

Broome County



Youth Bureau

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

2026-2027

New York State Office of Children & Family Services
Youth Sports and Education and Opportunity Funding

&

Youth Team Sports Funding

DEADLINE: Monday, July 13, 2026, at 3:00pm

**BROOME COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU
2026-2027 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
YOUTH SPORTS AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY FUNDING**

The Broome County Youth Bureau Advisory Board is inviting proposals from not-for-profit organizations to provide youth sports and education opportunities and services to youth between the ages 6-17.

Mission

The mission of the Broome County Youth Bureau is to work together to promote and encourage the development of a comprehensive system of services for children and youth through planning, funding, coordination, evaluation, and advocacy. We strive to work, as a community, to provide the best possible services to all Broome County children and youth, aged 0-21.

Youth Sports and Education Opportunity Funding awards are guided by the following principles:

- Sports can be effective tools in positive youth development and family engagement when programs are well-delivered and meet quality measures.
- Sports can improve the lives of young people by promoting positive social, emotional, health and educational outcomes and have important life-long impacts.
- Sports enable opportunities for young people to succeed economically through leadership roles.
- Coaching education greatly improves sports experience and the development of young people.

Youth Team Sports Funding awards are guided by the following principles:

- Positive youth development. It is intended to provide support to local team sports programs across New York State in communities where such programs may be scarce or under-resourced to learn and participate in team sports activities.
- This may include educational instruction necessary to prepare youth to participate in team sports.

Unlike YSEF, YTS has a sole focus on team sports, a “team sport” is defined as an organized physical activity in which groups of two or more individuals compete with two or more opposing individuals. Sporting activities where individuals engage in competition on behalf of an organized group

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants must be local community-based organizations and nonprofit incorporated organizations able to deliver successful programming that meets the needs of youth as identifies in the request for proposal.

Programs must provide a variety of sports for a broad range of youth in under-resourced communities. OCFS encourages a wide and flexible definition of sports that includes organized activities with movement, including physical fitness activities including but not limited to yoga, hiking, dance, and active outdoors pursuits.

Program must provide structured sports activities for youth ages 6-17, serve youth in New York State, demonstrate basic competency in the areas of governance, monitoring and evaluation, partnership, and financial stewardship, have a child protection policy in place that includes adherence to local city, agency, school district, and state child protection guidelines, and collect registration data, including participant demographic information as required by OCFS in such a fashion as to be able to accurately report anonymized aggregate data.

Unlike YSEF, YTS, a “team sport” is defined as an organized physical activity in which groups of two or more individuals compete with two or more opposing individuals. Sporting activities where individuals engage in competition on behalf of an organized group

Organizations and activities not eligible for funding:

- For-profit organizations or businesses.
- Private foundations, as defined in section 509(a) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.
- Organizations that discriminate based on age, ethnicity/race, political affiliation, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, physical or other disability, national origin, or any protected characteristic under local, state, and/or federal law.
- Research or project planning activities.
- Support for elite or private sports camps, programs, or teams.
- Endowments, memorials, budget deficits, or fundraising activities.
- Religious organizations whose sports programs do not have a secular and community focus.
- Lobbying, political, or fraternal activities.
- Capital projects, except eligible facility upgrades.]

Priority will be given to programs that

- Historically under-resourced communities
- High rates of public housing and/or family homelessness.
- Opportunity zones or neighborhoods/cities/areas deemed “low-income” via externally available tools like the New York State Council on Children and Families Kids’ Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse.
- Marginalized communities or groups with higher barriers to participation in team sports (e.g., youth with disabilities; girls; transgender/gender non-binary youth; and youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or questioning).
- Federally and/or New York State-recognized tribes and tribal organizations.
- Neighborhoods that experience higher rates of crime and violence and low-performing schools.

All funded programs must aim to foster the following: Educational Connection and Achievement, Physical health and well-being, Mental health and well-being, Employment, and Community cohesion.

FUNDING

Services delivered between October 1, 2026, and September 30, 2027, may receive funds offered in this RFP. Successful applicants will be awarded a one-year contract. Applicants should be aware they will have a to re-apply for the following years funding.

Allowable funding for YTS include Coaches/instructors/direct service staff/mentors (including training/professional development) necessary to support youth's ability to participate in team sports, Referee fees, Purchase of equipment or uniforms, Capital investment (e.g., swimming facilities, fields, fences, storage, lighting), Facility/field space cost and Purchase of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) by local nonprofit or community-based organizations to support the requirements of Chapter 681 of the Laws of 2023, as amended by Chapter 9 of the Laws of 2024.

Allowable funding for YSEF include Coaches/instructors/direct service staff/mentors (including training/professional development), Purchase of equipment or uniforms, Educational programming costs, Facility/field space cost.

