend a virtual **Mandatory Award Orientation**.
- Award recipients must submit regular reports on program outcomes. The report format will be provided by the Mayor's Office of Human Services.

Grant Details

- **Contact Information:** lisa.conley@boston.gov
- **Source of Funding:** FY24 City of Boston Operating Funds
- **Total Amount Available for Grant Program:** \$150,000
- **Award Amount per Grant per Organization:** Up to \$25,000

Swim Safe Application Timeline

The SwimSafe Boston grants will award up to \$150,000 to nonprofits providing free beginner swim lessons to Boston residents.

The maximum grant award is \$25,000. Awards will vary in size.

Nonprofit organizations or those using a fiscal sponsor are invited to apply. Please read the eligibility and program requirements carefully.

Timeline

- Application released Feb 29, 2024
- Optional Information Session Mar 7, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
 - Meeting ID
 - meet.google.com/eyq-kwen-ugt
 - Phone Numbers
 - (US)+1 402-865-0149
 - PIN: 127 092 825#
- Applications must be received by Apr 8, 2024
- The Review Committee will select grantees by Apr 12, 2024
- The grant period will begin May 1, 2024

Applications are now open. Responses are due by **Monday, April 8, 2024 at 4 p.m.**

1. Application Eligibility Requirements

- a. Is your organization classified as a non-profit 501(c)3 tax exempt organization or applying with a non-profit fiscal sponsor? Y/N
- b. Do you offer swim lessons located in the City of Boston? Y/N
- c. Is this application in support of an on-going program (as opposed to a one-time event)? Y/N

A “No” answer on any of the above questions will result in the ineligibility status of your program to receive this funding and your application process will end.

2. Organizational Information

- a. Legal Name of Applicant Organization
- b. Executive Director/ President/ CEO
- c. Organization Legal Street Address
- d. Organization Zip Code
- e. Organization website/ URL
- f. Organizational mission statement (50 words or less)
- g. Description of the organization: Organization's history, goals and objectives, programs and services, and organizational structure. (300 words or less)
- h. Brief overview of population served (25 words or less)
- i. Total FY24 Organizational Budget
- j. How would you describe your organization?
 - i. American Indian-led
 - ii. Asian- or Pacific Islander-led
 - iii. Immigrant-led
 - iv. Woman-led
 - v. Black- or African-American-led
 - vi. LGBTQI-led
 - vii. Hispanic/Latinx-led
 - viii. Older Adults (60+)-led
 - ix. Veteran-Led
 - x. Led by people with disabilities
 - xi. Youth-led
- k. Program Contact Information
 - i. Program Contact (if awarded funding, this person be primary contact with OHS)
 - ii. Phone number
 - iii. Email

- l. Is your organization classified as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit organization? (Y/N)
 - i. Yes (If yes is selected, continue to the next section, “Additional Organizational Information”.)
 - ii. No, we will be using a fiscal sponsor. (If no is selected, continue to the section “Fiscal Sponsor Information”.)

3. Additional Organization Information

- Organization EIN Number
- Please submit proof of your organization's non-profit status (This may include the letter of IRS determination, a 990-EZ or 990, or any other form of proof you may have.)
 - Add file
- Please upload a signed W-9 form from your organization.
- Please enter your City of Boston Supplier/Vendor ID.
 - You must have a valid Supplier/Vendor ID number to receive a grant from the City of Boston. This also enables you to sign up for direct deposit! If you are using a Fiscal Sponsor, they must register for the Supplier/Vendor ID. If you do not have a Supplier/Vendor ID yet, please type in “Pending”.
 - Supplier/Vendor ID is NOT required to apply for a grant, but the Supplier/Vendor ID MUST be established before a grant is approved and a payment is processed. Detailed instructions for first-time or returning users who need help can be found here: [Supplier/Vendor ID Instructions](#).
 - Please email vendor.questions@boston.gov or call 617-961-1058 for additional assistance.

4. Fiscal Sponsor Information (if applicable)

- Fiscal Sponsor Organization Name
- Fiscal Sponsor Organization Street Address
- Fiscal Sponsor Organization City
- Fiscal Sponsor Organization State
- Fiscal Sponsor Organization Zip Code

- Fiscal Sponsor Organization EIN #
- Fiscal Sponsor Contact Person Name
- Fiscal Sponsor Contact Person Email Address
- Fiscal Sponsor Contact Person Phone Number
- Please submit proof of your fiscal sponsor's non-profit status (This may include the letter of IRS determination, a 990-EZ or 990, or any other form of proof you may have.)
 - Add file
- Please upload a signed W-9 form from your fiscal sponsor.
- Please enter your fiscal sponsor's City of Boston Supplier/Vendor ID:
 - *Your fiscal sponsor must have a valid Supplier/Vendor ID number to receive a grant from the City of Boston. This also enables your fiscal sponsor to sign up for direct deposit if you are selected to receive a grant.*
 - *Supplier/Vendor ID is NOT required to apply for this grant, but the Supplier ID MUST be established before a grant is approved and a payment is processed.*
 - *Please email vendor.questions@boston.gov or call 617-961-1058 for additional assistance. For assistance using the Supplier Portal, creating a new vendor account, updating existing vendor account updates, creating a User ID, etc. you will find detailed instructions with screenshots [at this link](#).*
 - *If your fiscal sponsor does not have a Supplier/Vendor ID yet, please enter "No Supplier/Vendor ID" below.*

5. Program Location & Description

- a. Please indicate the neighborhood(s) in which your program will

PRIMARILY operate:

- i. Allston/Brighton
- ii. Charlestown
- iii. Chinatown
- iv. Dorchester
- v. East Boston
- vi. Hyde Park

- vii. Jamaica Plain
- viii. Mattapan
- ix. Mission Hill
- x. North End
- xi. Roslindale
- xii. Roxbury
- xiii. South Boston
- xiv. South End
- xv. West End
- xvi. West Roxbury

- b. Please provide a description of the program for which you are seeking funding. Include the priority population for the program (e.g., demographics, including age range).
- c. Please provide an approximate number of individuals who will be served by the proposed program. If the program is an **existing** program, this number should be the estimated number of **additional** participants that would be served by the grant funding.
- d. What is the program and staff capacity? Please share demographic information, if available.
- e. Is your organization affiliated with Boston Public Schools? If so, please describe how your organization currently works with BPS (in-school or after-school programming, etc.)
- f. Describe your outreach, engagement or referral strategy to enroll participants.
- g. Please describe your intake process for individuals who would like to

access your free aquatics programming. (For example: Does your organization have an online platform where participants can sign-up? Do you have a call center?)

6. Budget

- a. Budget Narrative
- b. Total program budget FY24: \$
- c. Swim Safe funding request amount: \$
- d. If you are requesting more than \$10,000, please upload a detailed program budget using [this template](#). Note: Swim Safe will allow up to 10% in administrative costs to be included in the budget. If you are requesting funding for more than one type of aquatics programming, please provide a budget for each.