USTA Mid-Atlantic Section
2017 Program Grant Guidelines

The USTA Mid-Atlantic Section (MAS) offers grants to community-based providers to assist the development and expansion of innovative and inclusive tennis programs. Funding priority is given to program proposals which will impact the long-term growth and diversity of tennis in keeping with goals outlined in the MAS Strategic Plan. All funding decisions are final and may not be appealed.

Eligibility
- Financial support is awarded only to organizations; individuals seeking grant funding are not eligible. Must be registered with the IRS as a non-profit organization. If you are seeking support for a program/project and are not classified as a non-profit you may use a non-profit partner organization as your fiscal agent to receive and administer the funds. Click here for more information on fiscal agents.
- An organization is not allowed to receive grant funding for three or more years in a five year span starting in 2017.
- As a grantee of USTA MAS, organizations should ensure program registration fees they offer are reasonable to encourage greater participation. Special consideration will be taken for programs in areas where tennis programming is scarce or in communities where tennis is not a regularly accessible sport.
- Organizations must be a current USTA organizational member unless otherwise specified in the grant application. Click here for information on how to renew or become a USTA organizational member.

To Apply
- Click on the title of the grant to apply online. Mailed or faxed applications will not be accepted. Only online submissions will be considered for funding.

Continue to next page for all 2017 available grants
**Girls Rule the Court℠ Program Grant**

The mission of this program is to ensure a healthy pathway to inspire the next generation of female tennis players and coaches through a seamless layer of peer to peer mentorship. Girls Rule the Court℠ (GRTC) is a three part initiative created by USTA Mid-Atlantic to promote and develop the growth of female participation in tennis. In addition to providing a comfortable space for young girls to learn the sport, each portion of the model addresses different barriers preventing the growth of female participation in tennis, particularly around leadership roles. Grant recipients are required to run a 5 week program or 5 one-day play events using the Girls Rule the Court program. All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the conclusion of the program. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities. **This grant is for $700 equipment credit and $500 stipend to run a 5-week program or 5 one-day events.**

**Timing**
- Deadline: March 31, 2017
- Notification: May 1, 2017
- Funding: May 17-31, 2017

**Who is Eligible?**
- Organizations registered as a nonprofit or public agencies.

**Why Apply?**
- Contribute to the empowerment and development of young girls within the organization’s community.
- Be a positive force for increasing girls’ participation in sports, especially in tennis.
- Provide young girls with role models and mentors in sports by having women leadership roles for this program.
- Empower the female staff in your organization to take the lead on programming opportunities in tennis; give leadership and mentoring opportunities to women to complement professional development.
- Strengthen connections between community organizations with similar target audiences.

**Grant guidelines:**
- Target Audience for program: Girls Ages 6-13
- This grant is intended for use between two programs partnering together to provide GRTC programming in their community. The partnership should be between an organization whose focus is tennis driven and one whose focus is not tennis driven.
- If program is one 5-week program, program must run as a JTT season. If program is run as 5 one-day events, organizations must have one entry level competitive event at the conclusion of all 5 sessions.
- One of the two partnering organizations must have at least one woman tennis instructor on staff and available to run all tennis programming associated with GRTC activities.
- All grant recipients must be available to attend the GRTC orientation prior to the implementation of the program.
- All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the conclusion of the program. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities.
Entry Level Tournament Start-up Grant

USTA MAS offers a grant for organizers to run entry level tournaments for youth ages 14 and under. Entry level tournaments provide youth new to competition with easy to understand, non-elimination formats that encourage play. Entry level tournaments are low-cost ways for youth to play multiple opponents in a compact schedule - tournaments are played from start to finish in 4 hours or less! In addition to providing youth with opportunities to engage in competition, you are encouraging tremendous player development opportunities for beginner players. All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the conclusion of the tournament circuit. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities. **USTA MAS is providing $500 for any entry level tournament circuit and an additional $250 for tournament circuits including Orange levels.**

Timing

- Deadline: Rolling until funds have been distributed
- Award Date: Two weeks after submission of application
- Funding: Half after all 6 events have been scheduled and entered into Tennis Link. Remaining half after conclusion of tournament circuit and submission of accountability form.

