Adult Learn to Swim Grant Guidelines

FOR SWIM LESSON PROVIDERS

The USA Swimming Foundation's mission is to save lives and build champions—*in the pool and in life;* one of the ways we do this is by working to provide opportunities to learn to swim. In partnership with U.S. Masters Swimming, the Adult Learn to Swim Grant Application is open to all swim instructors, facilities, and programs that want to help make more adults safer around water, with a goal to reduce adult drowning risk through education, financial support, and community outreach. The program's hope is that once adults learn to swim or improve their swimming skills, they will have the confidence and desire to continue swimming in a Masters Swimming program and experience the lifelong benefits of swimming.

Moreover, Adult Learn to Swim Grants are intended to expand current programming to reach under-served and under- represented populations and communities that would not otherwise have the opportunity to learn to swim.

All USA Swimming Foundation Adult Learn to Swim Grant proposals are due by November 15 at 11:59pm Mountain Time.

USA Swimming Foundation Adult Learn to Swim (ALTS) Grant Timeline (exact dates TBD)

- **2027 ALTS Grant Cycle Dates**
  - **September 1:** 2027 ALTS Grant application opens
  - **November 15:** Interested YLTS Grant Applicants must have met Eligibility Requirement #1
  - **November 15:** ALTS Grant applications due by **11:59pm Mountain Time**
  - **January:** ALTS Grant recipients announced
  - **January 15, 2028:** 2027 ALTS award recipient End of Year Report due by **11:59pm Mountain Time**

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Program must have a valid Federal Tax ID Number/Employer Identification Number (EIN) under which they do business
2. Program must serve adults ages 18 and over
3. Program must adhere to the following:
   - Instructors and lifeguards hold current CPR and First Aid certifications
   - Maximum 3:1 student-to-instructor ratio
   - Minimum four (4) hours in-water instruction which supports, at a minimum, acquisition of the following skills:
     - Step or jump into water over their head;
     - Return to the surface and float or tread water for one (1) minute;
     - Turn around in a full circle and locate an exit;
     - Swim 25 yards to the exit without stopping;
     - Exit from the pool (in pools, without using a ladder)
   - Program has and maintains throughout the grant calendar year, current liability insurance for swim lessons operations with the following minimum limits, or be self-insured:
     - Each Occurrence: $1,000,000
     - General Aggregate: $3,000,000
   - Program maintains formal, practiced Emergency Action Plans for each location or program site
   - Program operates in pool facilities regulated by the Department of Health or similar governing agency

4. Programs must register as a U.S. Masters Swimming Club or Workout group.
5. Participants who complete the program should be provided with an opportunity to continue swimming with a USMS program.

Adult Learn To Swim Grant General Information:

Funds are intended to expand current programming to reach under-served and under-represented populations and communities that would not otherwise have the opportunity to learn to swim. **Funding can be used to supplement direct program costs such as pool/lane rental or scholarships (free or reduced-cost) for participants 18 years of age or older.** Grant proposals should indicate expansion to the current scope of service, inclusive of any outreach programs. **The maximum ALTS Grant award per organization is $5,000**.

Applicants will be asked to identify the total amount of grant dollars requested for swim lessons and pool/lane rental, along with the number of adults to be served with grant dollars. The Grant Review Committee looks most favorably upon programs that show spending in the most cost-effective manner, serve the greatest number of adults, and provide opportunities or connections with programs which allow for participation in U.S. Masters Swimming programs once the appropriate skills have been mastered.

ALTS Grant recipients will be required to:

- Register as a USMS club/workout group, and adult learn to swim instructors will be required to register as USMS members, prior to accepting or receiving award dollars.
- Post the joint entity (USA Swimming Foundation/USA Swimming/USMS) logo to their website with a link to usaswimming.org/foundation.
- Sign a Letter of Agreement, which includes an indemnification clause, outlining the details of the program and the requirements of both parties by provided acceptance deadline.
- Recognize the joint parties (USA Swimming Foundation/USA Swimming/USMS) on program materials and at program locations, including use of any provided protocol.
- Complete and submit an End of Year Grant Report no later than provided deadline.

If the grant recipient intends to utilize USMS liability insurance to cover their participants, participants must be members of USMS or sign a 30-day guest USMS membership; following the 30-day guest membership period the participant must register with USMS in order for the insurance to remain in effect.

ALTS award recipients are eligible for the following in addition to their allocated funding:

- One (1) fee waiver for the USMS Adult Learn to Swim Instructor Certification Course
- Promotion of the organization's program on the USMS website

**ALTS funds are not intended to provide budget relief, support facility overhead, construction or renovation, aid in the purchase of material goods (including equipment, apparel, etc.), or be used for advertising, promotional, or marketing purposes. Requests for any funding categories other than those listed in the bullets above will immediately be deemed ineligible.*

Grant Application Instructions

Please refer to the following guidelines as you complete the grant application. You may ***click here*** to apply directly, or you can access the link from the USA Swimming website under the *Coaches & Team Leaders* tab > *Team Leaders* column > *Grants*.

ALTS Grant applications are being submitted through the online platform, SurveyMonkey Apply. Please note the information below:

1. Applicants are required to establish a SurveyMonkey Apply user account using the organization's **Federal Tax ID Number/Employer Identification Number (EIN)** and a **valid email address**. *Only one Grant application per Federal Tax ID number/organization will be accepted.*
2. The grant application is divided into multiple tasks. All tasks must be completed prior to full application submission in order to be considered and reviewed by the Grant Review Committee.
3. Applicants may log in to their account at any time to view the status of their application.

The USA Swimming Foundation will NOT accept:

- Applications which are late or incomplete.
- Applications submitted through any other format than the online SurveyMonkey Apply platform.
- More than one application per Federal Tax ID Number/Employer Identification Number (EIN), organization, or program.
- Applications seeking funding for children 17 years or younger.
- Applications seeking funding for any purpose other than free or reduced-cost adult swim lessons (i.e. scholarships), or for lane/space rental.
    - *Adult Learn to Swim Grant funds are not intended to provide budget relief, support facility overhead, construction or renovation, aid in the purchase of material goods (including equipment, apparel, etc.), or be used for advertising, promotional, or marketing purposes.*
- Applications requesting funds for re-granting or gifting purposes.
- Applications submitted on behalf of an organization by individuals who are not directly affiliated with or contracted by the organization.
- Applications which request funding for a program that does not meet the minimum eligibility requirements as outlined above or intend to provide services for individuals or groups that are not eligible for membership in USMS (e.g., participants under the age of 18 years).

For questions regarding Adult Learn to Swim Grants, or the application process, contact:
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