

**2024 CHICAGO BEARS
COMMUNITY ALL - PROS GRANT GUIDELINES**

A. Introduction

The Chicago Bears Community All-Pros Grant program is a 2024 community outreach initiative to award a total of \$105,000 to one (1) qualified charitable organization.

The Chicago Bears follows the National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities (NTEE) classification system and as part of this program shall solicit submissions from the following categories:

1. Arts, Culture, and Humanities
2. Education
3. Environment and Animal-Related
4. Health - (Health Care), (Mental Health & Crisis Intervention), (Health Associations), (Medical Research)
5. Human Services – (Crime & Legal-Related), (Employment), (Housing & Shelter), (Food, Agriculture & Nutrition), (Recreation & Sports) youth focused, (Youth Development)
6. Public, Societal Benefit – (Civil Rights, Social Action & Advocacy), (Community Improvement & Capacity Building), (Science & Technology), (Social Science), (Public & Societal Benefit)
7. W30 – Military/Veterans' Organizations

B. Eligibility

To be eligible for a Chicago Bears Community All Pros ("Community All-Pros") Grant, all organizations must meet the following criteria:

1. Have a mission consistent with the values of The Chicago Bears Football Club, Inc. ("Chicago Bears") Community Relations department.
2. Be a charitable organization currently recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") as a public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"). Applicant may not have received notice or information that its IRS determination letter has been revoked, modified, suspended or superseded by IRS action.
3. Have a reputation for credibility and integrity.
4. Be a local qualified organization based in the State of Illinois or the Chicago Bears Home Marketing Area (HMA), or a national qualified organization with an office in Illinois or the HMA. For purposes of this section, the Chicago Bears Home Marketing Area is defined as the City of Chicago and the area within 75 miles in every direction from the exterior corporate limits of the City of Chicago and the entire State of Illinois.
5. Organizational budget needs to be between \$500,000 and \$5,000,000 per fiscal year.
6. Submit a complete and an accurate application as further described in Section C below.

The following will not be eligible to apply:

1. Any organizations affiliated with current or former Chicago Bears employees (including players, coaches and staff) will not be eligible to apply.
2. Any organizations that have received a minimum of \$25,000 in grant or donations from the Chicago Bears, Bears Care, the Decatur Fund or any member of the McCaskey Family from the period beginning on January 1, 2023 and ending on September 6, 2024.
3. Any organizations that only award scholarships are not eligible to apply.
4. Any charity affiliated with Chicago Bears or Bears Care corporate partners or sponsors are not eligible to apply.

C. Application Process

1. Organizations interested in seeking a Grant must submit the official application via the Bears Community All-Pros website at www.chicagobears.com/communityallpros.
2. This application must be completed by the organization requesting funding. It is not to be completed by a Chicago Bears employee or by an individual not officially associated with or employed by the applicant organization.
3. Documents that will be requested via the online application will include:
 - (a) IRS letter of determination indicating 501(c)(3) status;
 - (b) Audited financials or a copy of 990 form;
 - (c) Listing of Board of Directors and their affiliation;
 - (d) Detailed line item budget for the specific program for which the funding is being requested. The entirety of the \$105,000 award must be utilized in the budget in the manner consistent with the organization's mission. We will also take into consideration where the fundraising currently stands;
 - (e) Funding requests for capital projects within a budget that exceeds the amount of the Community All-Pros grant to be awarded, should provide fundraising to date as well as the sources of additional revenue that are expected to contribute to the project.
5. As part of the application, each organization will be required to provide a brief example of how the organization has impacted a specific person or cause.

D. Monetary Grant Amount

There will be one (1) grant awarded to one (1) eligible charitable organization in the amount of \$105,000.

E. Timeline

1. Submissions for grants will open on Monday, September 9, 2024 and shall close on Monday, October 7, 2024.
2. Notifications will take place by Friday, December 13, 2024. All applicants will be notified of their application status via email.
3. Funding of the grant will take place by Friday, December 20, 2024.

F. Review

1. A grant application will not be eligible for review until the following are submitted by the deadline above (1) the completed grant application and (2) all additional required documents. Or – The Chicago Bears will only review/consider grant applications that are deemed complete, including all required supplemental documents, by 11:59 pm on October 7, 2024.
2. All grant applications will be subject to the Chicago Bears review of the organization's and its activities and the organization's agreement to comply with the Chicago Bears Community All-Pros Grant Guidelines and Grant Agreement. The Chicago Bears reserve the right to decline funding to any organization based on the Chicago Bears' review of the organization's reputation and activities and application materials.
3. The grant award will be determined by the Chicago Bears and a committee of Chicago Bears season ticket holders selected by the Chicago Bears in its sole discretion.

G. Final Report

1. Within twelve (12) months of the date of the Grant, each grant recipient is required to submit a final report to the Chicago Bears certifying how the grant funding was utilized.

Each applicant acknowledges the right of the Chicago Bears to reject any or all applications, in whole or in part, and to waive any informality or irregularity therein. Each applicant further acknowledges the right of the Chicago Bears to reject an application if the applicant fails to timely submit by application, or if the application is in any way incomplete or irregular. Chicago Bears may for its convenience, elect to terminate this program at any time prior to the established time and date for submission of applications. Should the Chicago Bears elect to terminate the program, applicants shall not be entitled to recover any costs from the Chicago Bears.