



# KaBOOM! Application Guide

## SPORTS COURTS GRANT

### PLAY STARTS HERE!

From FAQs to grant criteria to sample applications, this guide contains everything you need to know to apply for a KaBOOM! Sports Courts grant.

### GETTING STARTED

The first step in applying for any KaBOOM! grant program is creating an account at [apply.kaboom.org](https://apply.kaboom.org).

Once you create your account, navigate to the *Start My Application* page (click *View Applications* on the *Edit My Application* page) to select the grant program you want to apply for.

On the application page you will see that there are **MULTIPLE PARTS** to every KaBOOM! application. **You must complete all parts to apply.** Part I is the General Application for your site. Part II contains the questions and documents that are specific to the program that you are applying for.

After you complete all parts of your application, a KaBOOM! staff member will review your application and will be in touch with next steps!

### CONTENTS

Grant overview .....	2
Part I application FAQs .....	3
Preview of part I .....	4
Sports Courts application FAQs .....	6
Preview of part II .....	7

# Sports Courts grant

## Grant overview

KaBOOM! Sports Courts help communities address a lack of play opportunities for older youth that no longer play on playgrounds. Sports courts provide communities with a wide variety of different sports options— such as basketball, hockey, volleyball and tennis— all available at the same location. The interlocking panels are easy to install and maintain.

If you wish to receive funding for a sports court, select “Sports Courts” on the *Start My Application* page. Once you’ve complete Part II of the application, KaBOOM! will review it to determine if your community is a fit for the program.

### CRITERIA

**Your completed application gives KaBOOM! an in-depth view of your community and is evaluated through the following criteria:**

- Demonstrate the need for a sports court.
- Be a non-profit, municipality, school or community group that serves older kids from communities that are economically marginalized or have experienced disinvestment.
- Engage local community, parents and stakeholders in the planning and execution of the project.
- Own their own land or have a long-term lease and land owner written permission.
- Fundraise towards the cost of the sports court.
- Complete site preparations and obtain necessary permits.
- Provide insurance coverage for the sports court.
- Build the sports court using Sport Court® as an equipment vendor.

### FUNDING

*Grantees will receive a custom-design sports court (court surfacing, sport amenities such as hoops, nets and goals, storage shed and starter package of sports equipment). Grantees are responsible for fundraising \$3,500 towards the cost of the equipment.*

### TIMELINE

Sports courts applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year so don't wait to apply!

The KaBOOM! Sports Courts program does not follow typical grant cycles. KaBOOM! cannot anticipate or guarantee where or when we will have funding throughout the year. When funding becomes available in different cities or regions, we will contact viable organizations that have completed their application to discuss next steps.

# Part I application FAQs

## KaBOOM! General Application *(for all grants)*

### **Do I need to be a professional grant writer to complete the application?**

No! The application was designed to be simple and straightforward. Your answers do not need to be perfect, but rather genuine and clear.

### **Is there a way to view the full application?**

Yes! You must complete all the required fields on each page of the application in order to move forward to the next page. To preview the full application, review the *Preview Application* section of this grant guide. If you are logged-in to your application, you can also click on the *Preview Application* tab to download an application preview.

### **I noticed that there are multiple parts to the application.**

#### **Do I need to complete all parts to apply?**

Yes. You must complete all parts of the application to be considered for funding.

#### **Why are there multiple parts to the application?**

The two parts make it quick and easy for you to apply for multiple grant programs. See the question below to learn how you can apply for an additional grant program.

#### **Can I apply for more than one grant program?**

Yes! After you submit your first application go to the *Start My Application* page and select another program to apply for. When you open the application for the new program, *Part I: KaBOOM! General Application* will show as "complete." Simply complete Part II to submit your application for a second program!

Please note that you cannot receive both a Build it with KaBOOM! grant and a Build it Yourself grant at the same location.

### **My organization has multiple facilities or sites that we would like to apply for. How do we apply for more than one site?**

Each site needs its own account. You cannot register multiple accounts at [apply.kaboom.org](https://apply.kaboom.org) to one email address. If you are applying for multiple sites we recommend using a second email address or using the email address of someone who works at each site or facility. As long as you know the email and password you will be able to login to complete the application, even if it's not your email address.

*Example: Joe is a grants manager for a school district. Joe wants to submit creative play applications for three different schools. Joe creates an account for each school using the email address of the Principal for each school. Joe knows the email address and password for each account so Joe submits the applications for all three sites. The principal of the school receives an email confirming that the application has been submitted, but Joe makes sure that he (Joe) receives all the updates and communication from KaBOOM! by listing himself as the "Main Point of Contact" in the applications.*

### **I can't complete my application in one sitting.**

#### **Can I save it and come back later?**

Of course! Make sure to click *Save and Continue* inside the application. To return to your application, login to [apply.kaboom.org](https://apply.kaboom.org) and open your application on the *Edit My Application* page.

