

## Request for Applications Connecticut Youth Gambling Awareness Project 2023-2024

### Purpose:

The Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) will partner with the CT State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Problem Gambling Services (DMHAS PGS) to expand the **Youth Gambling Awareness Project** in Connecticut. This project will fund up to 10 youth media campaigns throughout the state to promote problem gambling awareness and available resources. Groups may apply to this Request for Applications (RFA) for \$5,000 to fund this project. Selected groups will receive training and technical assistance throughout the timeframe of the project. Final projects will be showcased on March 6, 2024 to highlight groups and promote community campaigns.

### Overview:

The **Youth Gambling Awareness Project** is an initiative sponsored by DMHAS PGS in partnership with CREC and supported by the CT Council on Problem Gambling (CCPG). Middle and high school aged youth groups from across Connecticut are invited to participate in this project. Groups will receive training and support in developing public awareness projects that focus on problem gambling awareness for peers, families and communities. For additional resources and to view projects created by previous participants, please visit the project website: <https://gamblingawarenessct.org/youth-media-project/>

Goals of this project are to 1) educate and engage youth on the risks of gambling and the resources available for help, 2) support youth in developing key skills in research, community assessment, data analysis and marketing and 3) grow leadership skills, such as public speaking and community event planning.

Each group must have at least one dedicated adult advisor who will work with students (groups of 4-5) to develop their projects. Groups will choose a project focus (i.e. sports betting, lottery, casino etc.), type of project ( i.e. print, audio or video public service announcement, social media campaign, original poem or music etc.) and intended audience ( i.e. peers, parents/families, the community) and will meet consistently to develop their projects throughout the school year. Progress will be shared with leadership at DMHAS PGS, CREC, and CCPG to ensure accurate and appropriate messaging. Groups will share their final projects during the **Youth Gambling Awareness Project Showcase** on March 6, 2024 and share/disseminate their projects widely within their schools and communities until June 30, 2024.

### Eligible applicants:

Applicants must be able to meet the requirements of the grant. Organizations that already have access to and established relationships with middle or high school aged students are a strong fit for this project (i.e. schools, youth service bureaus, community organizations, local prevention coalitions, etc.).

### Time period:

The RFA will close on **September 8, 2023**. Applicants will receive notification of award by **September 22, 2023**. **The grant period will be from award notification on September 22, 2023 and continue through June 30, 2024.**

### Funding:

Funded applicants will receive \$5,000 to support the costs of the project (i.e. professional videography and editing, participation incentives, food for student meetings, marketing materials, promotional materials, and other costs pre-approved by CREC).

### Eligible activities:

Groups will have the opportunity to choose the 1) focus area of the project, 2) type of media project, 2) intended audience, 3) a supporting statistic, and 4) tagline. Draft project submissions must be approved by the leadership team by **January 8, 2024**. Final projects are due by **February 16, 2024**.

### Review process and criteria:

Each eligible application will be reviewed and rated by a selected panel. Applicants can review the application rating rubric (Appendix A) as a resource on scoring.

### Data collection and evaluation:

Funded applicants must participate in an evaluation process that will consist of student pre and post evaluation surveys and an adult advisor post evaluation.

### Application deadline:

Applications must be submitted by **September 8, 2023 at 5 p.m.** Applications must be submitted electronically via: [Request for Applications Proposal Submission Link](#)

Any questions regarding this application should be submitted in writing and directed to Kim Brewer at [kbrewer@crec.org](mailto:kbrewer@crec.org). Please use the subject line "Youth & Gambling Awareness RFA Question". All responses will be posted in writing by August 25, 2023 to <https://gamblingawarenessct.org/>.

Grant timeline:

RFA released	August 7, 2023
RFA questions due to: <a href="mailto:kbrewer@crec.org">kbrewer@crec.org</a>	August 18, 2023
RFA questions & answers posted	August 25, 2023 answers posted to: <a href="https://gamblingawarenessct.org/">https://gamblingawarenessct.org/</a>
Applications due to: <a href="#">Request for Applications Proposal Submission Link</a>	September 8, 2023
Notification of award	September 22, 2023
Adult advisor meeting (live virtual)	October 4, 2023 3-4 p.m.
Youth Training (pre-recorded video)	Completed by: November 30, 2023
Draft project due	January 8, 2024
Final project due	February 16, 2024
Showcase event	March 6, 2024, 3-4 p.m.
Project dissemination	March 6- June 30, 2024
Final reports due	June 30, 2024

