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Grant and Award Resources for Your Garden

by Sarah Pounders

When planning youth gardens, there is never a shortage of ideas for programs and activities, but do you find the room quiets when the topic switches to finding funding? The good news is that a gardening program does not need to be huge to be successful – kids learn as much from a 4' X 8' raised bed as from a half-acre plot. But even on a small scale, your gardening program will need basic supplies like soil, tools and plants. So where can you go to find these materials?

There are a number of established grant and award programs providing money and materials to help fund youth gardens, from public sources (local, state and federal government), private foundations (general, community, corporate, family), national corporations, and local sources.

A great place to start searching for grants and awards is the [National Gardening Association's Resource Directory](#) where you'll find links to more than one hundred grant and award sources.

Additionally, the National Gardening Association, through the generous help of sponsors, provides grants and awards annually, including:

- [Youth Garden Grants](#)
- [Kids Growing with Dutch Bulbs Awards](#)
- [Mantis Awards](#)
- [Healthy Sprouts Awards](#)
- ["Remember Me" Rose School Garden Awards](#)

To ensure success, apply to programs that match your needs and goals, make sure your program meets the criteria for applying, and create an application that makes a positive impression. Check out the following articles for additional tips and ideas:

- [Writing a Winning Grant](#)
- [People Make a Garden](#)
- [2005 Healthy Sprouts Awards: Growing Healthy Futures](#)
- [A Wealth of Wisdom](#)
- [Finding Funds and Support](#)



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