

## 2026 KidsGardening Grant Opportunities

### Common Application Questions

Please note: Do not submit this document to KidsGardening. Instead, it is to help your organization prepare your application responses ahead of time before you complete the online application. Simply copy and paste your answers from this document into the online form.

For full details, eligibility information, and the link to the online form, visit our website at <https://kidsgardening.org/grant-opportunities/>.

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Para aplicar en español, haga clic en el botón “English (US)” y cámbielo a “Spanish”.

KidsGardening has streamlined its grant application process, and applicants can now apply for multiple grants at the same time using this form, the Common Application.

To view the application questions ahead of time, visit the grant landing pages to download the questions in a PDF or DOC format.

All applicants will be added to KidsGardening’s email list. Please contact KidsGardening’s Grant Program Director, Sarah Lane, at [grants@kidsgardening.org](mailto:grants@kidsgardening.org) if you have any additional questions.

### Application Deadlines

- Waterwise Garden Grant: Friday, October 3, 2025, at 11:59 pm PT
- Youth Garden Grant: Friday, December 12, 2025, at 11:59 pm PT
- GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant: Friday, January 30, 2026, at 11:59 pm PT

### Grant Information

Waterwise Garden Grant: Hunter Industries and KidsGardening are working together to offer the Waterwise Garden Grant to support public and charter schools planning to teach about water conservation, water stewardship, and responsible water management through gardening. Twenty-five elementary and/or middle schools will be awarded \$1,000 - \$2,250 in funding and an irrigation supply kit valued at \$500.

Deadline: Friday, October 3, 2025, at 11:59 pm PT

Youth Garden Grant: Since 1982, the Youth Garden Grant has supported school and youth educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life for students and their communities. Fifty organizations will be awarded \$750 in funding and gardening supplies for their youth garden program.

Deadline: Friday, December 12, 2025, at 11:59 pm PT

GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant: The GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant, brought to you by The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation and KidsGardening, is designed to bring the life-enhancing benefits of gardens to communities across the United States. 120 programs will receive \$750 - \$1,500 in funding.

Deadline: Friday, January 30, 2026, at 11:59 pm PT

### **Eligibility Quiz**

Is your organization based in the United States or U.S. Territories?

- Yes
- No

Is your organization tax-exempt or not tax-exempt? Tax exemption is not required for all grant opportunities.

- Tax-exempt (ex: schools, nonprofits, governments, Tribal, etc.)
- Not tax-exempt

Is your organization a public or charter elementary or middle school?

- Yes
- No

Did your organization receive a grant from KidsGardening in 2024 or 2025? Examples include Budding Botanist, Waterwise Garden, Youth Garden, GroMoreGood Grassroots, and Lots of Compassion.

- Yes
- No

If chosen as a grant winner, will your organization use the funds and implement programming within the grant term?

- Yes
- No

If chosen as a grant winner, do you agree to submit a grant-end report with a project summary, photos, and parental photo release forms for any recognizable youth featured in images?

- Yes
- No

What type of community is your organization located in?

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural

How much total grant funding did your organization receive specifically for your garden program in 2025? Applicants should be prepared to provide supporting documentation if requested.

- \$0

- \$1 - \$999
- \$1,000 - \$4,999
- \$5,000 - \$9,999
- \$10,000+

List the funding organization, amount, and year the funding was received. Write N/A if no funding. (150 words maximum)

How many youth from each age group do you estimate will participate directly in the garden program? Applicants should be prepared to provide supporting documentation if requested.

Note: Every cell must be filled in.

	Number of Direct Participants
Ages 0-4 (Preschool)	
Ages 5-10 (Elementary)	
Ages 11-13 (Middle/Junior High)	
Ages 14-18 (High)	

What are the identities of the youth in your program? Applicants should be prepared to provide supporting documentation if requested. Note: Every row must have an answer.

	0-24%	25-49%	50-89%	90-100%	Unknown
African American or Black %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asian or Asian American %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hispanic, Latine/LatinX, or Spanish Origin %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middle Eastern or North African %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Native American or Alaska Native %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biracial or Multiracial %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
White %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children of Migrant Worker Families %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Children of Refugee Families %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children of Undocumented Families %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth who Speak Multiple Languages %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth in the Justice System %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth with Incarcerated Family Members %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LGBTQ+ Youth %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Experiencing Homelessness %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth in Foster Care %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth with Disabilities %	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do the youth who participate directly in the garden program experience food insecurity? If yes, indicate what type of data you will provide.

- Yes, School's Free/Reduced Cost Lunch %
- Yes, Census or City Data for Low Income or Economically Disadvantaged Families %
- No

If, Census or City Data for Low Income or Economically Disadvantaged Families %. Applicants should be prepared to provide supporting documentation if requested.

