

Wrestling Grant Program Public Postsecondary Institutions Information Request for Grant Applications

Grant Introduction and Overview

The purpose of this grant program is to establish or maintain intercollegiate wrestling programs. Passed in 2023, the “Charles Cate II Act” (SB 5687) establishes the postsecondary wrestling grant program, setting aside funds that may be used for purposes including, but not limited to, support of one-time startup costs, equipment, and student scholarships.¹

The Fiscal Year 2024 allotment of state operating budget provided funding to the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) for a grant pool dedicated for this program through a competitive grant process.

Grant Award Information

Eligible Applicants

Washington public postsecondary institutions, including community and technical colleges and baccalaureate institutions, are eligible to apply for these grant funds.

Funding Available

Grant funds are available beginning from November 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025 (Fiscal Year 2025).

Total available grant pool:	\$257,000
Anticipated award range:	\$10,000-60,000
Anticipated number of awards:	Unknown
Duration:	Approximately 20 months (November 2023 – June 2025)

The number of awards and maximum award amount(s) will be dependent upon factors such as the number of applications received and quality of applications.

Funds must be expended by May 31, 2025. Unused funds must be returned to WSAC no later than July 30, 2025.

Allowable Use of Funds

Public institutions may use funds to support activities related to establishing or maintaining intercollegiate wrestling programs.

¹ <https://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/5687-S.SL.pdf?q=20230501122617>

Allowable costs include:

1. **Equipment and general supplies.**
2. **Facilities improvements.**
3. **Expenses related to competition and/or recruitment, including travel.**
4. **One-time startup costs to establish an intercollegiate wrestling program.**
5. **Staff salaries and/or benefits.**
6. **Administrative costs directly related to establishing or maintaining intercollegiate wrestling program.**
7. **Student awards (scholarships, stipends).**
Please note: due to implementation processes, student awards will not be available during the 2023-24 academic year. WSAC anticipates student awards will be available during the 2024-25 academic year. *See application requirements for specific instructions if your institution is interested in using these funds for student awards during the 2024-25 academic year.*

Unallowable costs include, but are not limited to:

1. Indirect costs.

Grant Requirements

The public institutions receiving the grant will be required to provide the following:

- **ONLINE GRANT APPLICATION** – Respond to required questions, including the submission to a narrative, timeline and budget pertaining to all requested, allowable costs.
- **MID-CYCLE REPORT** – Report on Academic Year 2023-24's use of funds and outcomes related to establishing or maintaining intercollegiate wrestling programs, including demographic information pertaining to student wrestlers to assist WSAC in tracking student success metrics. Include accounting of all expenditures to date from grant funds. Comment on the college's anticipated use of funds for the 2024-25 academic year. *Reporting template will be provided.*
- **FINAL REPORT** – Report on the use of funds and outcomes related to establishing or maintaining intercollegiate wrestling programs. Comment on the college's capability to maintain or establish intercollegiate wrestling programs, and provide demographic information related to student wrestlers to assist WSAC in tracking student success metrics. Include a final accounting of all expenditures from grant funds. *Reporting template will be provided.*

Participation Process

WSAC designed a process intended to streamline grant application and grant award process:

- All institutions will submit an online application based on the outline below. For assistance, please contact the WSAC Grant Administrator.

- WSAC will review applications and award grants to institutions with a complete application, with a first review date of **10/30/2023**. Applications submitted after this date may be reviewed pending availability of funds. Institutions are encouraged to submit applications by 10/30/2023. Applications must be complete to be reviewed and awarded. The WSAC Grant Administrator will reach out to institutions that have submitted incomplete applications; institutions may resubmit their application if funds are still available.
- WSAC will incorporate the institution’s application into its Interagency Agreement contract should the application be selected for an award.
- Upon the execution of the contract, the institution will submit to WSAC an invoice for the funded amount as listed in the approved budget. WSAC will issue payment of funds upon receipt of the invoice per the payment terms in the contract on an annual basis.
- The institution will return any unused grant award funding to WSAC no later than July 30, 2025.