### **How do I save a copy of my application for my personal records?**

Click the *Download Applications* button located on the top right corner of the application page.

### **Who can I contact if I have questions?**

[apply@kaboom.org](mailto:apply@kaboom.org)

# Preview of part I

## KaBOOM! General Application *(for all grants)*

The KaBOOM! grant application has multiple parts. You must complete all parts to apply!

Part II contains the questions and documents that are specific to each of our grants. After you submit *Part I: KaBOOM! General Application*, you will be able to open and complete *Part II: Required Questions & Documents*.

### BASIC INFORMATION QUESTIONS

#### Has your organization previously received funding from KaBOOM!?

Yes, No or Unsure

#### How did you hear about this opportunity?

KaBOOM! Social Media (Twitter, Facebook)  
Previously worked with KaBOOM!  
Another organization that has partnered with KaBOOM!  
Member of KaBOOM! staff  
KaBOOM! website  
Miracle Recreation representative  
Playworld Systems representative  
Landscape Structures representative  
Burke representative  
LetsPlay.com  
Other

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Primary Contact

Who should we contact for follow-up questions regarding your application?

First and Last name  
Title  
Email  
Phone/Cell Phone

#### Secondary Contact

Who should we contact if your primary contact is not available?

First and Last name  
Title  
Email  
Phone/Cell Phone

#### Organizational Information

Name of Organization  
Organization's website  
Facebook url (example: facebook.com/kaboom)  
Twitter url (example: twitter.com/kaboom)  
Mission Statement  
Organization's Mailing Address (City, State, Zip code, County)

#### Who has the legal authority to sign contracts on behalf of your organization?

First and Last name  
Title  
Email  
Phone/Cell Phone

#### Which category describes your organization?

501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization  
City or Municipal Agency (Public Schools, Public Parks, Other City Agency)  
Business or For Profit Entity  
Other, (please specify)

#### **\*If non-profit, please provide your Tax ID Number (EIN)**

*This is a 9 digit number. Please do not include spaces.*

#### Are you applying as an individual organization or are you partnering with another organization(s)?

*Community-Built Playground and Creative Play applicants are not required to be or partner with a non-profit or municipal agency but partnering with one is strongly encouraged.*

We are applying as an individual organization.

We are partnering with one or more partner organizations to apply for funding.

#### **\*If partnering with one or more partner organizations:**

Partner Organizational information (optional)  
Name of Organization  
Organization's website (optional)  
Facebook url (optional) (example: facebook.com/kaboom)  
Twitter url (optional) (example: twitter.com/kaboom)  
Mission Statement  
Organization's Mailing Address (City, State, Zip code, County)  
Organization Category  
EIN

#### Is your organization or your partner organization(s) religiously affiliated? Y/N

**Note:** *Some of our Funding Partners cannot grant to religiously affiliated organizations. Your application will be considered for the Funding Partners that can grant to religiously affiliated organizations.*

#### **\*If Yes, please describe the nature of the affiliation.**

*Please share if your logo incorporates religious symbols, if you offer religious programming and/or if the land where the playspace will be located is owned by a religious organization.*

## ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY

Use this section to describe your community and share why it is important for your organization to provide opportunities for play to the children and families you serve.

### **Briefly describe your organization's history and the overall scope of your programs and services.**

*Include a comprehensive list of the programs your organization provides. If your organization offers programs at multiple locations, please only list the programs that you provide at the site where the play equipment will be located.*

### **Describe the community you serve and the neighborhood and/or children who will use the play equipment or Community-Built Playground. Why is it important for your community and the children you serve to have new play area or equipment?**

*We want to know what makes your community unique and why you need this grant! Feel free to overshare.*

### **Is there an event motivating your community to apply for this opportunity?**

*Example: A natural disaster or other event that impacted the quality of life for members of your community.*

### **Site information**

*This is the address where the play equipment or Play Everywhere project will be located. You must list a full address. Providing a cross street or a blank address instead of a street number will delay consideration of your application.*

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code, County

### **How many children will use the proposed play equipment?**

*Please **do not** multiply the number of children you serve per day by seven or 365 to calculate the number served per week and per year.*

**Per Day:** How many children do you serve on an average day?

*Example: King Elementary has 400 students. Per Day total is 400.*

**Per Week:** How many individual children do you serve in an average week? Every child who visits the site should only be counted one time, even if they visit the site multiple days of the week.

