



## MLB-MLBPA Youth Development Foundation Grant Application Letter of Inquiry Instructions

MLB-MLBPA Youth Development Foundation (the "Foundation") is a joint initiative between Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association. It was created to increase participation in and expand access to youth baseball and softball. The Foundation makes grants to organizations in the United States and internationally. The Foundation accepts applications throughout the year, and grant decisions are made by its Board of Directors on a quarterly basis.

### **What do we support?**

The Foundation considers requests for a variety of purposes including funding capital projects (e.g., field renovations), baseball/softball programs, and education initiatives.

- Capital projects include: building and renovating fields and practice facilities and installing lighting.
- Baseball/Softball programs include: in-school/after-school baseball/softball programming, equipment and uniforms, umpire fees, player registration fees and practice facility rental fees.
- Education initiatives include: programs, exhibits and other learning opportunities that use baseball and softball as its primary focus to promote interest and engagement in the game.

### **What we do not support?**

- The Foundation does not support annual operating expenses including, but not limited to, fundraising costs, salaries, insurance costs, administrative expenses, membership dues, advertising and promotional expenses, bank charges, audit expenses, and other third-party overhead costs.
- Fields used for sports and activities other than youth baseball and softball.
- Travel teams, except for those serving low-income players.
- Restroom and concession stand construction.
- Individual player scholarships or sponsorships.

**Answer all items below in your Letter of Inquiry**



We encourage submission of proposals from organizations and individuals that have bold, innovative and creative ideas to increase opportunities for youth (elementary through high school), youth who are minorities, girls and/or located in underserved communities, to play baseball and/or softball. We invite applicants to write a maximum of two-pages describing the applicant's project/program. If your proposal is accepted, the Foundation will formally invite you to apply using our application form.

The Letter of Inquiry must be written and submitted in English. No more than three (3) pages and the project budget will be reviewed. In your Letter of Inquiry please provide the following items in this order:

- Contact information: name, title, email, telephone, organization address
- Brief sentence on how the organization heard of this grant opportunity
- Short summary of the organization
- Short description of the proposed project and need
- Amount of grant being requested
  - Attach project budget (use the budget template)
  - List of any other funding sources secured and solicited and the amounts in US dollars
  - Projects with secured and solicited other funding sources will be prioritized
- Statement of need
  - Description of target population and geographic area
  - Economic and demographic information of served group
  - Number of youth participants on free and reduced lunch. If applying as a school, provide number in school population and number on team(s).
  - Number of youth your organization serves.
  - Number of youth that will be served by this project or grant.
  - Player participation fees, if any.
  - Ages of players served
  - Names of schools where youth players are enrolled
- Methodology of how this project and grant request will solve the described need
- A list of Leadership staff and Board of Directors
- Photos and professional renderings for capital projects, if available
- Completed project budget template (download [here](#)).

You will receive an update within 60 days following your Letter of Inquiry submission. The Foundation may send follow-up questions or request a phone call to review your project.

**Every item listed above must be addressed in order for the Letter of Inquiry to be considered complete for review.**

Complete the Letter of Inquiry and e-mail a copy (preferably in a single PDF file) to: [YDF@mlb.com](mailto:YDF@mlb.com).  
**COVID-19 Guidelines:** do not mail in a hard copy of the Letter of Inquiry until further notice.