

KaBOOM! grants application guide

KaBOOM! accepts applications on a rolling basis from child serving non-profit organizations, schools and municipalities who are dedicated to ensuring that all kids—particularly the 16 million in poverty—get balanced and active play so they can thrive. Competitive applications will benefit from and embrace the process of a community-build playspace partnership.

Community-inspired play spaces bring change for families and communities across the country. Your project will motivate and support the advocacy of everyday citizen heroes who are striving to make play a priority. KaBOOM! is excited to hear how your project will help your community ensure that all kids get the active balance of play in order to thrive!

To submit an application to become a KaBOOM! community partner, please visit apply.kaboom.org so that KaBOOM! can best understand how play can positively impact your community. When potential community partners are submitting an application, you are being considered for all KaBOOM! grant opportunities with just one application.

IDEAL CANDIDATES

The strongest community partners for Community-Built Playground grants will:

- Serve children from a low-income population and/or special needs community. Special consideration will also be given to disaster impacted communities
- Demonstrate the need for a playground in your community
- Have no playground or need to replace existing unsafe or outdated playground
- Will implement a community-build model to engage the larger community in all aspects of project planning and playground build execution

The strongest community partners for Creative Play grants will:

- Serve children from a low-income population and/or special needs community. Special consideration will also be given to disaster impacted communities
- Demonstrate the ability to integrate Creative Play products into your community through new and existing programs



Community-Built Playground grants overview

When applying for a KaBOOM! grant opportunity, the first question on the application is: “What are you applying for today?” To apply for either the Build it with KaBOOM! or Build it Yourself grants, select “Community Built Playgrounds” on your grant application. This application is considered Round One for the KaBOOM! grant process. After completing Round One, the KaBOOM! team will review your application to determine if you are eligible for a grant opportunity. You will be notified either via email or by phone if you are selected to move on to Round Two. Round Two will include submitting additional documents and/or speaking with KaBOOM! team members in order to understand more about your project. Applications are accepted year-round.

KaBOOM! applications are reviewed weekly and if you are ineligible after immediate review of the Round One application, you will be notified via email. Please see additional details below for Build it with KaBOOM! and Build it Yourself.

BUILD IT WITH KABOOM!

Thanks to the generosity of dedicated funding partners, KaBOOM! has exciting ongoing grant opportunities for community partners to transform their community spaces! Build it with KaBOOM! grant opportunities are based on geographic locations where KaBOOM! currently has funding. KaBOOM! encourages potential community partners to apply proactively so that as grant opportunities present themselves, KaBOOM! can quickly be in touch with you to schedule the next steps in the application process.

Build it with KaBOOM! grants provide the facilitation and support of an experienced Project Manager as community members embark on a 5-12 week planning process. After selection, all partners will join together for a community Design Day, inviting play experts (the kids, of course) to design their dream playspace. Your hard work and required weekly planning will result in a six-hour community day, where you will transform your community space to include a permanent play structure (equipment will be ordered by your Project Manager from [Playworld, Inc.](#)) as well site enhancements that will make your space 100% unique to your community. Site enhancements vary for Build it with KaBOOM! due to location, budget and scope of project; please visit kaboom.org/enhancementprojects to brainstorm what projects may be part of your community-space vision.

BUILD IT YOURSELF

Dr Pepper Snapple Group and KaBOOM! are excited to offer \$15,000 grant opportunities to qualified U.S. based organizations to be used toward the purchase of playground equipment. Build it Yourself community partners receive guidance and technical assistance from a Grants Manager at KaBOOM! as you embark on a community-built playground project.

To be awarded a Build it Yourself playground grant, applicants are required to:

- Use the KaBOOM! community-build model to plan, fundraise and build the playground
- Own land or have written landowner permission to build
- Spend \$24,000–\$40,000 on playground equipment (*this amount does not include the cost for safety surfacing, freight, site preparation, installation supervision and any other non-playground equipment items*)
- Build your playground and complete the project within one year of award date
- Work with a KaBOOM! Preferred Playground Vendor:
[Playworld, Inc.](#)
[BCI Burke](#)
[Miracle Recreation](#)
[Landscape Structures](#)

Please note: Build it Yourself grants consist of a \$9,000 grant paid directly to the playground vendor by KaBOOM! and a \$6,000 discount from the playground vendor. No other discount can be applied by the playground vendor, if awarded the grant.

