



YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2026

The Youth Scholarship Program reduces financial barriers for Fresno's youth (17 and younger) to participate in recreation programs such as sports, dance, and other recreational programs.

Application
Due Date
Feb 11
at 3:00 PM

OVERVIEW

The City of Fresno has appropriated \$50,000 of Measure P funding to implement a competitive grant program for non-profit organizations to manage the Youth Scholarship Program.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Youth Scholarship Program is to reduce financial barriers for Fresno's youth to participate in recreation programs such as sports, dance, etc. Non-profit organizations or programs who serve youth 3-17 years of age are eligible to apply. However, preference will be given to non-profit organizations or programs serving youth ages 12-17.

AVAILABLE FUNDING & ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

The City of Fresno is seeking between one (1) to three (3) non-profit organization(s) to manage the Youth Scholarship Program. The selected non-profit organization(s) will enter into a 12-month grant agreement with the City of Fresno. Under the terms of this agreement, awarded non-profit organization(s) will receive an upfront disbursement of funds to manage the Youth Scholarship Program.

Funds may be used for registration fees and/or necessary equipment up to \$300 per eligible youth, per year. The non-profit organization(s) shall cover program and equipment costs up to this \$300 on behalf of the eligible youth. Any program or equipment costs exceeding \$300 per eligible youth shall be the responsibility of the participant and are not reimbursable by the non-profit organization(s).

In addition to the \$50,000 allocation for scholarships and equipment, non-profit organization(s) can request up to 15% for indirect costs associated with program management, making the total award up to \$57,500. Indirect costs will be funded through the general fund.

ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS

Organizations that are eligible to apply to manage the Youth Scholarship Program must be:

- An active, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

In good standing with:

- Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
- California Franchise Tax Board
- California Secretary of State
- City of Fresno
- Located within the City of Fresno and must serve eligible City of Fresno youth.

The non-profit organization(s) selected to manage the Youth Scholarship Program found in violation of the Fresno Municipal Code, including but not limited to SEC. 5-502. – PROHIBITED ACTS IN PARKS, shall be deemed ineligible to receive funds under the Youth Scholarship Program. An organization shall be considered in violation if the City has issued a final citation, order, or administrative determination of violation.

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PRIORITIES

Grant applicants must include the three priorities below in their proposal to manage this program:

1. Youth receiving scholarships must show household need as defined by the Eligible Youth Criteria.
2. Eligible Youth Criteria: When managing the scholarship program, please note that all youth served must meet one of the criteria below to show household need:
 - a. Household income at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Line
 - b. Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Foster Youth participant
 - c. Receive CalWORKs, EBT, SNAP, or WIC
 - d. PG&E CARE or PG&E FERA program participant
 - e. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) participant
 - f. Live in a highest-needs neighborhood (see Exhibit A)
3. A minimum of 50% of the scholarships awarded to eligible youth must be for sports or recreation activities not currently offered by the PARCS Department or age groups not currently served (see table on page 3). Programs serving ages 12-17 will receive priority.

Youth Sports Offered by the PARCS Department														
Programs	Ages served													
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Basketball	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Outdoor Soccer	x	x	x	x										
T-Ball	x	x	x	x										
Cricket			x	x	x	x	x							
Flag Football					x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Futsal					x	x	x	x	x	x	x			

HOW TO APPLY

Grant applications must be submitted online by completing the grant application at <https://bit.ly/youthscholarshipprogram2026>

- Applications must be submitted by **February 11, 2026 by 3:00 PM**.
- A recent IRS Form 990 or IRS Letter of Determination certifying your organization's nonprofit status will also be due at the time of application.
- Hard copies and late applications will not be accepted.

For any questions, please contact PARCSContracts@fresno.gov or call (559) 621-7529.

POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Organization(s) awarded grant funding to manage this program must keep records to substantiate scholarships provided to eligible youth. A reporting template will be provided to collect the following information for each participant:

- First and last name
- Age/birthdate
- Race and ethnicity
- Home address
- Gender
- Name of program(s) they participated in
- Total scholarship provided per youth participant (not to exceed \$300 per eligible youth per year).
- Paid receipts or paid invoices associated with all registration and/or equipment purchases.

