



SOUTH TEXAS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION GRANT PROGRAM

The South Texas Youth Soccer Association awards grants on a rolling basis to support TOPSoccer programs, Soccer Across America programs and program grants (equipment and operating expenses) across South Texas. Grants are provided to support all aspects of the beautiful game — from assisting programs with operational costs to creating programs for underserved communities and players.

Categories

Program grants – program equipment; field improvements, maintenance and repairs; and program operating expenses; any STYSA member association or club is eligible

TOPSoccer grants – support for operational and equipment expenses specific to programs that provide participation opportunities for players with physical and/or intellectual disabilities

Soccer Across America grants – support for operational and equipment expenses specific to programs that provide participation opportunities to players in economically depressed areas (disadvantaged/underserved youth)

For more information on TOPSoccer and Soccer Across America, please go to www.stxsoccer.org/programs.

Schedule

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis for all grant programs.

Who We Fund

Eligibility requirements for ALL grant applicants:

- Operate in the United States: Funding may only go towards programming or projects located in the United States

- Tax-exempt: Application must be submitted by an organization with IRS approved tax-exempt status at the time of application.
 - STYSA Subordinates are eligible.
 - Individuals are not eligible to apply for funding.
- Soccer Programming: Applicant must offer soccer-specific programming directly.
- All grant recipients must submit a statement of a commitment of matching funds, either partially or fully, to the amount being requested in the grant application.

Additional requirements:

- Any STYSA Member Association or club is eligible for a Program Grant
- Any STYSA Member Association or club that is administering a TOPSoccer program or wishes to start a TOPSoccer program is eligible for a TOPSoccer Grant
- Any STYSA-Approved Soccer Across America program is eligible for a Soccer Across America Grant

If awarded a grant the organization will be asked to summarize the program funded, how the grant was used, and if changes could be suggested for future programs.

What We Fund

Program Grants

Program grants are awarded to grantees to purchase soccer equipment and/or cover operating expenses, and to attend the STYSA Summer GBM. Program grantees have 12 months from the date of the award announcement to use their funding.

Grant Amount: Up to \$10,000 (total for equipment + cash)

- o **Equipment** – Equipment grants are awarded as credit with a Field Equipment Company as named by STYSA (nets and goals); no cash is distributed for equipment. Grantees work with an official representative to put together an equipment order, which is then sent to STYSA for approval; once approved, the order is shipped to the grantee and billed to STYSA.
 - o **Eligible equipment expenses include:** jerseys, shorts, socks, shin guards, cleats, balls, goals (pop-up or permanent), nets, cones, ball bags, first aid kits, scrimmage vests, etc.
- o **Field Improvements, Maintenance and Repairs** – Grants awarded as either credit with equipment or other companies or as cash for field expenses. Grantees will work with STYSA to determine best companies to order from (lighting, irrigation, etc.) as needed. Once approved, order is shipped to the grantee and billed to STYSA. Cash disbursed as one check after all paperwork has been completed (quotes for services, etc.).

- o **Cash** – Cash for operating expenses is disbursed in one check after the grant agreement and all paperwork have been completed.
 - o **Eligible operating expenses:** Stipends for coaches and program managers, transportation, award banquets for players, field or facility rental fees, referee fees, family engagement events, festivals, etc.
 - o **STYSA Summer GBM** – All grantees receiving a cash grant award will also receive a STYSA Summer GBM stipend (up to \$500). This stipend will cover expenses related to the STYSA Summer GBM in South Texas including: Transportation to and from the GBM location, lodging, and meals. Grantees will also receive complimentary registration for the GBM. Attendance at the STYSA Summer GBM is mandatory for one (1) representative from each grantee. Other attendees are welcome to attend the Symposium at their own expense.
- o **Reporting** – Grantees must submit two reports (one in July and one in December), accounting for how the grant money was spent and noting specific outcomes related to the use of the grant money. The STYSA Grant Program will provide the report forms to each grantee.

TOPSoccer Grants

TOPSoccer is a community-based training and team placement program for young athletes with special needs. The program, administered locally by South Texas Youth Soccer Association and our Member Clubs and Associations, focuses on providing meaningful learning, development and physical participation opportunities rather than competition to these young athletes through the game of soccer.

The goal is to enable the thousands of young athletes with disabilities to develop their physical fitness, technical skills, courage and self-esteem, through the joy and excitement of playing soccer.

Note that STYSA offers reduced registration fees to players participating in a TOPSoccer program.

TOPSoccer grants are awarded to grantees to purchase specialized soccer equipment and/or cover operating expenses specific to programs that provide participation opportunities for players with special needs, and to attend the STYSA Summer GBM. Program grantees have 12 months from the date of the award announcement to use their funding.

STYSA Summer GBM – All grantees receiving a cash grant award will also receive a STYSA Summer GBM stipend (up to \$500). This stipend will cover expenses related to the STYSA Summer GBM in South Texas including: Transportation to and from the GBM location, lodging, and meals. Grantees will also receive complimentary registration for the GBM. Attendance at the STYSA Summer GBM is mandatory for one (1)

representative from each grantee. Other attendees are welcome to attend the Symposium at their own expense.

Grant Amount: Up to \$10,000 (total)

Soccer Across America Grants

Soccer Across America is a US Youth Soccer endeavor supported by the South Texas Youth Soccer Association which is designed to introduce the sport of soccer to youth players from underserved and low-income communities. Soccer Across America provides soccer training and administrative guidance to players and organizations who might otherwise not be exposed to the sport and can help new programs find the funding and equipment to begin and/or expand their activities. The available Soccer Across America grants are designed to help soccer organizations focusing on the primary goal of the program, “To reach out to children in under-served and socio-economically disadvantaged places in order to offer them an on-going program of positive sports activities through soccer.”

Note that STYSA offers reduced registration fees to players participating in a STYSA-Approved Soccer Across America program.

Soccer Across America grants are awarded to grantees to purchase soccer equipment and/or cover operating expenses specific to programs that provide participation opportunities for players that meet the Soccer Across America criteria, and to attend the STYSA Summer GBM. Program grantees have 12 months from the date of the award announcement to use their funding.

STYSA Summer GBM – All grantees receiving a cash grant award will also receive a STYSA Summer GBM stipend (up to \$500). This stipend will cover expenses related to the STYSA Summer GBM in South Texas including: Transportation to and from the GBM location, lodging, and meals. Grantees will also receive complimentary registration for the GBM. Attendance at the STYSA Summer GBM is mandatory for one (1) representative from each grantee. Other attendees are welcome to attend the Symposium at their own expense.

Grant Amount: Up to \$10,000 (total)

What We Do Not Fund

- Scholarships/sponsorships/registration fees for individual players
- STYSA player registration fees
- Tickets or transportation to professional sporting events
- One-time camps or clinics
- Equipment/clothing for coaches outside of training equipment
- Items to be used for auctions or fundraising (i.e. professional team jerseys or other collectable items)