	0-39%	40-64%	65-100%
Census or City Data for Low Income or Economically Disadvantaged Families %			

If you are a school, what is your Free/Reduced Cost lunch rate. If you are an organization, what is a nearby school's rate? Applicants should be prepared to provide supporting documentation if requested.

	0-39%	40-64%	65-100%
School's Free/Reduced Cost Lunch %			

## Eligibility Results

Depending on your answers, one or more of the following messages will populate:

- Based on your answers, you are not eligible for KidsGardening's grants in the 2026 grant cycle. For details on eligibility, please review our grant landing page.
- Thank you for taking the time to fill out the eligibility survey. Based on your responses, your program only partially aligns with our funding priorities. You are eligible to apply; however, programs with higher demonstrated need will align more closely with our funding priorities and therefore, are more likely to be funded. For details on our funding priorities, including how we measure need, please review our grant landing pages.
- You are eligible for the 2026 Waterwise Garden Grant. Hunter Industries and KidsGardening are working together to offer the Waterwise Garden Grant to support public and charter schools planning to teach about water conservation, water stewardship, and responsible water management through gardening. Twenty-five elementary and/or middle schools will be awarded \$1,000 - \$2,250 in funding and an irrigation supply kit valued at \$500. The deadline to apply is Friday, October 3, 2025, at 11:59 pm PT. Would you like to apply for it?
  - Yes
  - No
- You are eligible for the 2026 Youth Garden Grant. Youth Garden Grant: Since 1982, the Youth Garden Grant has supported school and youth educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life for students and their communities. Fifty organizations will be awarded \$750 in funding and gardening supplies for their youth garden program. The deadline to apply is Friday, December 12, 2025, at 11:59 pm PT. Would you like to apply for it?
  - Yes
  - No
- You are eligible for the 2026 GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant. GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant: The GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant, brought to you by The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation and KidsGardening, is designed to bring the life-enhancing benefits of gardens to communities across the United States. 120 programs will receive \$750 - \$1,500 in funding. The deadline to apply is Friday, January 30, 2026, at 11:59 pm PT. Would you like to apply for it?
  - Yes
  - No
- By selecting to apply to multiple grants, I understand that I must apply by the earliest deadline date.
  - Yes, I understand

## Contact and Background Information

- Grant Applicant First Name:
- Grant Applicant Last Name:
- Grant Applicant Job Title:
- Grant Applicant Email Address:
- Confirm Grant Application Email Address:
- Email Communication: I understand that by applying for a KidsGardening grant I will be added to the KidsGardening email list.
- Grant Applicant Phone Number:
- Organization Type
  - Public School
  - Private School
  - Charter School
  - Nonprofit Agency
  - Community Garden
  - Preschool
  - Head Start
  - Child Care/Day Care
  - Garden Club
  - Summer Camp
  - YMCA
  - Library
  - Boys & Girls Club
  - Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturing, or Sea Scouts
  - Kiwanis Club
  - Juvenile Justice System (detention, correction, court, etc.)
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Organization Name:
- Organization Address:
- Garden Program Name:
- Will you start a new garden or improve an existing garden?
  - New Garden
  - Existing Garden

If you have an existing garden, please describe your current garden, such as dimensions of garden beds, garden features, walkways, learning spaces, accessibility, etc. (250 words maximum)

- How many months of the year will the garden be used (activities, classes, meetings, programming, etc.)?
- Has your organization applied for and/or received a grant from KidsGardening before?
  - Yes, applied and received a grant
  - Yes, applied but did not receive a grant

- No
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what grant(s) and what year(s)?

- What needs and challenges do youth in your community have? These should be outside of any garden needs and may include, but are not limited to, financial and environmental issues, safety concerns, health challenges, community support, or regulatory hurdles. (250 words maximum)

### **Garden Information**

1. What are your garden program's mission and educational goals? (250 words maximum)
2. How will youth participate in the garden? How often will they visit, and in what format (club, class, etc.)? (250 words maximum)
3. How do you plan to create a new garden or improve your existing garden? Describe the garden growing spaces and features. e.g., raised beds/in-ground, learning spaces, structures, types of plants, etc. (250 words maximum)
4. How will you use the \$750 - \$1,000 grant funds? Provide an itemized budget. If your project requires more funding, how will you secure the additional funds? (250 words maximum)
5. Who is on your garden program's leadership team? List their names, professional role, and lived experiences related to the garden program. (250 words maximum)
6. How will the community support your garden? List the names of the people, organizations, and/or partnerships currently established or ones you plan to establish. (250 words maximum)
7. What is the maintenance plan for your garden in the fall, winter, spring, and summer, and who is responsible for maintenance during each season? (250 words maximum)
8. How will you sustain the garden program over time? (250 words maximum)

### **Waterwise Garden Grant Questions**

1. How will the garden teach youth about water conservation and stewardship? (250 words maximum)
2. What type of irrigation supply kit would you like? The list of materials for the provided irrigation supply kit is on the grant landing page.
  - The provided irrigation supply kit
  - A custom irrigation kit

If a custom option, who is the irrigation specialist on your team and what supplies do you need? (250 words maximum)

3. Why will an irrigation supply kit benefit your garden program? (250 words maximum)

The Waterwise Garden Grant has an additional funding opportunity: The Waterwise Garden Equity Specialty Award.

