LA84 Foundation
Director, Grants and Programs
Opportunity

Are you passionate about making a meaningful impact on sports based youth development within Southern California’s diverse community? Join us in applying your passion for sport play, movement, and youth to grantmaking with an equity lens.

The Director, Grants and Programs will report to the Vice President/Chief of Staff and lead a team of approximately 4-5 FTE’s. LA84 Foundation aims to have a 2024 budget of approximately $10 million with a grantmaking goal of $4 million. In 2022, LA84 invested $4 million in grants and programs and expects to exceed $3.5 million in new grants and programs for 2023.

The Position

LA84 Foundation seeks a team-oriented leader for the Director, Grants and Programs role. LA84 believes an organization’s success relies on more than just technical expertise; it also requires qualities like humility and a commitment. This role involves coaching and mentoring staff, participating in special projects, and assisting in shaping and implementing the Foundation’s grantmaking strategy. The Director will manage grantmaking operations and ensure alignment with LA84’s mission, values, and strategic priorities.

LA84 Grantmaking Priorities

LA84 accepts applications from organizations and agencies throughout Southern California to support youth sports programs and activities.

We believe in using the power of sports to help children and youth develop into healthy and happy productive adults.

We focus our support on organizations that view sports as an integral way to develop children and youth to be healthy, happy, and engaged individuals.

We support approaches that have a Sports-Based Youth Development (SBYD) orientation in their work.

Sports-based youth develop programs are often described as out-of-school programs that use a particular sport to facilitate learning and life skill development in youth.

As part of our most recent strategic planning, we have more clearly centered equity as a guiding frame of our work and achieving equity in play as our North Star. Not all kids have equitable access to sport and play due in part to:

- Existing disparities in health, wealth, and education.
- Public policies that have not supported investments in park infrastructure, recreation, and sports opportunities.

The LA84 Foundation is guided by the following principles:
Sport is an effective tool in positive youth development.

- Sport can improve the lives of young people through positive social-emotional, health, and educational outcomes, and has important lifelong impacts.
- Coaching education greatly improves the sport experience for young people and youth development outcomes.
Key Areas of Responsibilities

- Oversee day-to-day grantmaking operations, timelines, payments, and reporting.
- Ensure grant budget oversight and monitoring.
- Prepare materials for the Board of Directors.
- Develop and manage workflow processes.
- Coach and supervise the Grants & Programs team.
- Build external relationships with grantees and community partners.
- Implement grantmaking strategy effectively.
- Collaborate with Finance and Administration.
- Contribute to new foundation initiatives and programs.
- Analyze grant data and trends.

The above description is intended to describe the general nature and level of work performed and is not intended to limit the scope of potential work assignments.

Experience and Qualifications

- Bachelor’s degree (Master’s preferred).
- 2-4 years of grantmaking experience.
- 7-10 years of experience in nonprofit, government, or philanthropic sectors.
- Commitment and passion for sports
- Understanding of and commitment to equity and youth development.
- Commitment and passion for youth development
- Experience in managing multiple projects.
- Minimum of 5 years in supervision or leadership.
- Strong communication and presentation skills.
- Proficiency with MS Office and grants management systems.
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- Detail-oriented; ability to multi task and work efficiently in an unstructured environment with frequent interruptions.

In our grantmaking we prioritize:

- **Youth under 18 years of age** with a focus on youth of color, youth living in low-income households, and girls and young women.
- **Youth that are overlooked and underserved** including youth living with disabilities, and LGBTQ or gender nonconforming youth.
- Organizations that use a **sports-based youth development approach** in their service model.
- Organizations that **center equity in their service model** and work to address the inequities by prioritizing children and youth that lack access to sport and play.

No sport is risk free, but the health and safety of young athletes is a top priority. We are a learning organization, and we know involvement in sports has long-term positive impacts for children and youth. We expect to work with grantees and learn about their successes so that we may share with leaders in the SBYD ecosystem.
LA84 Foundation, A Leader In Youth Sports

The LA84 Foundation is a private, nonprofit institution created by the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee to manage Southern California’s endowment from the 1984 Olympic Games. Under an agreement made in 1979, 40 percent of any surplus was to stay in Southern California, with the other 60 percent going to the United States Olympic Committee. The total surplus was $232.5 million. Southern California’s share was approximately $93 million.

The LA84 Foundation’s mission is to promote and expand youth sports opportunities in Southern California and to increase knowledge of sport and its impact on people’s lives. Since inception, the Foundation has invested more than $225 million in Southern California by awarding grants to youth sports organizations, initiating sports and coaching education programs, and operating the world’s premier sports library.

Compensation and Benefits

The annual base salary for the Director, Grants and Programs position will be based on a range starting at $130,000 to $150,000, and commensurate with the successful candidate’s skills and experience. LA84 Foundation offers competitive health, dental, vision and other benefits. The position is full-time, onsite at the LA 84’s campus located in South Los Angeles. The Foundation is currently working a hybrid schedule. As an exempt position, with occasional evening and weekend work or other organizational obligations expected, without overtime pay. The position is eligible for annual performance bonuses, and includes annual leave, plus holiday and sick pay eligibility.

Ideal Leadership Characteristics

- Strong leadership and consensus-building skills.
- Positive attitude with a sense of humor.
- Personal integrity and dedication to excellent customer service.
- Strategic and innovative to achieve Foundation’s core objectives.
- Nimble, adaptable and flexible leader.
- Willing to place the needs of the team ahead of personal desires or ambitions.
- Team oriented; ability to bring people together, set goals and lead a team effectively.
- Be an unbiased advocate for all staff, fostering a healthy and vibrant team culture.
- Mentor, train, and provide growth opportunities for grantmaking team.
- Champion an inclusive, open, and collaborative environment that values creativity and innovation.
- Continuously assess service delivery methods for efficiency and effectiveness.
- Oversee strategic goal setting to align with LA84 Foundation’s vision and mission.
- Develop and implement policies and systems supporting department operations.
- Drive innovation in service delivery.
How To Apply

To be considered, please submit your resume and cover letter of interest outlining the background and experience that makes you the ideal candidate electronically to dgp.la84@thehawkinscompany.com. Resumes received by November 24, 2023, will receive first consideration. The position is open until filled.

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For additional information or questions, please contact, Yonnine Hawkins Garr at 323-252-1655, yonnine@thehawkinscompany.com, or Todd Hawkins at 213-300-9342, todd@thehawkinscompany.com.