



Sports & Exhibition Authority

When you have the time, Pittsburgh has the place.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 4, 2024

SPORTS & EXHIBITION AUTHORITY OF PITTSBURGH AND ALLEGHENY COUNTY

SPORTS EVENT FUNDING (SEF) PROGRAM

2025 Grant Application Announcement

PITTSBURGH, PA: The Sports & Exhibition Authority of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County (SEA) has announced today its first 2025 Sports Event Funding (SEF) Program application submission period. Applications will be accepted from Sunday, December 15, 2024, at 3:00 PM, through Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 3:00 PM, via the SEA grant portal. The grant portal can be found at: <https://sea.fluxx.io/>.

The Sports Event Funding Program provides financial assistance to support major sporting events that provide significant economic impact to Allegheny County. Qualifying events include athletic or Esports events, whether professional or amateur, that are regulated and sanctioned by a regional, national, or international organization or association. Funding may be awarded up to \$75,000, in the form of a grant or loan. The event must take place sixty (60) days after the application period ends and within two years of the application date.

Submitted applications will be evaluated on the following factors:

- Impact of the event on the Allegheny County economy
- Potential to attract visitors from outside of the immediate area resulting in overnight hotel stays and room blocks
- Potential to provide high-value exposure to the region via traditional and social media vehicles
- Financial need and level of private investment detailed in a comprehensive budget
- Event quality, readiness, and likelihood of success based on an operational plan including specifics on event facility locations
- Diversity, accessibility, and environmental sustainability

Submitted applications will first be evaluated by the SEA Sports Commission (a committee of the SEA). Those applications that are recommended by the SEA Sports Commission will then be considered by the Board of the SEA for funding.

Funding for the program is provided from the Pennsylvania Gaming Economic Development and Tourism Fund. Program guidelines and submission information are available on the SEA website: <http://www.pgh-sea.com/index.php?path=sef>.



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ABOUT THE SPORTS EVENT FUNDING (SEF) PROGRAM

Since its inception, the Sports Event Funding (SEF) Program has awarded approximately \$3.17 million across 62 grants to 34 different organizations. These grants have supported events showcasing over 24 different sports. The funded events have generated an estimated \$200 million in direct spending within Allegheny County.

For all inquiries regarding the SEF Program, please contact sef@pgh-sea.com.

ABOUT THE SEA SPORTS COMMISSION

The SEA established the SEA Sports Commission for the purpose of assisting the region in maintaining and growing its competitive position in the sports event market. The SEA Sports Commission, a five-member board, evaluates the financial, business, and public impact of proposals for Sports Event Funding and provides recommendations for funding to the SEA Board. For more about the Sports Commission, visit: <http://www.pgh-sea.com/index.php?path=ssc-formation>.

ABOUT THE SEA

As a joint authority for the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, the SEA provides venues for sporting, entertainment, educational, cultural, civic, and social events to improve the quality of public life. The SEA owns and leases Acrisure Stadium, PNC Park, and PPG Paints Arena, and owns and operates the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. The SEA also owns parking facilities, public parks, development parcels, and various associated infrastructure improvements. For more information on the SEA, visit: <http://www.pgh-sea.com/>.