



Youth Program Resilience Fund

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Youth Program Resilience Fund?

The Youth Program Resilience Fund was established by Lilly Endowment Inc. to make available up to \$20 million to address some of the unique challenges youth-serving organizations face due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The fund is designed to provide some support to these organizations as they serve youth ages five to 18 years old in accordance with public health guidance.

Is this a request for proposals?

No. This is a unique opportunity to provide information about your youth programs or services and how your organization's provision of those programs or services has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are looking for a description of your youth programs and services, the types of modifications that you have made or plan to make to those activities or facilities in which you conduct them in response to the pandemic, and corresponding expenses, loss of revenue, and other factors that have affected your organization's ability to serve youth.

How much funding can our organization receive?

At this time, the Endowment is not providing information about the amount of funding eligible organizations may receive. The funding amounts will depend on the number and quality of applications received. The Endowment has allocated up to \$20 million for YPRF. If funding is offered, it is likely that the organization will need to raise additional funding or modify programs in order to fully address its challenges arising from the pandemic.

How many organizations will receive funding?

The Endowment has not established a predetermined number of organizations to support with YPRF. The number of organizations that will receive funding will depend on the number and quality of applications received. It is unlikely that every organization that applies for YPRF funding will receive a grant.

Is the fund restricted to large, youth-serving organizations?

No. All eligible youth-serving organizations, including grassroots and small nonprofits, may respond to the RFI.

Do early learning programs qualify for support through YPRF?

No. YPRF is designed to help support programs and services for youth ages five to 18. Early childhood organizations seeking support related to the impact of COVID-19 should refer to Early Learning Indiana's Come Back Stronger Fund (www.earlylearningin.rog/comebackstronger), made possible by a grant from Lilly Endowment.

The RFI states that schools and government agencies are not eligible for funding from YPRF. Would a university, college, or trade school be eligible?

No. For the purposes of the YPRF, we are viewing universities, colleges and trade schools as schools.

What is the period covered by YPRF?

The programming period for funds awarded under YPRF is September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021. Expenses incurred prior to September 1, 2020 to prepare for programming consistent with YPRF aims are eligible to be included as long as there is a rationale for the expense in relation to the applicant's reopening or continued programming in compliance with the public health guidelines.

What impact does this have on my organization applying for other Endowment grants?

Receiving a YPRF award will not affect any other funding decision by Lilly Endowment.

My organization is part of a larger network. Should I submit a separate application for my organization's site or should the network submit for all sites?

If an organization has separate corporate and tax status that meets the eligibility criteria for YPRF, the organization may submit an application on its own behalf even if it is affiliated with or part of a larger network. If an organization is not independently eligible to respond but is a site for a larger network that is eligible, the organization may be included in that network's application. Importantly, a network that is eligible to apply for YPRF support may submit only one application for the network parent itself, all of the network's sites or a select subset of the network's sites. In determining how to apply, consideration should be given to the services and needs of each network site, if those services and needs can be adequately described in one application, and if a site that will apply separately meets all of the eligibility requirements under the RFI.

To qualify for YPRF, is my youth-serving organization required to meet or exceed previous service levels? What if we may not be able to serve more youth than we did in 2019, but support is needed to serve a similar or slightly reduced number in compliance with public safety standards?

No. The goal of YPRF is to support organizations in offering safe services to as many youth as possible in compliance with public health standards. It is understood that service levels may fluctuate based on a number of factors, such as: types of services and accommodations required; parents' and caregivers' comfort levels in allowing their children to participate in group activities; the number of youth that can be accommodated due to space restrictions; and school schedules.

How do we demonstrate evidence of external validation and quality of programming?

Evidence of external validation and quality of programming that effectively addresses youth development issues may vary depending on the types of programs and services. It may include industry recognized program accreditation or support or recognition by the Indiana Family Services Administration (FSSA), Indiana Department of Education, other government bodies, United Ways, and foundations. Participation in FSSA's Voluntary Certification Program and/or compliance with Child Care Development Fund requirements and other government standards requiring evaluation or monitoring may also affirm high quality programming. Program partnerships, staff qualifications and certifications, and support or recognition from state or national associations promoting high quality services through best practices, program quality assessments, and professional development also will be considered.

What information about our service levels and service delivery model is most important?

The Endowment is interested in the number of youth served and the provision of services to groups in which the Endowment has a special interest. There is also interest in the frequency and dosage of services and method of service delivery. This would include how often programming is offered (e.g., daily, weekly, monthly), the length of a typical program day or service, and how frequently each young person typically participates. For example, do you offer daily programming in which most youth participate several times a week; monthly programs addressing a special need, topic or interest; or more intense, individualized services where frequency may vary based on each young person's needs? Will your programs and services be delivered on-site, at other community or home locations, online, through public broadcasting or media, etc.?

How is evidence of demand for programs and services best demonstrated?

To show the level of demand for your organization's programs and services, you should provide demographic data related to youth in your area and the challenges they face; information about available programs and services that address these challenges, including how many youth are served by these programs and services and whether there are any waiting lists for these programs and services; documentation of the number of youth served by your organization, including those in whom the Endowment has stated a special interest; and information about the extent to which your organization consistently operates at full capacity.

What financial information should be provided in an application for organizations that serve multiple constituencies in addition to youth?

Organizations that offer services for multiple constituencies (i.e., that are not 100% youth-service focused) should provide budget information and financial statements relating to its overall operations and specifically regarding its 2019 youth program or service expenses and the 2020 projection of such expenses as described in the RFI.

Application format and requirements

Organize your application using the headings provided and in the order listed in the RFI. A 12 point font and one-inch margins are required, and page limits for various application components must be observed. The Request for Information form must be completed online and required documents described in the RFI must be uploaded in a single PDF. Please note that the RFI form cannot be saved prior to completion and submission. It must be completed and your PDF uploaded all at one time.

If we receive YPRF support, how often must we submit reports?

Reporting guidelines will be provided with grant award notification.

Who should I contact with questions?

Please email yprf@lei.org with any questions.

Application steps:

1. Carefully review the Request for Information and assess your organization's eligibility to apply.
2. Preview and prepare information for the Request for Information Cover Sheet.
3. Prepare application according to the instructions.

4. Create a single PDF that includes all application components.
5. Complete your online application cover form, upload your PDF, JPEG or PNG and submit your application. Your PDF, JPEG or PNG and Request for Information Cover Sheet must be submitted at the same time.