Designed to fund new and existing garden programs that have greater funding needs due to, but not limited to, financial, environmental, safety, health, and regulatory challenges. The award will provide five programs with an additional \$1,250, for a total of \$2,250 in funding. Questions? Refer to the grant landing page.

4. Would you like to apply for the Waterwise Garden Equity Specialty Award?

- Yes
- No

If yes, the Waterwise Garden Equity Specialty Award:

1. Does your community face significant financial, environmental, safety, health, regulation, and/or other needs and challenges?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
2. What are the significant needs and challenges, and how is your organization equipped to meet these needs and challenges? (250 words maximum)
3. How will the new or improved garden and garden programming respond to the needs, gaps, or challenges faced by participating youth? (250 words maximum)
4. How will you use the additional \$1,250 Equity Specialty Award funds? (250 words maximum)

#### Youth Garden Grant Questions

The Youth Garden Grant has an additional funding opportunity: The Crescent Garden Container Gardening Award. The award will provide five winners with a container gardening supply package, valued at \$1,675. Questions? Refer to the grant landing page.

1. Are you interested in being considered for the Crescent Garden Container Gardening Award?

- Yes
- No

If yes, the Crescent Garden Container Gardening Award:

1. What will you teach about container gardening, and how do you plan to use the container gardening supply package? For a list of items included in the supply package, visit the grant landing page. (250 words maximum)

#### GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant Questions



1. What is the most significant benefit you hope to achieve with your garden project?
  - Develop a natural garden habitat for pollinators
  - Begin or contribute to a neighborhood revitalization or beautification movement
  - Provide therapeutic benefits to individuals through gardening
  - Create an edible garden that produces healthy food for students or community members in need
  - Provide children with educational opportunities in a garden or greenspace
  - Engage children in outdoor nature-based play spaces/activities

The GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant has additional funding opportunities through the following specialty award categories:

- Plus Specialty Award: Designed to fund new and existing garden programs that have greater funding needs due to, but not limited to, financial, environmental, safety, health, and regulatory challenges. The award will provide five programs with an additional \$750, for a total of \$1,500 in funding.
- Pride Specialty Award: Designed to fund new and existing garden programs that serve a majority of LGBTQ+ youth. The award will provide five programs with an additional \$750, for a total of \$1,500 in funding.
- Equity Specialty Award: Designed to fund new and existing garden programs led by people of color that serve a majority of youth of color. The award will provide five programs with an additional \$750, for a total of \$1,500 in funding.

Questions? Refer to the grant landing page.

2. Are you interested in being considered for a specialty award? (Select all)

- Yes, the Plus Specialty Award
- Yes, the Pride Specialty Award
- Yes, the Equity Specialty Award
- No

If yes, the Plus Specialty Award:

1. Does your community face significant financial, environmental, safety, health, regulatory, and/or other needs and challenges?
  - i. Yes
  - ii. No
2. What are the significant needs and challenges, and how is your organization equipped to meet these needs and challenges? (250 words maximum)
3. How will the new or improved garden/greenspace and garden programming respond to the needs, gaps, or challenges faced by participating youth? (250 words maximum)
4. How will you use the \$750 Plus Specialty Award funds? (250 words maximum)

If yes, the Pride Specialty Award:

1. Do you currently engage with LGBTQ+ youth in your community?
  - i. Yes
  - ii. No
2. How does, or will, your organization engage with the LGBTQ+ youth community? (250 words maximum)
3. How will the new or improved garden/greenspace and garden programming engage LGBTQ+ youth? (250 words maximum)
4. How will you use the \$750 Pride Specialty Award funds? (250 words maximum)

If yes, the Equity Specialty Award:

1. Does the leader of your youth garden program identify as a person of color? (i.e. African American or Black; Asian or Asian American; Hispanic, Latine/LatinX, or Spanish Origin; Middle Eastern or North African; Native American or Alaska Native; and/or Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; Biracial/Multi-racial, etc.)
  - i. Yes
  - ii. No
2. How is the leader reflective of the community they serve? (250 words maximum)
3. How will the new or improved garden/greenspace and gardening programming engage youth of color? (250 words maximum)
4. How will you use the \$750 Equity Specialty Award funds? (250 words maximum)