Who is Eligible?

- Organizations that are USTA organizational members and registered as a nonprofit or public agency.
- Organizations/facilities running youth tennis programs are preferred but not required.

Why Apply?

- Contribute to player growth and development through providing more competitive opportunities for youth
- Be a provider of fun and easy competitions
- Be a player's introduction to competitive tennis
- Easy way to sample the new entry level tournament format.
- No USTA membership is required for players to register for any tournaments. USTA members earn 50 ranking/standing points just for participating.

Grant Guidelines

- Target audience for this program: youth 14 and under new to tennis competition.
- Grant recipient must host a 10U and/or 12s and 14s tournament circuit. Tournament circuit should consist of at least 6 half-day events.
- All participant information and tournament information must be entered into Tennis Link.
- Each tournament is required to have a minimum of 15 participants.
- Grant can be used to subsidize tournament costs to participants with the understanding that the first year is a promotion year and is not at full cost. Full cost should still be marketed so that cost is not questioned the following year.
- Recommended entry fee range is $5 to $35.
- All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the conclusion of the last event. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities.
- All 6 tournaments can include the following Youth Progression Divisions:
  - BG10 Orange L1 (strongly recommended)  
    May be combined into COED Orange L1 if there are 3 or fewer kids in either division.
  - COED Orange L2 (strongly recommended)  
    May be split into separate girls and boys divisions if there are 3 or more kids of each gender.
  - 12U Green  
    Tagged in TDM as Green Level 1
Junior Team Tennis Kick-start Tennis Link Grant

USTA MAS provides funding to remove the barrier of additional registration fees associated with running a Junior Team Tennis (JTT) league. The Junior Team Tennis (JTT) kick-start grant is a one-time offer to help kick-start or reinvigorate a JTT league by removing the worry of registration fees associated with running a USTA JTT league. In addition to coverage of Tennis Link associated fees, grantees are provided with technical assistance from the USTA MAS JTT staff. This assistance will help with the design and implementation of a league in the first year while outlining a plan for growth the following year to support an organization’s sustainability. Organizations must service low-socioeconomic populations/communities in the Mid-Atlantic Section and have been established for at least three consecutive years. All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the conclusion of the program. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities. This grant is for up to $500 credit for Tennis Link related costs. This is a reimbursement grant.

Timing
- Deadline: Rolling until funds have been distributed
- Award Date: Two weeks after submission of application
- Funding: Reimbursement after all information has been entered into Tennis Link

Who is Eligible?
- Organizations that are USTA organizational members and registered as a nonprofit or public agency.
- Organizations/facilities running youth tennis programs are preferred but not required.
- Organization must service low-socioeconomic populations/communities in the Mid-Atlantic Section.
- Organization must have been established for more than three years

Why Apply?
- Provide more competitive play opportunities for youth.
- Introduce youth to competitive tennis in an easy and fun way.
- Promote social skills and foster a spirit of cooperation and unity through competitive team tennis.
- Try a new program that could provide an additional funding stream to your organization.
- Expand menu of tennis offerings to patrons; draw new business into your organization.

Grant Guidelines
- Target audience for this program: Youth ages 17 and under
- Organization must offer free or subsidized programming to participants
- All player information must be entered into Tennis Link
- Funding is for Tennis Link fees only
After school Junior Team Tennis Tennis Link Grant

USTA MAS provides funding to cover Tennis Link registration costs for schools starting a Junior Team Tennis (JTT) league or organizations starting a JTT league in a school through after school or weekend programming. This grant is a one-time offer for middle schools or junior high schools that feed into a local high school with an existing tennis program. Having a connected high school with a tennis program will allow students to continue learning tennis as they advance through the sport. Organizations receiving this grant are required to run in-house competition through a teach-and-play model and end with an end-of-season event. Planning assistance for the culminating tournament is provided by USTA MAS staff. All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the conclusion of the program. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities. This grant is for up to $500 credit for Tennis Link related costs. This is a reimbursement grant.