Creative Play grants overview

Thanks to the generosity of dedicated funding partners, KaBOOM! is able to offer Creative Play grant opportunities to eligible organizations. When applying for a KaBOOM! grant opportunity, the first question on the application is “what are you applying for today?” Select “Creative Play Products” if your organization is interested in enhancing your current play offerings by applying for a Creative Play grant. Community partners who are awarded will receive support from a KaBOOM! Grants Manager who will be available to provide technical assistance as needed.

To be considered for a Creative Play grant opportunity, applicants are required to:

- Demonstrate the ability to integrate Creative Play products into new or existing programs
- Provide evidence of adequate space for storage and use; along with the ability to maintain the Creative Play product
- Demonstrate the impact that the Creative Play products will have on increasing play opportunities in your community



IMAGINATION PLAYGROUND

Imagination Playground is an innovative playground equipment system that encourages creativity, community and collaboration in play. With a collection of custom-designed, over-sized blue foam parts, Imagination Playground provides a changing array of elements that allow children to turn their playground into a space constantly built and re-built by their imagination! Please visit kaboom.org/imaginationplayground to learn more.



RIGAMAJIG

Rigamajig is a collection of wooden planks, pulleys, nuts, bolts and rope that allows children to follow their curiosity while playing. There are no wrong answers, and while the pieces can come together as a crane used to convey buckets or materials, they can also become a giraffe, monster, robot, airplane or anything the kids can imagine! Find out more, by visiting kaboom.org/rigamajig.

Funding application preview

Community-Built Playgrounds and Creative Play

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

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 Representative
Landscape Structures Representative
Burke Representative
Let'sPlay.com
Other

Has your organization, or your partner organization(s), previously received funding from KaBOOM!? Y/N

Is submitting this application your first step in planning to build a playground in your community? Y/N

If no, please check all that apply:

Assembled a committee
Fundraising (Approximately how much?)
Working with an equipment vendor;
if so what is the vendor's name?
Received a playground design for your playspace
Received a quote, estimate, or formalized an agreement with a playground vendor
Other:

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Name of Organization
Organization's website (optional)
Facebook url (optional) (example: www.facebook.com/kaboom)
Mission Statement
Organization's Mailing Address
Country
State
County
Zip Code
Postal Code

Is your organization classified as a non-profit organization? Y/N

If Yes, please provide your organizations 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)?

Please note: If you are not an organization with 501c3 status or a school, you are encouraged to apply with a non-profit partner.

We are applying as an individual organization.

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

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION *(optional)*

Name of Organization
 Organization's website (optional)
 Facebook url (optional) (example: www.facebook.com/kaboom)
 Mission Statement
 Organization's Mailing Address
 Country
 State
 Province
 County
 Zip Code
 Postal Code
 EIN

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

If yes, please describe the nature of the affiliation.

Application Tip: 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.

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

First Name
 Last Name
 Title
 Email
 Phone (please use this format: 123-123-1234)

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.

Application Tip: 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. Why is it important for your community and the children you serve to have new play equipment?

Application Tip: Describe any obstacles that are currently preventing your organization from providing play opportunities for the children you serve.

Is there an event motivating your community to apply for this opportunity? Y/N

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

If yes, please describe.

How many children will use the proposed play equipment?

Per Day, Per Week, Per Year

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 a typical day?
- Example: A school with 300 students would write 300.*

Per Week:

- If there are children who participate in programs that take place on site once a week, add this number to the number of kids you serve on site per day. If there are children who live nearby and who do not use the play equipment every day, but will use it once a week, add this number to the number of children you serve per day.
- Example: A school with 300 children which hosts a basketball program every Saturday for 100 children who are not enrolled in the school but will have access to the play equipment would write 400.*

Per Year:

- If you serve additional children through annual events or through turnover at your site, add this number to the number of children you serve per week.
- Example: A school that has a Per Week total of 400 and hosts an annual fall festival attended by 100 children from across the county who are not enrolled in the school but would have access to the play equipment during the event would write 500.*

Describe how you calculated the number of children served in the question above.

