



## **Diversity and Inclusion Grant Guidelines**

Established in 2015, the Excellence Foundation is the philanthropic entity of the Excellence Program. The Foundation has expanded its mission to support junior players who cannot fully afford training. We want to remove financial limitations at all levels, from introductory to high performance pathways.

The application process is open to all interested parties. Applications are evaluated by the Excellence Foundation Grant and Scholarship Review Committee. Individuals funded by an Excellence Foundation Grant must use the scholarship to train exclusively at the Excellence Tennis Academy.

The Diversity and Inclusion Grant Process is a very important part of the EX Tennis Foundation. Diversity and inclusion grants offer assistance to athletes of ethnic and diverse backgrounds. We feel that it is important for us to actively encourage and promote Diversity and Inclusion in the sport of tennis.

### **Funding:**

- The application period is considered on a rolling basis.
- All factual information requested on the application must be correctly stated. In addition to the specific factual information requested on the application, the quality of responses to questions will be considered. Applications (must be typed or legibly printed), including supporting documentation may be submitted via email, mail or fax, and must be postmarked by August 1.
- *To be considered for a training subsidy, players may not have any suspension points or other penalties imposed by the USTA, EX, or any other administrative body.*
- Applications will be limited to one grant per year unless exceptional circumstances warrant additional consideration.
- A current USTA Membership is required for receipt of a grant.
- All EX Foundation Scholars must teach a minimum of one weekly 10 and under class to give back to the Excellence Tennis Community.
- If applicant is not a US citizen, documentation of alien status must be submitted with the application.
- Individual must not exceed age 18 and/or have enrolled as a freshman in college by the time that the grant funds are expended.
- Training subsidies will be awarded after initial approval by the Grant and Scholarship Committee, and a list of grant recipients provided to the Board of Directors for final approval.

- Application forms are available on the Excellence Foundation website at [www.excellencetennisfoundation.org](http://www.excellencetennisfoundation.org).
- Applicants are encouraged to seek assistance from their USTA District associations and local community associations (contact USTA/MTEF if needed for assistance determining these associations) before applying for EX Foundation grants.
- Factors considered when evaluating applications: age, standings, annual improvement, number of events played, academic performance, income/financial need, other resources available.
- All players must demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Individual subsidized training amounts range from \$250 to \$18,000.

**If an EX Foundation Training Subsidy is Awarded:**

- After approval by the EX Foundation Grant and Scholarship Committee, the Foundation office will contact the recipient. The award will include any discount on Training Tuition, any other information needed and may include items for the player to complete to finish the application. No actual dollars will be rewarded, only discounted tuition, maintaining eligibility for Ohio and Kentucky High School tennis. The EX Foundation accepts no responsibility for eligibility issues.

**Submit application and additional information via mail to:  
The Excellence Foundation  
3280 Hardisty Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45208**

**Attn: Grant & Scholarship Review Committee  
Or submit application and additional information via email  
to: [extennisfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:extennisfoundation@gmail.com)**



## **Diversity and Inclusion GRANT APPLICATION**

(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY)

### **Applicant Information:**

Name of Youth Applicant:

\_\_\_\_\_

US Citizen \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade

\_\_\_\_\_

**If not a US Citizen, indicate alien status and attach documentation**

\_\_\_\_\_

USTA Number \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Size of  
Family \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Address

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Tennis Experience:**

· Do you play USTA tournaments? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

· Number of USTA sanctioned tournaments played in last 12 months \_\_\_\_\_

· Do you play high school tennis? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If 'no', do you intend to play high school tennis? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

· Do you play middle school tennis? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

· Have you represented your District in the Midwest District Team Cup, Boys' 18 Team Cup, or Marian Wood Baird Cup events? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

· Have you participated in the Midwest Closed Junior Outdoor Championships? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  
\_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, please list the year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

· Have you participated in your District Junior Qualifier? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, please list the year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

· Have you participated in USTA National Schedule events including USTA National Championships?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, please list the year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

· Have you participated in International Tennis Federation (ITF) qualifying events or have the goal of participating in this level event?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If yes, please list the year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Goal for Funding Request:**

Please list your players goals as it relates to the training required, time spent training and any other cost considerations.: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Funding Sources:**

- Please indicate tennis expenses over the past 12 months:

\_\_\_\_\_

- Amount of funding requested from the Excellence Foundation (grants range from \$250 to full tuition/full-time program \$15,600)

\_\_\_\_\_

- Amount of District Association or local financial support secured:

\_\_\_\_\_

- Amount of USTA National Association financial support secured:

\_\_\_\_\_

- Amount of other funds secured:

\_\_\_\_\_

Sources:

\_\_\_\_\_

- Total anticipated expenditures over the next six months:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Questions:**

**The youth applicant should answer the following on a separate piece of paper (please type or print legibly):**

1. Tell us why you are applying for this grant and the purpose for requesting funding.
2. Summarize your tennis background, playing experience and recent tournament results.
3. What are your tennis goals? (Be specific.)

4. How will you achieve your goals?
  
5. Describe a significant achievement that has made an impact on your educational goals and aspirations.
  
6. Describe your tennis related volunteer service.
  
7. State why you believe you are deserving of an EX Foundation grant.
  
8. If you previously received an EX Foundation grant, please explain how the grant funding has helped in your tennis progress.

**Please check below that the following information is included with the application at the time it is submitted (if not, the application will be returned):**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Player's Biography which includes grade point average
- \_\_\_\_\_ Most recent report card (if applicant is homeschooled or taking online classes and a report card is not available, please provide appropriate academic documentation)
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ At least one current letter of recommendation from a tennis coach
- \_\_\_\_\_ At least one current letter of recommendation from an academic teacher \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ If not a US Citizen, indicate alien status and attach documentation
- \_\_\_\_\_ Signed 'Authorization for Use of Name and Image' document (see last page of this application)

**Player's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date** \_\_\_\_\_