



## New Start Grant Criteria

The New Start Grant program provides educational resources and materials to support the creation of new youth ultimate programs, teams or leagues. Learn to Play and Girls' Ultimate Movement (GUM) kits are available, with disc customization options for participants age 12 and under.

### Application Requirements:

- Only one kit may be requested per application. A program can only be awarded one kit per calendar year.
- Applicant must be 18 or older.
- Only applications for youth programs will be considered.
- Applications are accepted year-round and are reviewed monthly. Kits typically ship in the middle of the following month.
- Applicants must be located and have all related activities occur within the United States.

### Applicant Priority Criteria:

USA Ultimate staff will use the following questions and criteria to determine kit grant recipients:

1. Does the applicant's program align with [USA Ultimate's Strategic Plan](#)?
2. Does the program align with [USA Ultimate's EDI goals](#) of increasing access to and participation in the sport, particularly amongst youth in underrepresented communities?
3. Is the program described in sufficient detail? Does it outline a clear, well-considered plan outlining how the kit will be used to benefit the participating youth?
4. Does the program have a connection to a local disc organization (LDO) or demonstrate a commitment to collaborating with one? Is the program located in an area with an existing local disc organization which could provide a pathway for continued youth participation after the initial program?
  - a. Priority will be given to applicants with connections to [USA Ultimate Affiliate Organizations](#). Remote programs without nearby LDOs will still be considered if they demonstrate strong sustainability plans.
5. Does the application provide a reasonable estimate of the program's sustainability beyond the initial kit grant (e.g., plans for continued funding, volunteer engagement, or integration into existing community structures)?
6. Does the application provide a realistic estimate of the number of youth participants who will be directly engaged through the program facilitated by the grant kit?
7. Does the program have a clear and justifiable need for new equipment?
  - a. Priority is given to programs with limited or no existing equipment, or those clearly articulating how the grant kit will enable new initiatives, significant expansion, or a specific, unmet material gap (e.g., discs for a new age group, cones for simultaneous fields).

Applications are accepted year-round and reviewed on a monthly basis by USA Ultimate staff.