TIMELINE AND KEY MILESTONES

Date	Milestone
January 21, 2026	Release Grant Solicitation
February 11, 2026	Applications Due at 3:00pm
February 12, 2026	Selection Committee
Mid-February 2026	Recommended Program Awards
February - March 2026	Grant Agreement Process for Awarded Applicants
March 2026	Notice to Proceed
March 2026 - March 2027	Funding Term (includes monthly reporting)

SELECTION PROCESS AND SCORING RUBRIC CRITERIA

Responses will be evaluated by a Selection Committee (Committee). Following the evaluation of the responses, the Selection Committee may elect to interview some or all the Applicants or may otherwise seek clarification or amplification of the material submitted or may reject all responses. The Committee reserves the right to hold interviews or select a preferred response without interviews.

The Committee reserves the right to reject all responses or to waive minor irregularities. The Committee will make its recommendation to the City. The City reserves the right to make the selection of an Applicant based on any or all factors of value, whether quantitatively identifiable or not, including, but not limited to, the anticipated initiative and ability of the Applicant to perform the services set forth herein. The City may enter into negotiations with one or more organizations concurrently. The City will select the Applicant(s) who the City determines will provide the best value to the City, in its own discretion. The City has no obligation to enter into an agreement with any party as a result of their response to this offering.

This solicitation does not commit the City to enter into a contract or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of an application for grant funds. The City of Fresno reserves the right to accept or reject any application, and to negotiate with any qualified Organization, or to cancel in part or in its entirety this solicitation.

SCORING RUBRIC

The Selection Committee will review and evaluate all proposals after formal receipt. Applications will be scored by the Selection Committee utilizing the rubric below:

Score	Criteria
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responses are incomplete.• Does not demonstrate relevant experience.• Program priorities and requirements are not met.• The proposed budget is incomplete.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responses are partially complete.• Some experience is demonstrated.• Program priorities and requirements are partially met.• The proposed budget is unclear or contains errors.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responses are complete.• Relevant experience is demonstrated.• All program priorities and requirements are met.• The proposed budget is clear and reasonable for the program that's proposed.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responses are complete.• Relevant experience is demonstrated with more than one example.• All program priorities and requirements are met.• The proposed budget is clear and reasonable for the program that's proposed.• Organization plans to leverage existing community relationships to maximize program reach.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responses are complete.• Relevant experience is demonstrated with more than one example.• All program priorities and requirements are met and exceeded.• The proposed budget is clear and reasonable for the program that's proposed.• The organization plans to leverage existing community relationships to maximize program reach.• In-kind matching is identified in the proposed budget.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE

The City of Fresno recognizes that the proposals may include proprietary or confidential information. The City will take every reasonable precaution in protecting such information if it is clearly identified as proprietary or confidential on the page on which it appears. However, the City is subject to the California Public Records Act and must disclose records as required by the Act. Proposals submitted as a part of this will not be returned.

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CONTACT

For questions, please contact: PARCSContracts@fresno.gov.

Questions will be accepted, in writing, only up to five (5) working days prior to the proposal date to allow the City, if necessary, to issue an addendum to all proposers stating revisions, deletions, or additions to be made to the Grant Solicitation as a result of any questions. If questions arise after the deadline, please contact the designated the PARCS Contract at the email above, but the City will not guarantee a response.

All questions must be submitted, in writing via the email above. Responses to the questions received will be posted on the City of Fresno website for all potential applicants to access. The City will not be responsible for verbal responses made by parties other than the PARCSContracts@fresno.gov or designee.