*Example: King Elementary has 400 students. Once a week they host a soccer program attended by 100 kids who are not enrolled at the school. Per Week total is 500.*

**Per Year:** On average, how many children do you serve a year? Take the number of children served per week and add the number of additional children you serve through annual events or turnover at your site.

*Example: King Elementary Per Week total is 500. Every year they host a fall festival attended by 100 kids who are not enrolled in the school. Per Year total is 600.*

### **Describe how you calculated the number of children served in the previous question.**

*Please note the programs, events and circumstances behind the number of children that you have shared.*

### **What age range(s) does your organization serve at this site?**

Under 2, 2-5, 5-12, 12-18, 18+

### **Which categories describe the children you serve at this site?**

*Percentage should total 100*

Asian Not Hispanic or Latinx

White Not Hispanic or Latinx

African American/Black Not Hispanic or Latinx

American Indian or Alaska Native Not Hispanic or Latinx

Hispanic or Latinx

Not listed above

### **What percentage of children served qualify for Federal Free or Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL)?**

*If your organization does not know the FRPL indicator, note how many children qualify for a voucher program, scholarships or any financial assistance programs.*

### **What is the median household income of the population you serve at this site?**

*If your organization collects information on the median household income of the individuals you serve, please include. If median household income information is unavailable through your organization's data, please use the Census Community Facts at [factfinder.census.gov](https://factfinder.census.gov) to define the income based on the census tract nearest to the proposed site.*

### **Is there anything else you feel like we need to know about the ethnicity or socio-economic status of the population you serve?**

*Clarify information that did not fit in sections above.*

## PLEASE NOTE

You will not be able to edit the Part I: KaBOOM! General Application after you submit. Please make any final edits to Part I before you submit and proceed to Part II.

After you submit Part I you will return to the application page. Select Part II: Required Questions and Documents to continue your application. You must complete both parts to apply!

# Part II application FAQs

## *(KaBOOM! Sports Courts only)*

### **What is the community build model?**

The **community build model** refers to the engagement of stakeholders, volunteers, parents and community members in designing, planning and building the playground. The model activates the strengths and assets of community members that can be used to support the project.

### **How can I share more information about my community, beyond what is asked in the application?**

There is an optional page within Part II of the application. In the optional section you can:

- Include a candid photo of a child, family or community event.
- Spotlight a unique, impactful and/or innovative program that your organization offers.
- Share a story that illustrates the current state of your community and highlight what makes your community unique.

The photos, stories and information shared in the optional section of the application may be included in presentations to an internal KaBOOM! review panel and with prospective Funding Partners for your project.

### **What are the age ranges for KaBOOM! Sports Courts?**

There is no set age range for Sports Courts. The heights of nets and hoops can be adjusted allowing anyone ages 5 and older to play on the courts!

### **If our sports court will be closed to the public, can we still be considered for a grant? Yes.**

### **What are the smallest and largest sizes for a sports court?**

Our sports courts range in size beginning at 74'x42' (the size of a youth basketball court) to 94'x50' (the size of a professional basketball court).

Sports Courts cannot be sized smaller without the multiple lines differentiating the courts and games becoming indistinguishable.

### **What surfacing is required for a sports court?**

Sports Courts require an asphalt or concrete surface. Small fissures and "bird bath" sized holes in the current surfacing can be repaired as a part of the grant. Larger repairs will need to be completed by the Community Partner as a part of site preparation and must be completed at least two weeks prior to the week of the build.

### **How many sports or games can be played on the sports court?**

The court can be striped for up to three sports, not including games like hopscotch or four square. Grantees can choose from a selection of basketball, futsal, volleyball, tennis, pickleball, street hockey, netball and handball.

### **What are the plastic components that make up the sports courts tiles?**

The tiles are an interlocking system made up of high-impact polypropylene copolymer suspended modules.

### **My organization does not allow volunteers to install playgrounds or sports courts. Should I still apply?**

The Sports Courts grant requires volunteer installation. If your organization does not allow volunteers to install equipment, KaBOOM! encourages you to apply for the Build it Yourself program, which does not require volunteer installation and would grant traditional play equipment.

### **Can we supplement the KaBOOM! grant with additional grant funding?**

Yes, additional funding can go towards a larger court or fencing or containment systems around the court. Please be sure to note the amount of funding that you have received and the source of the funding in your application.

