



American Sail Training Association

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Request for Proposals ASTA Tall Ship Youth Adventure Program Mini-Grants

ASTA's Tall Ship Youth Adventure Program Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Program (OJJDP) includes a provision for at least three "mini-grants" of up to \$10,000 each to be awarded to ASTA member vessels and/or organizations. The mini-grants are to be awarded on a competitive basis.

The intent of the mini-grants is to introduce sail training programs to organizations serving at-risk, under-privileged and under-served youth and to introduce the sail training concept to those organizations that are new to it.

Funds must principally be used for on the water after-school and/ out-of-school sail training experiences.

Funds may also be used for: These mini-grants provide assistance to sustain and enhance sail training educational program capabilities by supporting professional development, marketing and outreach strategies, classroom materials, curriculum development, educational training and associated salary/payroll expenses.

Funds may not be used for: Funding from these mini-grants may not be used to support capital improvement projects or infrastructure repairs.

Who may apply: The mini-grants are reserved for ASTA member programs and vessels located in the United States.

Applications will be reviewed by an ASTA advisory board made up of a combination of ASTA board members and staff, sail educators, youth development experts, and maritime industry leaders. (Priority will be given to applicants from geographic areas not covered in the Primary Grant Program (Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Newport))

Applications will be scored on the following weighted criteria:

- Demonstrate their ability to identify and serve at-risk, under-served, and under-privileged youth who would otherwise not be exposed to sail training. (20%)
- Produce evidence of a successful, theoretically and practically, rigorous program that pre-empts or reduces juvenile delinquency within the served community while offering character building and educational enrichment to the youth involved. (40%)
- Have in place quantitative and qualitative evaluation instruments and appropriate metrics that served to demonstrate any benefit from exposure to their program. (30%)
- Explain the sustainability of their program beyond the initial mini-grant period. (10%)

Successful applicants will have demonstrated partnerships with youth-serving organizations that might not otherwise have availed themselves of the benefits of sail training.

All applicants must demonstrate sound business, fiduciary, and accounting practices with extant capabilities to track and validate the appropriateness of expenditures of grant funds.

Successful applicants will, above all, have a proven track record of using sail training as a method for youth development through character building and education. Programs with educational components based on ocean literacy principles are particularly desired. Other education programs that have mathematics and science components / elements will be favorably considered.

Applicants should submit to ASTA a nomination package that contains:

- A program narrative describing the academic and practical aspects of the program offered while supporting its use in youth mitigation.
- Appropriate syllabi, lesson plans, or other materials demonstrating the strength of the program.
- A budget in line with the requirements and strictures of the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Office of the Comptroller *Financial Guide*. (The *Financial Guide* is available online at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/FinGuide/>.)
- Testimonials, letters of recommendation or other supporting documents supporting the merits of the candidate program in regards to serving at-risk youth.

The timeline for mini-grant awarding is as follows:

- Applications for mini-grants are due in the ASTA offices no later than 16 February 2007.
- Announcements of mini-grant recipients will be made by 16 March 2007.
- Programs whose expenses billable to the mini-grant are incurred on or before 30 June 2007 will take preference however, proposals will be accepted for programs whose expenses billable to the mini-grant are incurred on or before September 30, 2006.

Materials available to candidates for the mini-grant upon request include the overall ASTA OJJDP grant narrative and the draft of the financial and programmatic reporting requirements for mini-grant recipients. Questions regarding this RFP may be directed to the ASTA offices by telephone at (401) 846-1775, by email at asta@sailtraining.org, or by post to ASTA P.O. Box 1459, Newport, RI 02840.