Timing
- Deadline: Rolling until funds have been distributed
- Award Date: Two weeks after submission of application
- Funding: Reimbursement after all information has been entered into Tennis Link

Who is Eligible?
- Organizations or schools that are USTA organizational member and registered as a nonprofit or public agency.
- Schools that feed into an existing high school tennis program.
- Organizations or schools new to JTT.
- School student population must have FRM rate of 60% or higher.

Why Apply?
- Provide more competitive play opportunities for youth.
- Introduce youth to competitive tennis in an easy and fun way.
- Promote social skills and foster a spirit of cooperation and unity through competitive team tennis.
- Try a new program that could provide an additional funding stream to your organization.
- Expand menu of tennis offerings to patrons; draw new business into your organization.
- Provide a pathway for tennis in areas where middle school tennis programs are not currently available or not offered.

Grant Guidelines
- Target audience for this program: Youth ages 17 and under.
- School must designate at least one staff person to running the tennis program and to function as liaison between other schools in the after school JTT network.
- Organization or school must offer free or subsidized programming to participants.
- School students must feed into a high school with an existing tennis program.
- All player information must be entered into Tennis Link.
- Funding is for Tennis Link fees only.
**Family Tennis Program Grant**

USTA MAS provides funding for organizations providing programs that encourage parent/grandparent/guardian and child interaction through tennis. These programs introduce intergenerational learn-to-play opportunities in a fun and exciting way that is both engaging for the adult and child. Organizations receiving this grant are required to run an end-of-program tournament where participants can utilize what was learned in class in a competitive format. Planning assistance for the end-of-program tournament is provided by USTA MAS staff. All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the program. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities. **This grant has a maximum request of $2,500.** Submission of a comprehensive budget is required for this grant.

**Timing**
- Deadline: March 31, 2017
- Notification: May 1, 2017
- Funding: May 17-31, 2017

**Who is Eligible?**
- Organizations that are a USTA organizational member and registered as a nonprofit or public agency.
- Organizations that have existing youth and/or adult tennis programming.
- Organizations that are already providing programs to low-income families and/or students enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program at their school.

**Why Apply?**
- Bridge the gap between youth and adult tennis.
- Integrate families into the sport.
- Encourage parents/grandparents/guardians to stay active.
- Let kids teach their parents/grandparents/guardians about a sport they love. Let kids be the expert!
- Encourage families to learn something new together.
- Broaden your menu of programs.

**Grant Guidelines**
- Target audience for this program: Youth ages 7 to 14 and adult caretakers.
- Organization must have existing youth and/or adult program.
- Organization must host an end-of-program tournament.
- Tournament and player information must be entered into Tennis Link.
- Organization must service low-income or underprivileged populations/communities in the Mid-Atlantic Section.
**After School/Summer Camp Program Grant**

This grant is available for organizations providing tennis summer camps or after school programs to low-income communities across the section. Organizations receiving this grant are required to run an advancing or non-advancing JTT season and/or entry level tournament at the conclusion of the program. Planning assistance for JTT and the end-of-program tournament is provided by USTA MAS staff. All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the conclusion of the program. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities. **This grant has a maximum request of $3,000.** A comprehensive budget is required for this grant. Preference is given to organizations who are able to demonstrate a successful model for self-sustainability.

**Timing**
- Deadline: March 31, 2017
- Notification: May 1, 2017
- Funding: May 17-31, 2017

**Who is Eligible?**
- Organizations that are a USTA organizational member and registered as a nonprofit or public agency.
- Organizations that have existing youth and/or adult tennis programming.
- Organizations that are already providing programs to low-income families and/or students enrolled in the free and reduced price lunch program at their school.