# Preview of part II

## (KaBOOM! Sports Courts only)

### REQUIRED QUESTIONS

**Do you have any existing play equipment on your property?**

Yes or No

*If you do not have a full playground set on site, but you do have isolated, individual pieces of equipment (for example, a set of swings or a climber), please select "1" and share information about any equipment that exists in your description of equipment below.*

**If yes, how many?**

1, 2 or 3

**Do you have any existing sport fields or courts on your property?**

Yes or No

**If yes, how many?**

1, 2 or 3

**Please describe in detail the kind of court or field exists on your property?**

What kind of sports are played on the court or field? Are there permanent structures on the court or field? Do you plan to keep this court or field, or replace it with the KaBOOM! Sport Court?

**List the names and/or addresses of any sport courts within half a mile of your proposed site?**

Please note whether these spaces are open to the public and if the children you serve have access to them.

**Can you see any of the nearby courts or fields from your site?**

**Will your proposed court be open to the general public?**

Yes, No or Other

**If Other, who will have access to your sports court?**

*Include as much detail as possible including the hours the site will be open, what level of access the general public will have and any particular licensing restrictions or other limitations to usage.*

**Does your organization own the land at the proposed sports court site?**

Yes or No.

**If No, who owns the land?**

**Is submitting this application your first step in planning to build a sports court in your community?**

Yes or No

**If No, please check all that apply:**

Assembled a committee

Fundraising (approximately how much was raised?)

Working with a sports court vendor or acrylic installer? (if so, what is the vendor's name?)

Received a design for your sports court

Received a quote, estimate or formalized an agreement with a sports court vendor

Other

**Is there any major construction scheduled at or surrounding the proposed site in the next 12 months?**

Yes or No

**\*If Yes, please describe the scheduled construction.**

*Please provide as much detail as possible. Will it impact the area of your proposed sport court? Is construction indoors or outdoors?*

**Is the entire area of your proposed site paved fully with either asphalt or concrete?**

Yes or No.

**If No, please share the material that covers the space.**

**Within the area of your proposed sports court site, are there any of the following? (Check all that apply)**

Trees

Fences

Buildings

Playground Equipment

Sport Field or Court

Large Potholes or Fissures

Sloping Land

In-Ground Drains

Water Features

Retaining Walls

Standing Water

Boulders

Utilities

Other

*If any of these items are located within your playground footprint, include them on your site map (requested on the next page).*

# Preview of part II, *continued*

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

All photos must be attached as .jpg, .png, .jpeg or .gif files. Please do not attach PDF files for site map/photos.

### SITE MAP

Using either pen and paper or a computer program such as Word or Paint, create a simple sketch of the proposed location for your sports court.

Make sure you have checked-off all the boxes on the Site Map Checklist below before you upload your site map. Refer to our [example](#) for help.

- Site dimensions:** Measure both the length and width of the site. The minimum site size should be 74'x42'.
- Access points:** If there is a gate, stairs, fence or building surrounding the site, show where it is located in your drawing. Highlight any access points.
- Physical characteristics:** Trees, fences, buildings, existing sports court or field, sloping, in-ground drains, retaining walls, etc.

### BIG PICTURE

Place four “markers”, such as cones, marking flags, chairs or even people, at the four corners of the space where you will install your sport court. This creates an outline of the proposed footprint. Take a picture so that all four markers are visible in the photo, as seen in [this example](#).

### SITE PHOTOS

We rely on your photos to provide a clear and comprehensive view of the space where you plan to install the sports court. Please submit 4-10 site photos. We encourage you to capture the following (you must submit a minimum of four site photos):

- **Site condition:** Please provide photos of any materials or equipment that are currently on your proposed site. Include close up photos that show the condition of the land. If the surface of the proposed space is asphalt or concrete, please include close ups of any large cracks, fissures and holes.
- **Big picture:** Different sides and angles of the “big picture” photo above.
- **360°:** Stand in the center of the space where you will build your playground and take four different photos facing North, South, East and West. These four photos will let us see what is visible from your proposed playground site.

### OPTIONAL MATERIALS

*All the prompts and requested materials in this section are optional. Feel free to answer one, none or all of the questions below.*

The additional information you share in this section can provide KaBOOM! and our Funding Partners with a deeper and richer snapshot of your community.

**Upload** candid pictures of the children and/or the community you serve. These pictures may be included in a presentation that we will share with prospective funding partners for your project.

**Share** the story of an individual child or an individual family served by your organization that would benefit from a new sports court. Why do they need a new playspace?

*Application tip: Include a picture of the child or family you describe in the candid photos section above.*

**Spotlight** a unique, impactful and/or innovative program that your organization offers.

**Share** a story that illustrates or highlights what makes your community unique. Tell us about the history, unique events or transformations that have occurred in the community and what makes the people that live and work there proud to be a part of it.