

National Problem Gambling Helpline: Call or Text I-800-GAMBLER or visit I800gamblerchat.org

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Evaluation of NCPG's Agility Grants Program

Summary

The National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) invites proposals from qualified candidates to conduct an evaluation of our Agility Grants program. The Program Evaluator will analyze program impacts and provide recommendations for future grant-making strategies. Proposals should demonstrate experience and expertise in grants evaluation to complete the scope of work outlined below, as well as an understanding of problem gambling prevention efforts. The award of up to \$30,000 is inclusive of reimbursement for travel, equipment, and materials (Facilities & Administration costs limited to 15% of award). The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, April 4, 2025. Proposals must be submitted via the online application form linked below.

Background

NCPG serves as the national advocate to minimize gambling related harm. As part of this work, NCPG operates the Agility Grants program, a strategic initiative funded by the NFL via the NFL Foundation, to provide funding to nonprofit organizations in the U.S. for problem gambling prevention programs. The grants focus on two strategic priorities: prevention innovation and prevention amplification. Prevention innovation focuses on the development, deployment, research, and evaluation of problem gambling prevention programs and curricula. Prevention amplification aims to promote new thought leaders and platforms to educate communities about problem gambling, with priority on youth and leaders of color. Grants target projects reaching populations at higher risk of developing a gambling problem, including middle school, high school, and college students and athletes; Black, Hispanic, Native American, Asian, and other communities of color; and other communities disproportionately affected by problem gambling. Grants have ranged from \$20,000 - \$40,000. The Agility Grants program has awarded \$1.2 million across 31 grantee organizations in six funding rounds from 2022 to 2024. With continued support from the NFL Foundation, the Agility Grants program will award another \$1.5 million in grants from 2025 to 2027. Please visit <u>www.NCPGambling.org/Agility</u> for more information about Agility Grants, including a full list of previously funded organizations and summaries of funded problem gambling prevention projects.



The Agility Grants program is the only funding initiative offering privately funded grants on a national scale in problem gambling prevention. Through this program, NCPG envisions the establishment of a national standard for community-based problem gambling prevention strategies that empower schools and communities with adaptable, evidence-based practices to reduce risk and foster long-term impact. The program evaluation will support the strategic development of Agility Grants for future implementation, which will include:

- 1) Sustaining and scaling promising practices that have been implemented through Agility Grants.
- 2) Building "plug-and-play" programs that can serve as starting points for other organizations to adapt and implement within the communities they serve.

Scope of Work

The Program Evaluator will collaborate with NCPG and other stakeholders to:

- Design and implement an evaluation plan to measure collective impacts of 2022-2024 funded projects. The Program Evaluator will work with NCPG to develop the key evaluation questions.
- Identify multiple promising practices, segmented by target audience age group and cultural specificity, that have been catalyzed or implemented through the Agility Grants program and are effective, sustainable and scalable.
- Conduct evaluation activities, including (but not limited to) reviewing historical documentation, interviewing NCPG staff across teams, interviewing grant recipients and their project participants, reviewing/analyzing grantee documentation and reports.
- Participate in regular check-ins with NCPG Agility Grants staff, which will likely include weekly or bi-weekly virtual meetings and day to day collaboration via email, Slack, and/or a project management platform.
- Provide written report detailing evaluation results and recommendations for 2026 and 2027 grant-making strategies that align with the overall program goals.
- Disseminate findings in a presentation at the National Conference on Gambling Addiction and Responsible Gambling, July 23-24, 2026 in Nashville, TN (complimentary registration).



NCPG will:

- Serve as the primary collaborator with the Program Evaluator, ensuring alignment and coordination across all project phases, including stakeholder engagement, evaluation design, data management, and reporting initiatives.
- Provide the Program Evaluator with access to all program documentation necessary for a successful evaluation process. This includes all Agility Grants proposal submissions from the program inception, progress reports that have been submitted by previous grantees, and internal program planning and strategy documents.

Qualifications and Requirements

Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Domestic, public or private, non-profit or for-profit organizations are eligible to apply, as well as individuals.
- Knowledge of trust-based philanthropy and/or equitable evaluation approaches, with demonstrated ability to apply these methods in practice.
- Experience evaluating philanthropic initiatives and grant-making programs.
- Demonstrated ability to write clear and insightful summary reports that communicate findings to multiple stakeholders including funders, grantees, and professional community.
- Knowledge of prevention frameworks and/or understanding of problem gambling prevention efforts.
- Completed application with documents listed in Application Instructions below.

Timeline

Proposed evaluation activities should start at the beginning of May 2025 and be completed by the end of October 2025. The final timeline of evaluation activities will be determined in collaboration with the Program Evaluator.

Contract Funding

The award of up to \$30,000 is inclusive of reimbursement for travel, equipment, and materials (Facilities & Administration costs limited to 15% of award). Payments are to be made in installments based on benchmarks and reports developed in collaboration with NCPG. Reimbursement for travel, equipment, and materials will be made on a rolling basis.



Application Instructions

All proposals must be submitted online using the application LINK. Proposals submitted any other way will not be accepted or considered. The deadline to submit a proposal is Friday, April 4, 2025, at 11:59 pm. The online application requests the following information:

- 1. Experience and Qualifications:
 - a. Upload a copy of your resume and/or CV.
 - b. Describe your professional background, interest in the project, and relevant expertise and experience.
- 2. Proposed Approach / Project Implementation Plan:
 - a. Describe how you would approach the scope of work. What primary activities would you implement to conduct the evaluation? What evaluation methods and tools would you use?
 - b. Provide an estimated timeline for project deliverables and milestones.
- 3. Project Management and Communication:
 - a. Describe how you plan to manage the project timeline and budget effectively, given the project scope and contract amount.
 - b. Describe how you would approach communicating project status updates with NCPG staff.
 - c. Describe how you would communicate results of your evaluation for diverse audiences and community stakeholders.
- 4. Project Budget:
 - a. Submit a detailed budget outlining the estimated project costs. Include estimated costs for project personnel, materials, travel, and any other expenses necessary to complete the work.
 - b. Please note that Facilities & Administration costs are limited to 15% of the award.
- 5. Work Samples:
 - a. Provide copies of any relevant evaluations that can be shared. These documents will only be shared with NCPG staff and proposal reviewers.
- 6. Letters of Recommendation:
 - a. Provide two or more professional letters of recommendation.

Questions

Please reach out to Jo Sanchez, Grants Manager, at <u>grants@NCPGambling.org</u> with any questions.