**Why Apply?**
- Try JTT or entry level tournaments with the support of the USTA MAS staff
- Expand current after school or summer programs in new communities
- Provide development opportunities for students new to tennis through JTT or tournaments
- Introduce competitive tennis in a fun and engaging way

**Grant Guidelines**
- Target audience for this program: Youth Ages 17 and Under
- Organization must have existing youth and/or adult program.
- If organization does not have existing tennis programming, organization must partner with a local tennis organization that can provide follow-on programming to students enrolled in the summer camp/after school program.
- All information from JTT or tournament must be entered into Tennis Link.
- Organization must service low-income or underprivileged populations/communities in the Mid-Atlantic Section.
- Organization must run programming in a location where additional transportation requirements are not a barrier for families or students.
- Summer camp requirement – must host a summer program that consists of four, at minimum, week-long half-day sessions or one four week session during the summer of 2017.
- After school requirement – must host at least six weeks of 1-2 hour sessions in the 2017-2018 school year.
- School run programs must register as a schools program with USTA Mid-Atlantic.
- Organization must run an advancing or non-advancing JTT season and/or an entry level tournament at the conclusion of the program.
- All program information (JTT season and/or tournament information) must be registered in Tennis Link. Grant funding can be used to cover this cost.
Inclusion Grant

USTA Mid-Atlantic provides funding for organizations with tennis programs specifically for athletes with physical, developmental, intellectual, and/or emotional disabilities. Organizations receiving this grant are required to run an end-of-program tournament where participants can utilize what was learned in class in a competitive format. Planning assistance for the end-of-program tournament is provided by USTA MAS staff. All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the program. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities. This grant has a maximum request of $3,000. Submission of a comprehensive budget is required for this grant.

Timing
- Deadline: March 31, 2017
- Notification: May 1, 2017
- Funding: May 17-31, 2017

Who is Eligible?
- Organizations that are a USTA organizational member and registered as a nonprofit or public agency.
- Organizations that are providing programs to individuals with disabilities.

Why Apply?
- Create a more inclusive tennis community.
- Provide programs for those who may require additional support or instruction when learning tennis.
- Remove cost as an added barrier to entry.
- Encourage individuals of all abilities to try tennis!

Grant Guidelines
- Target audience for this program: individuals with disabilities
- If organization does not have existing tennis programming, organization must partner with a local tennis organization that can provide assistance around tennis instruction as well as follow-on programming to students enrolled in this program.
- Organization must run an end-of-program tournament.
- Tournament information must be entered into Tennis Link.
Outreach in Hispanic/Latino Communities Grant

USTA Mid-Atlantic provides funding for organizations seeking to start or expand tennis opportunities in areas with dense Hispanic/Latino populations. Organizations receiving this grant are required to run an end-of-program tournament and/or JTT season. Planning assistance for the end-of-program tournament and JTT season is provided by USTA MAS staff. All grant recipients must submit a grant accountability form no more than 30 days after the program. Failure to do so will affect future funding opportunities. This grant has a maximum request of $3,000. Submission of a comprehensive budget is required for this grant.

Timing
- Deadline: March 31, 2017
- Notification: May 1, 2017
- Funding: May 17-31, 2017

Who is Eligible?
- Organizations that are a USTA organizational member and registered as a nonprofit or public agency.
- Organizations that are currently providing tennis programs are preferred but not required.
- Special consideration is given to organizations that are located in communities with a dense Hispanic/Latino population and to organizations that have Spanish speaking staff.

Why Apply?
- Provide accessible tennis programs in areas historically void of tennis opportunities.
- Reach a new audience.
- Better engage with the surrounding community.
- Provide more inclusive tennis opportunities.

Grant Guidelines
- Target audience for this program: Individuals of Hispanic or Latino descent.
- If organization does not have existing tennis programming, organization must partner with a local tennis organization that can provide assistance around tennis instruction as well as follow-on programming to students enrolled in this program.
- Organization must run an end-of-program tournament.
- Tournament information must be entered into Tennis Link.