DEBARMENT

A non-profit organization may be debarred from bidding or proposing upon or being awarded any contract with the City, or from being a subcontractor or supplier at any tier upon such contract, in accordance with the procedures in Fresno Municipal Code Section 4-104 adopted by Council on May 17, 2018. The initial period of any such debarment shall not be less than one year and may be permanent depending on the violation. A Bidder may request a hearing, in accordance with Fresno Municipal Code Section 4-104, upon receipt of a notice of proposed debarment from the City Manager or designee. A copy of the ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, California 93721.

REGULATED COMMUNICATIONS

The Regulated Communications in City Procurement Process Ordinance (Article 6, Chapter 4 of the Fresno Municipal Code) became effective April 29, 2004. With certain specified exceptions, the Ordinance provides that no Respondent, Bidder, Proposer (as the case may be) shall initiate, engage in, or continue any communication to or with any

City elected official concerning or touching upon any matter which is the subject of this competitive procurement process.

Any Respondent, Bidder, Proposer, or elected official (as the case may be) who initiates, engages in, continues in, or receives any regulated communication shall file the written disclosure required by the Regulated Communications in City Procurement Process Ordinance.

Any Respondent, Bidder, or Proposer violating the Regulated Communications in City Procurement Process Ordinance may be disqualified from participating in this procurement process and/or determined to be non-responsible. Additionally, the City may set aside the award of a contract, prior to its execution, to a party found to have violated the Ordinance.

Note: The full text of Fresno Municipal Code, Chapter 4, Article 6 may be viewed on the City's website at, <http://www.fresno.gov>. Under Departments, Finance, Municipal Code, or view the Fresno Municipal Code directly at:
https://library.municode.com/ca/fresno/codes/code_of_ordinances

PUBLIC RECORDS

The proposals received shall become the property of the City of Fresno and are subject to public disclosure. Those parts of a proposal which are defined by the Proposer as business or trade secrets as that term is defined in California Civil Code, Section 3426.1, and are reasonably marked "Trade Secrets", "Confidential", or "Proprietary", and placed in a separate envelope shall only be disclosed to the public if such disclosure is required or permitted under the California Public Records Act or otherwise by law. Proposers who indiscriminately and without justification identify most, or all, of their proposal as exempt from disclosure may not be considered for award. Proposals, excluding confidential information, will be available for review after posting of staff recommendation.

INDEMNIFICATION

To the furthest extent allowed by law, Proposer shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the City and each of its officers, officials, employees, agents, and volunteers from any and all loss, liability, fines, penalties, forfeitures, costs and damages (whether in contract, tort or strict liability, including but not limited to personal injury, death at any time and property damage) incurred by the City, Proposer or any other person, and from any and all claims, demands and actions in law or equity (including reasonable attorney's fees, litigation expenses and cost to enforce this Agreement), arising or alleged to have arisen directly or indirectly out of performance of this Agreement. Proposer's obligations under the preceding sentence shall apply regardless of whether the City or any of its

officers, officials, employees, agents, or volunteers are negligent, but shall not apply to any loss, liability, fines, penalties, forfeitures, costs or damages caused solely by the gross negligence, or caused by the willful misconduct, of the City or any of its officers, officials, employees, agents, or volunteers.

If Proposer should subcontract all or any portion of the work to be performed under this Agreement, Proposer shall require each subcontractor to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the City and each of its officers, officials, employees, agents, and volunteers in accordance with the terms of the preceding paragraph.

This section shall survive termination or expiration of the RFP and Agreement.