#### Grant Conditions

By selecting "Agree" below, my organization agrees to the following grant conditions:

- To use the funds only for the designated purpose as described in the grant application and subsequent grant notification letter and not for any other purpose without prior written approval.
- To notify KidsGardening immediately of any change in (a) Organization's legal or tax status, (b) Organization's executive or key staff responsible for achieving the grant purposes, (c) Organization's ability to expend the grant for the intended purpose, and (d) any expenditure from this grant for any purpose other than those for which the grant was intended.
- To maintain books and records adequate to demonstrate that it maintained the grant funds dedicated to the purpose for which the grant is made, and to maintain records of expenditures adequate to identify the purpose for which, and how, grant funds have been expended.
- To give KidsGardening reasonable access to the grantee's files and records to make such financial audits, verifications, and investigations as it deems necessary concerning the grant, and to maintain such files and records for at least four years after completion or termination of the project.
- To not expend any grant funds for any political or lobbying activity or any purpose other than one specified in section 170 (c)(2)(b) of the Code.
- To return any unexpended funds or any portion of the grant that is not used for the purposes specified herein.

- To allow the Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation and KidsGardening to include information about this grant in periodic public reports, newsletters, news releases, social media postings, and websites. This includes the amount and purpose of the grant, any photographs you have provided, your logo or trademark, and other information and materials about your organization and its activities.
- To complete a year-end report summarizing the project promptly following the end of the period during which you are to use all grant funds. Your reports should describe your progress in achieving the purposes of the grant and include a detailed accounting of the use and expenditure of the grant funds.

To cooperate fully with KidsGardening to assure that they can satisfy all of the requirements of an "expenditure responsibility" grant following the terms of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations thereunder.

The Foundation and KidsGardening reserve the right to discontinue, modify or withhold any payments under this grant award or to require a total or partial refund of any grant funds if, in KidsGardening's sole discretion, such action is necessary: (a) because you have not fully complied with the terms and conditions of this grant; (b) to protect the purpose and objectives of the grant or any other charitable activities of the Foundation or KidsGardening; or (c) to comply with the requirements of any law or regulations applicable to you, to KidsGardening, to the Foundation, or this grant.

### 3. Grant Conditions

- I agree

### Required Attachments

1. Photos or Videos (Required). Attach 3-5 photos or videos of the garden site or provide a link to the files below.

- Upload
- Link

2. Verification Document (Required for GroMoreGood Grassroots Grant). Please attach the following document verifying your organization's tax-exempt status.

- 501(c)(3) organizations - Submit your IRS Determination Letter. EIN letters are not accepted.
  - Upload
  - Link
- Schools - Submit a letter on school district letterhead, signed by a school district official, stating that the school in question falls under the school district's jurisdiction.
  - Upload
  - Link
- For other tax-exempt organizations, such as universities and religious organizations - Provide a letter on official letterhead stating that you are designated as an automatically tax-exempt organization and thus exempt from needing a 501(c)(3) documentation to

claim nonprofit status with the US government. You may also submit an IRS Determination Letter.

- Upload
  - Link
- Fiscal Sponsorship - Submit your sponsor's IRS Determination Letter and a signed contract detailing the fiscal sponsorship relationship between your organizations.
  - Upload
  - Link

### **Optional Attachments**

If you would like to share more about your program and the scope of your project, you may include the following attachments: Garden Sketch, Map or Survey, and Letters or Support.

1. Garden Sketch (Optional). Please attach a garden sketch.

- Upload
- Link

2. Land Survey or Scale Map (Optional). Please attach a land survey or scale map of the space. If you do not currently have this information, search for the address of your lot on Google Earth or Google Maps, or request the digital land records or parcel map information from your city.

- Upload
- Link

3. Letters of Support (Optional). Attach a one-page letter of support for your project written by a community partner or another organization involved in the project demonstrating their support for your organization.

- Upload
- Link

### **Grant Applicant Demographic Information (Optional)**

We are collecting demographic information as part of an effort to ensure our grant application process is equitable. Answers will not play a role in the grant application evaluation, nor influence winner selection.

This question is optional. If you do not want to answer it, please leave it blank.

I identify as... (Select one)

- African American or Black
- Native American, Indigenous, or Alaska Native
- Asian or Asian American
- Hispanic, Latine/LatinX, or Spanish Origin
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Biracial or Multi-racial

- White

If biracial or multi-racial, would you like to elaborate? (Select all)

- African American or Black
- Asian or Asian American
- Hispanic, Latine/LatinX, or Spanish Origin
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native American or Alaska Native
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_