

2010 U.S. DIVING FOUNDATION FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

Any USD-member organization and USD committee may sponsor proposals. Once reviewed, proposals are turned over to the USD Grant Review Committee, which is responsible for determining if the grants meet the criteria and follow the guidelines set forth by the Foundation.

The amount of funding requested often exceeds the amount available. The initial step for the Grant Review Committee is to eliminate proposals that do not follow directions. Foundation applicants will receive detailed instructions pertaining to submission. **THESE DIRECTIONS MUST BE FOLLOWED.**

Deviations from these specific guidelines will minimize an application's chances of being approved. The first instruction is to meet the set deadline for the type of grant you are submitting. Grant applications for Scientific Studies and Minority Grants must be received on or before **September 1**. All other applications must be received on or before **October 1** in order to be considered. **Faxed or late proposals will not be accepted under any circumstances.**

After review by the USD Grant Review Committee, all grant requests are sent to the Foundation Board of Trustees. The Board will assess and prioritize each proposal. Decisions on all grant requests are made at the USD Foundation's annual meeting in December. Minority and Scientific Studies grant requests will be sent by USD to special committees. These committees will review, evaluate and make recommendations to the Foundation.

Follow these general guidelines:

Before you complete your grant application forms, consider these criteria with regard to your request for project funding. The purpose of the Grant Program is to enhance the development of the sport of diving in the United States through financial aid for specific diving-related projects that cannot otherwise be funded. Each proposal is considered with general and specific criteria in mind. The general criteria are the proposal's significance, timeliness, credibility, cost effectiveness, availability of other funding and compliance with proposal guidelines.

Criteria the Foundation will consider include, but are not limited to:

- Program requests rather than administrative/operational costs
- Proposals under \$15,000
- Single projects rather than multiple projects
- Projects that include equipment needed for developing expanding programs
 - Special consideration given for those projects with matching funds from other local community sources (already raised or committed in writing)
- Projects designed to reach large numbers
- Proposals for new or innovative programs that may serve as a model for others
- Projects that will likely improve general knowledge of diving and have a practical application
- Projects capable of self support once the grant has provided the boost to get started
- Projects designed for the recruitment and development of minorities
- Projects that advance scientific understanding of the sport of diving

To get full or partial support for your project, be sure your request fit these criteria.