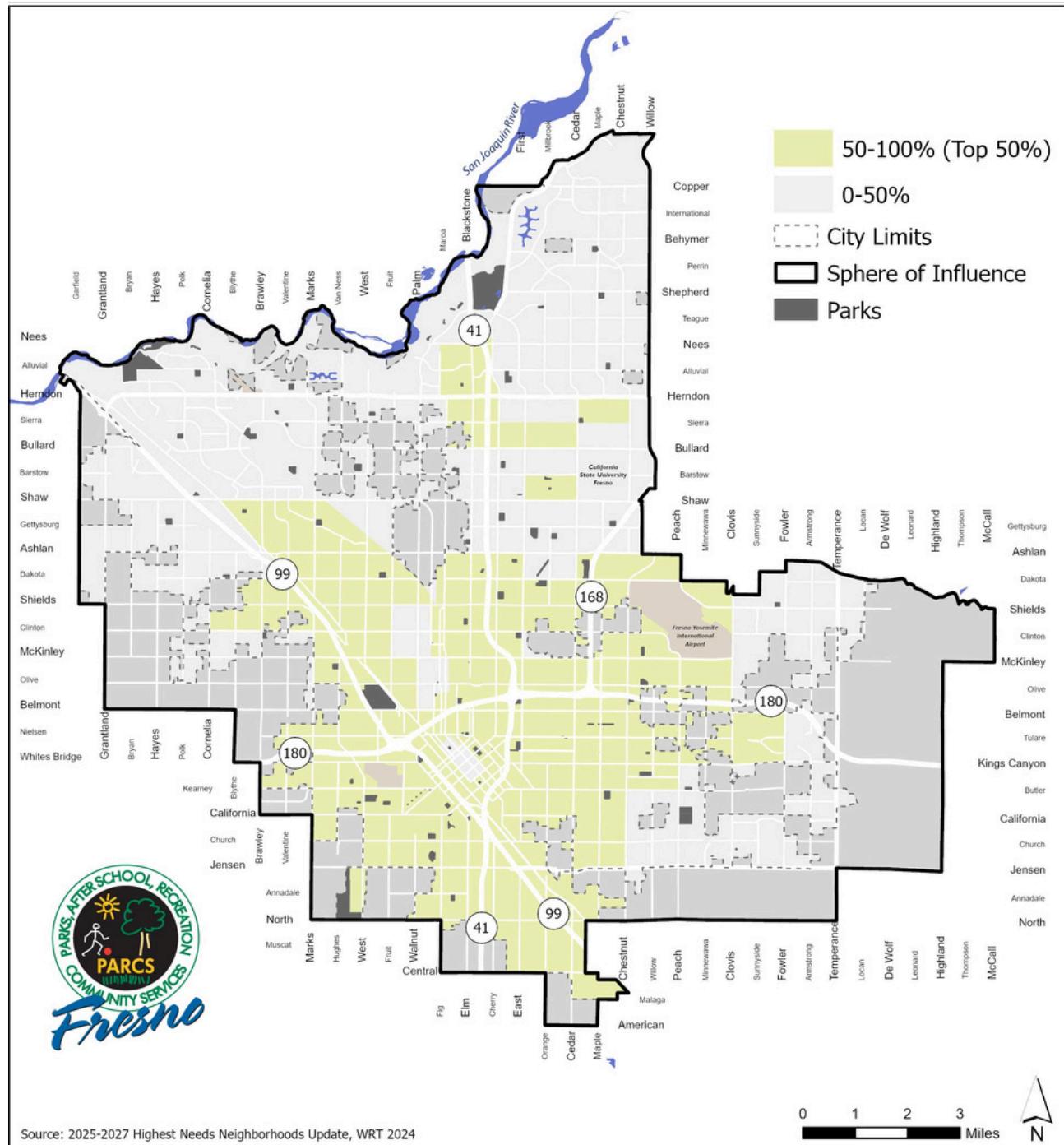
DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

The Proposer may become involved in situations where conflict of interest could occur due to individual or organizational activities that occur within the City. The Proposer must provide a statement addressing the potential, if any, for conflict of interest and indicate plans, if applicable, to address potential conflict of interest. This section will be reviewed by City Counsel for compliance with conflict of interest as part of the review process. The Proposer shall comply with all federal, state and local conflict of interest laws, statutes and regulations.

EXHIBIT A:

HIGHEST-NEED NEIGHBORHOODS (HNN) MAP

Source Link: <https://www.fresno.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/2025-0115-Highest-Need-Neighborhood-Report.pdf>



Source: 2025-2027 Highest Needs Neighborhoods Update, WRT 2024