

Sponsor/Title: Department of State (DOS) - FY 2026 Sports Visitor Program

External Link: <https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/361679>

Funding Opportunity Number: DFOP0018011

Submission Limitation per Institution: One (1)

Notre Dame Limited Submissions Listing:

<https://research.nd.edu/our-services/funding-opportunities/faculty/limited-submissions-program/>

Internal Expression of Interest Deadline: 2026-04-13

Sponsor Application Deadline: 2026-05-26

Purpose: Sports Diplomacy programs harness the global passion for sports to advance U.S. foreign policy priorities, promote American leadership, and foster investment in the U.S. sports economy. The Sports Visitor Program leverages international sports exchanges to reinforce U.S. leadership, innovation, and excellence on the world stage. Through thematic sports-based exchanges, Sports Visitor programs provide American and international youth (ages 15-23) and adult coaches/chaperones the opportunity to develop leadership skills, build lasting bilateral relationships, and examine the positive impact of U.S. legislation on sports and society.

Goals and Objectives: The Sports Visitor Program is designed to achieve the following goals:

1. Advance U.S. foreign policy goals;
2. Showcase U.S. sporting excellence and innovation;
3. Prepare youth leaders to become role models and contributing members of their communities;
4. Facilitate meaningful and consistent sports experiences between American and international youth; and
5. Foster investment in the U.S. sports economy.

The objectives of the Sports Visitor Program are for participants to:

1. Increase and deepen understanding of U.S. society, culture, and history to dispel stereotypes;
2. Recognize the role of sports in promoting fair play and open competition;
3. Associate the United States' landmark legislation (e.g., Title IX, Americans with Disabilities Act) with excellence, opportunity, and innovation in sports;
4. Develop leadership, teamwork, resilience, confidence, and conflict resolution skills; and
5. Build lasting relationships with American and international peers.

Internal Application Requirements: Upload the following information to the Google Form at <https://forms.gle/mZeYfc4FVssz8te88> by the internal deadline:

- Name of the Principal Investigator (PI)
- Project Title
- All ND Collaborators:

- For each ND Collaborator listed, include name, department or unit, and specific role for this project in three sentences (maximum).
- Project Summary: Three (3) pages (maximum) addressing the following Proposal Review Criteria as outlined on pages 31-32, in the NOFO.
 - Quality of Program Idea
 - Program Planning/Ability to Achieve Objectives
 - Follow-on Activities, Media and Communication Strategy, and Multiplier Effect
 - Performance Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Questions: Contact Notre Dame Research Limited Submissions at limited@nd.edu.

Unless otherwise noted, all internal applications are due by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on the internal expression of interest deadline.

Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.