Timeline

Activity Description	Date(s)
Grant guidance sent to institutions and posted at wsac.wa.gov/wrestling-grant	10/9/2023
Grant online application open	10/9/2023
Grant application closes	10/30/2023
Notification of awards to selected applications	11/10/2023
Contracts prepared for institutional review and signatures	<i>Anticipated on or before 12/13/2023</i>
Invoices to WSAC for payment due	Upon full execution of contract
Mid-cycle report & detailed expense summary due	6/30/2024
Final report & detailed expense summary due	6/30/2025
Institutions refund to WSAC any remaining unused grant funds	No later than 7/30/2025

Wrestling Grant Program Application Requirements

Instructions

The online application link will open at 1:00 PM Monday, October 9, 2023. Applications should be submitted to WSAC by 5:00 PM October 30, 2023. Institutions must complete the [application via the online submission form](#). See below the information that must be submitted in the online application.

One application per institution is permitted.

1. Contact Information

1. Institution (name, address).
2. Project Point of Contact (name, title, division, address, email, phone).

3. Grant Award Contract Signatory (name, title, division, email).

2. Grant Request

1. Describe the key elements of your institution's plan to use grant funds to establish or maintain an intercollegiate wrestling program. This narrative should be 500 words or less and additionally include:
 - A. A brief history of the program highlighting how long it has existed, how it has evolved over time, and how your requested funds will respond to current and/or future program needs.
 - B. Information regarding the type of program (e.g. club, varsity), the current level of competition that your institution supports and anticipates supporting in the future.
 - C. A rationale for the resources requested.
2. Provide the following information about your program for the 2023-24 academic year:
 - A. Number of total wrestlers.
 - B. Number of men wrestlers.
 - C. Number of women wrestlers.
 - D. Number of staff and/or coaches for each team; indicate staff with a paid position and a dollar amount that includes salary/benefits.
3. What is the total amount requested? List the expected costs for all expenses requested in alignment with the **Allowable Use of Funds** section above. (You are not required to include supporting documentation such as vendor estimate quotes with your proposal.)
 - A. Your budget should clearly indicate two separate academic years: 2023-24 and 2024-25. Within each academic year, indicate expenditures.
 - B. **If your institution is interested in using a portion of this funding for student awards,** this must be included in the 2024-25 academic year. Student awards will not be considered for 2023-24. If requesting funds for student awards, include the following additional budgetary information:
 - a. Number of students you hope to award.
 - b. Average dollar amount of student award.
 - c. A narrative describing the existing (2023-24 academic year) financial supports provided to students in the program, including scholarships, the dollar amount, number of students served, and breakdown by gender. 200 words or less.

Grant Evaluation Criteria

Grants will be evaluated using the following criteria:

Criteria	Examples of how criteria may be demonstrated
<p>The proposal will establish or maintain an intercollegiate wrestling program.</p> <p>Rating scale 1-20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indication of whether the program is new and/or expands the capacity of existing wrestling program. • Description of program history and its evolution, including direction for the program in future years. • Description of current program capacity and how this grant will support the establishment or maintenance of the program. • Rationale for the resources requested. • Evidence that the program supports student success.
<p>Wrestling Program components</p> <p>Rating scale 1-10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides information on the number of wrestlers in the program, disaggregated by gender. • Provides information on the number of coaches or staff for each team, indicating which coaches or staff hold paid positions and current expenses for salaries and benefits.
<p>Program Expenditures</p> <p>Rating scale 1-10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expenses are allowable. • Expenses are delineated separately for the two academic years requested. • Expenses align with the use of funds the institution needs to advance the mission of the grant to maintain or establish intercollegiate wrestling programs. • If including a request for student awards, including additional budgetary information including the number of students, average dollar amount and a narrative description.

Scale: 1-10 or 20; scale where 1 represents the LOWEST possible score and 20 represents the HIGHEST possible score for each given criterion.

WSAC Grant Administrator

The grant administrator welcomes your questions and any needs for guidance in this proposal process. Feel free to reach out!

Abby Chien, Assistant Director of Policy and Planning (she/her)

Washington Student Achievement Council
PO Box 43430, Olympia, Washington 98504

abbyc@wsac.wa.gov