

TFL NEXT ERA YOUTH GRANTS

OVERVIEW

The Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Living (TFL) announces the availability of youth engagement grants to engage high school students across Louisiana to unite as agents of change to promote healthy, tobacco-free lifestyles. The goal of the grants is to promote a tobacco-free Louisiana carrying out TFL's goals of reducing exposure to secondhand smoke, preventing tobacco initiation (including vaping) by youth, and reducing tobacco-related disparities.

Approximately \$45,000 is available for youth advocacy grants throughout Louisiana communities. TFL plans to offer up to 9 Youth Engagement Grants of up to \$5,000 each for the period of November 28, 2022, to June 15, 2023. *Note: Please see the appendix for a map of the public health regions and corresponding TFL Regional Coordinators.*

Benefits to the TFL Youth Engagement Grants will include:

- Youth trained and certified as NextEra advocates
- Completion of community projects and events demonstrating the importance of tobacco/vape-free environments (goes toward community volunteer hours)
- Public speaking and engagement with key decision makers (school boards, city council and state government officials)
- Using social media as an advocacy tool to engage the community and share the importance of tobacco/vape-free environments.
- Networking opportunities with other youth leaders – Youth Advisory Board

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Community groups or organizations (youth groups, high schools, civic associations, service clubs, shelters, PTAs, faith-based organizations, parent groups, neighborhood associations, etc.) with 501c3 status
- American Indian Tribes
- Other public and non-profit agencies with 501(c)3 status serving high school age youth

REVIEW CRITERIA

All applications will be reviewed by a panel selected by TFL. Reviewers will sign a conflict-of-interest statement and recuse themselves from reviewing those submissions from applicants with whom they have a working relationship. Reviewers will be prepared in an orientation sponsored by TFL and review

with a standardized scoring sheet to reduce the potential for reviewer bias. Scores will be allotted roughly according to the categories described below:

Applicant Capacity (possible 25 points): Points will be awarded based on evidence of capacity to carry out the grant and other required activities, including experience, staffing, and administrative capacity.

Required Activities (possible 50 points): Points will be awarded based on demonstrated understanding of, experience with, and plans for fulfilling the required activities described in the RFA.

Completed Application (possible 25 points): Points will be awarded based on all required information turned in by the application deadline.

TFL's Application Review Process

The following is an overview of the process for review of TFL Youth Engagement Grant applications submitted to TFL in response to the Request for Applications (RFA) for FY21.

General Overview: Based on number of grants previously awarded and the number that will be awarded for this funding cycle, it is anticipated that no more than 20 proposals will be submitted in response to this RFA. Proposals will undergo a technical review by TFL, and then an in-depth review and scoring by one primary panel and one secondary panel. Scores from the primary and secondary panels will be added together and an average score computed. That average score will then be compared across all applicants. The findings from the application review panel and when requested, oral presentation, along with experience with the agency will guide TFL resource allocation decisions.

2022-2023 TFL Next Era Youth Grant RFA Timeline

October 14, 2022: RFA Release

Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 5:00-6:00: Technical Assistance Conference Call – Open to any organization that wishes to apply. Please send an email to nextera@lphi.org if you are interested in attending.

Tuesday, November 22, 2022: Submission Deadline - Grant applications must be received by 4:00pm CST. Submitted online only

Tuesday, November 29-Friday, November 28, 2022: Grant Review Process

Monday, Tuesday, November 29, 2022: Award Notification - Applicants will be notified of funding decisions.

Monday, December 5, 2022: Agreement Signing Deadline - Grant contracts signed and returned.

Wednesday, December 7, 2022: Grantee Orientation – Virtual Orientation Required

June 15, 2023: Grant Year Ends - Final report of expenses and activities due.