AVAILABLE FUNDS

New York State Office of Children and Family Services Youth Development Program available. All funding under the Broome County RFP is executory to the extent of money made available to the Office of Children and Family Services from the State of New York, and no liability on account thereof shall be incurred by the Office of Children and Family Services, the State of New York or Broome County, beyond monies available for such purposes.

CONTRACT PROCESS

Local agencies apply to Broome County for funds. The County subsequently enters into contract with the local agency. The County then applies to the NYS Office of Children and Family Services on behalf of agencies whose programs and requests have been recommended by the Youth Bureau Advisory Board and approved by the County Legislature.

REIMBERSEMENT PROCESS

Funding is reimbursement based. Agencies submit claims on forms provided by the Broome County Youth Bureau to the Youth Bureau Office. All claims should be received in the Youth Bureau Office by October 30, 2026.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- STEP #1** The completed application, both electronic and mailed portions, must be received by the Youth Bureau no later an 3:00 PM on Monday, July 13, 2026.
- STEP #2** The Youth Bureau Advisory Board Program Committee studies proposals and makes recommendations to the full Advisory Board.

- STEP #3** The Youth Bureau Advisory Board reviews and votes on the funding recommendations.
- STEP #4** The County Legislature reviews and votes on the funding recommendations.
- STEP #5** All applications approved by the County Legislature are submitted to the NYS Office of Children and Family Services for final approval. The commissioner of OCFS reserves the right to make the final decisions on all Youth Development Program funding.
- STEP #6** All approved funded programs will receive a contract from the Broome County Law Department, this contract must be signed and returned.
- STEP #7** October 1, 2026, is the earliest possible date for approved programs to be eligible for Youth Bureau reimbursements in this funding cycle.

REVIEW PROCESS

1. All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by the Broome County Youth Board (a 21-member citizen advisory board) and the Youth Bureau staff for cost effectiveness, impact, measurable outcomes and completed applications. Requests that address the prioritized life areas based on New York State Touchstones will be given preference.
2. By applying, your organization asserts that the Request for Proposals or EZ 5K Form document has been reviewed in its entirety and all information is correct. Incorrect or incomplete information in a submission is not the responsibility of the Youth Bureau to correct or amend.
3. This is a competitive process, and the Broome County Youth Bureau will not be able to fund all applications. There is no appeal process for agencies that do not receive funding.
4. Recommendations and appropriations of the Broome County Youth Bureau and Board are subject to final approval by the County Executive and the Broome County Legislature.
5. NYS OCFS will not have the county's actual allocation of funding until after the New York State budget is passed in 2026. Depending on the county's final allocation, programs that are funded could see a dollar amount change.
6. In awarding funds, all 2026 program proposals are considered new and competitive. Matching funds are not required, though the strongest proposals will demonstrate support from other sources.
7. The Youth Bureau reserves the right to cap the amount given to any program based on the total amount requested by all applicants and the amount of funds available.
Applicants can request a maximum of \$20,000 in Youth Development Program, Youth Sports and Education Funding and Youth Team Sports Funding.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Please note that a contract from the Broome County Youth Bureau will bind a contracted agency to the program specified in the submitted proposal. The contract will also bind a contracted agency to:

- Submit a New York State Annual Assessment. This form will be required by October 31, 2026.
- Submit required MID and FINAL reports when program is in operation.
- Youth Bureau staff will conduct a site visit and complete site visit form.
- If the program is funded, program staff will be required to show evidence of training in Positive Youth Development. One resource you can use is <http://actforyouth.net/youthdevelopment/professionals/>

KEY DATES

- June 1, 2026:** Request for Proposal/ EZ 5K For release date
- July 13, 2026:** Proposals due to the Broome County Youth Bureau by 3:00 PM
Broome County Youth Bureau, 60 Hawley St. P.O. 1766 Binghamton, NY 13902
- September 30, 2026:** Notification of funding, pending Broome County Legislative approval.

APPLICATION DEADLINE/CHECKLIST

To be considered for funding by the Broome County Youth Bureau, your package must include the following in this order:

- Program Budget Summary
- 2026-2027 Broome County Youth Bureau Grant Application Form (Over \$5,000)
- 2026-2027EZ 5K Form Broome County Youth Bureau Grant Application (Under \$5,000)
- OCFS Forms-5001, 5002, 5003, 5011
- 1 Hard Copy and 1 Electronic copy MUST BE SUBMITTED

DEADLINE

One Hard Copy and ONE Electronic must be submitted to the Broome County Youth Bureau by 3:00 PM on Monday, July 13, 2026, to be considered.

Please send electronic copy to jennifer.petteys@broomecountyny.gov and mail/or drop off hard copy at the address below.

**Broome County Youth Bureau
Attn: Jennifer Petteys
60 Hawley Street
P.O. Box 1766
Binghamton, NY 13902**

For more information or questions, please contact Jennifer Petteys