## Application Format:

The following application sections must be included:

- I. Signed grant application cover page (Appendix B)
- II. Application narrative (maximum 3 pages)
  - A. Project capacity:
    1. Identify the topic focus area, type of project, and intended audience for the proposed project and describe your plan to disseminate the project to your intended audience.
    2. Describe your youth group that consists of 4-5 middle or high school students and why they would be a good fit for this project. Include any experiences the group has had with similar projects.
    3. Complete the budget template (Appendix C) and provide a budget narrative of how your group intends to spend the funding.
    4. Provide a brief overview of the meeting schedule and where meetings will primarily take place (example: the group will meet every 3rd Tuesday of each month from 3-5 p.m. at the youth service bureau).
    5. Provide an overview of the partnerships that exist that will support the project. These partnerships can include the Regional Behavioral Health Action Organizations, schools, youth service bureaus or other town agencies. Partnerships can also include other private agencies or individuals to help support filming, editing, marketing strategy or other technical aspects of the project. Letters of support can be included.
    6. Provide the name, contact information and credentials of the adult advisor(s). Or the potential credentials of an advisor who is yet to be determined. *Adult advisors must be available and responsive to project requests.*
    7. Describe the financial capacity of the organization who will receive funding, including where money should be sent (i.e. physical address, email and contact name) and who will be responsible for the management and reporting of funds.

## Appendix A: Application Scoring Rubric

Applicant/grantee:

RBHAO District (see pg. 7 for reference):

Rating Indicator	Score
<p>1. Identify the topic focus area, type of project, and intended audience for the proposed project. <b>40 pts.</b></p>	
<p>2. Describe your youth group that consists of 4-5 middle or high school students and why they would be a good fit for this project. Include any experiences the group has had with similar projects. <b>10 pts.</b></p>	
<p>3. If awarded, provide a budget overview of how your group intends to spend the funding (complete attached budget). <b>15 pts.</b></p>	
<p>4. Provide a brief overview of the meeting schedule and where meetings will primarily take place (example: the group will meet every 3rd Tuesday of each month from 3-5 p.m. at the youth service bureau). <b>10 pts.</b></p>	
<p>5. Provide an example of the partnerships that exist that will support the project. These partnerships can include the Regional Behavioral Health Action Councils, schools, youth service bureaus or other town agencies. Partnerships can also include other private agencies or individuals to help support filming, editing, marketing strategy or other technical aspects of the project. Letters of support can be included. <b>10 pts.</b></p>	
<p>6. Provide the name, contact information and credentials of the adult advisor(s). Or the potential credentials of an advisor who is yet to be determined. <b>5 pts.</b></p>	

<p>7. Describe the financial capacity of the organization who will receive funding, including where money should be sent (i.e. physical address, email, contact name) and who will be responsible for the management and reporting of funds. <b>10 pts.</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total score (out of 100 points)=</b></p>	

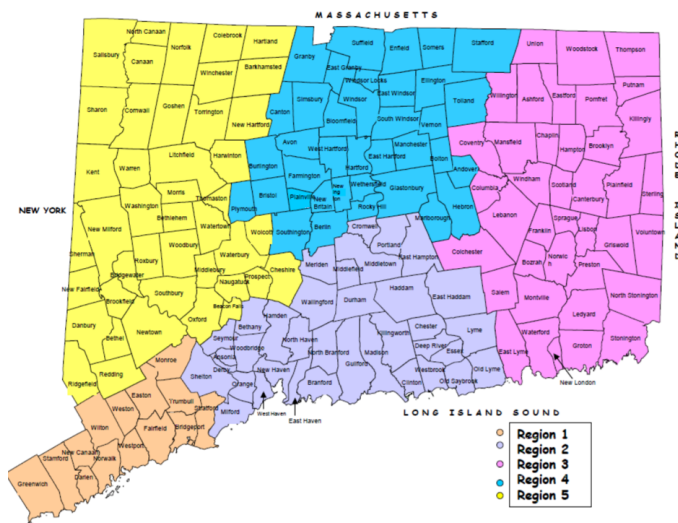
## Appendix B: Application Cover Page

### Application Information

Applicant/Grantee	
School/Site where students will attend	
Grade levels of student participants	
RBHAO Region #	
Meeting schedule	

### Advisor Contact(s)

Name:	Email:
Name:	Email:



### Appendix C: Application Budget Template

<b>Description</b>	<b>Estimated Expense</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>