

**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

FY24 DC Family Fun Destinations 2.0

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: Friday, January 26, 2024

RFA Identification No.: DMPED – FY24 – DCFFD2.0

Background:

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (“**DMPED**”) invites the submission of applications from qualified organizations for the FY24 DC Family Fun Destinations Program (“**DC Family Fun Destinations Program**” or “**Program**”). The purpose of the Program is to promote the development of permanent or semi-permanent family-friendly attractions in Washington, DC (“**District**”).

Purpose:

The Program will provide grants for the purpose of creating or enhancing public spaces, exhibits, or activities that will attract families to the District’s Central Business District. The Program will incentivize the development or enhancement of permanent or semi-permanent attractions that will drive foot traffic, offer a new experience to the surrounding neighborhood, and create economic impact. The term “attraction” means an indoor or outdoor facility or space that is open to the public for cultural, recreational, or entertainment uses. Example projects include community-gathering spaces, performance or creative space, outdoor game or music infrastructure, public art, activities for children and families (e.g., a children’s garden, play equipment, etc.), and immersive, interactive, or virtual reality experiences.

Project Requirements:

- Projects must be active for a minimum of 90 consecutive days at each Project site, with a preference for permanent attractions.
- Projects must be located in the Central Business District (to be further described in the RFA).
- Applicants should clearly demonstrate how projects will be appealing and accessible to children and families.
- Projects must be complete and open to the public no later than September 30, 2025, with preference for projects that can open less than 12 months after award.
- Applications for projects intended to be permanent must include a plan for long-term financial sustainability and maintenance.
- Applications should demonstrate a high level of community engagement in response to community needs.
- Projects must abide by all District laws and regulations.
- Applicants should demonstrate site control, including a plan to acquire permits or approvals for the use of outdoor space, or a Letter of Intent for a leased space.
- Applicants must demonstrate a financial match of at least 50% of the Project costs.

- Preference will be given to Projects that occupy vacant commercial space or occupy outdoor space.

The Program will be funded pursuant to the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Limited Grant-Making Authority Act of 2012, effective September 12, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-168; D.C. Official Code § 1-328.04(x)), and the “American Rescue Plan Act of 2021”, effective March 11, 2021 (Public Law No: 117-2) (as may be amended or extended, “**ARPA**”). The Program is also supported by the Economic Development Administration State Tourism Grant Program.

Eligible applicants:

Non-profit organizations or associations, including:

- Creative/cultural, community or faith-based nonprofit organizations;
- organizations with placemaking and/or community development experience; and

Individuals and for-profit entities are not eligible to receive grants. No grant funds expended by the awardee may be used to subsidize or defray the operating costs of for-profit businesses. However, eligible applicants may partner with for-profit business entities, schools, and other non-profit organizations on the development of the project.

Additional details about eligibility and criteria for selecting applicants will be included in the RFA.

Anticipated Number of Awards: DMPED anticipates making 4-6 awards, ranging from \$250,000 up to \$2 million, and will fund up to 50% of project cost (applicant must demonstrate private funding commitments). Applicant to request funding amount at time of application with need demonstrated by budget documents. Based on an internal review panel of recommendations, the resources available, and the goals of the Program, DMPED will make the final funding decision. DMPED will award up to **\$3,692,485.89** total in grants to be disbursed to successful applicants of the Grant.

Grant Information Session: DMPED will host an in-person information session for interested applications on Monday, February 5, 2024, and a virtual information session for interested applicants on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. Please check the <https://dmped.dc.gov/> website for more details.

Contact Name: DMPED Grants Team **Phone:** (202) 727-6365 **Email:** dmped.grants@dc.gov

Availability of RFA: The RFA and grant application will be released on Friday, January 26, 2024, and posted at <https://dmped.dc.gov/>.

Application Process: The grant application process will include an initial screening of applicants, a review panel process, and a final review to determine the final funding decision. Each step will be further described in the RFA.

Grant Application Deadline for Electronic Submission: Applicants must submit a completed online application to DMPED via the Grant Vantage system no later than 5:00 PM/ET on *Friday, March 15, 2024*.

Period of Performance: All projects funded by this Program must be complete and open to the public no later than September 30, 2025.