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

PROJECT SITE INFORMATION

This is the address where the equipment 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.

Country
Street Address
City
County
Zip Code/Postal Code

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

(Check all that apply).

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

Ethnicity of the children you serve at this site.

Percentage to total 100

Asian, Caucasian, African American / Black, Hispanic, Other

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

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 this link to define the income based on the zip code nearest to the proposed site.

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

TELL US ABOUT YOUR SITE
(Community-Built Playground grant applicants only)

In this section, please provide logistical information that will help us determine the suitability of your site for a new KaBOOM! playground.

Do you have any existing play equipment on your property? Y/N

(If Yes) How many playgrounds?

Application Tip: 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.

Do you intend to replace or add equipment to any of the existing playground(s)?

We plan to completely remove all of the existing equipment at our first playground if we receive a KaBOOM! grant.

We plan to remove most of the equipment at our first playground, but we would like to keep a few pieces of equipment if we receive a KaBOOM! grant.

We plan to keep all of the existing equipment at our first playground if we receive a KaBOOM! grant.

Describe in detail the condition of the equipment on each existing playground.

Be sure to describe the age of the equipment and note any damage or issues with the equipment (for example, graffiti, missing pieces, issues with passing safety inspections, etc.)

List the names and/or addresses of any playgrounds within walking distance (about half a mile) of your proposed site

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

Can you see any of the nearby playground(s) from your site?
 Y/N

Will your proposed playground be open to the general public?

Yes, all will be welcomed at our playground
 No, only children and families we serve
 Other

If other, will have access to your playground?

Include as much detail as possible including the hours the playground 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 playground site? Y/N

If no, who owns the land?

Is there any major construction scheduled at or surrounding the proposed playground site in the next 12 months? Y/N/ Unsure

Within the area of your proposed playground site, are there any of the following?

Application Tip: If any of these items are located within your playground footprint, include them on your site map (requested on the next page)!

Check all that apply:

- Trees
- Fences
- Buildings
- Playground Equipment
- Sloping Land
- In-Ground Drains
- Water Features
- Retaining Walls
- Standing Water
- Concrete/cement
- Boulders
- Utilities
- Other _____

REQUIRED MATERIALS

(Community-Built Playgrounds only)

To complete your application, you must submit a Site Map and Site Photos.

All final photos must be attached as .jpg, .png, .jpeg, or .gif files. Please do not attach PDF files for site map/photos. Photos take some time to load after clicking to upload, so please give the system a few minutes, depending on Internet speed, to process your upload.

Site Map

Using either pen and paper or a computer program such as Word or Paint, create a simple sketch of your proposed playground site. Make sure you have checked-off all the boxes on the Site Map Checklist below before you upload your site map! For an example, click [here](#).

Site Map Checklist:

- Dimensions of proposed playground site (measurement of both the length and width of the site, i.e. 50' x 50')
- Access points to proposed playground site
Application Tip: Is there a gate, stairs, or a fence surrounding the site? Include this in your drawing and show us where the access points are located.
- Physical characteristics of the site, such as trees, fences, buildings, existing playground equipment, sloping, in-ground drains, retaining walls, etc.

Big Picture Site Photo

Place 4 "markers" (these can be cones, marking flags, chairs, or even people!) at the 4 corners of the space where you will build your playground, creating an outline of the proposed playground footprint. Take a picture so that your 4 markers are visible in the photo. For an example see [here](#).

Additional Site Photos

Our team relies on your photos to provide a clear and comprehensive view of the space where you plan to build your playground. Please submit 5-10 site photos. We encourage you to capture the following:

- Big Picture: Different sides and angles of the "big picture" site photo (above).
- Access: Access points to your proposed playground site.
- 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.
- Equipment: If you have existing equipment, please provide photos. In addition, upload close-up photos of your equipment that illustrate the condition of the equipment. Be sure to capture any damaged or missing pieces.

Application Tip: The more photos the better! Your photos are the only tool we have to view your site, so please be sure they are easy to view and they show us your entire space.

OPTIONAL MATERIALS

(Community-Built Playgrounds only)

All the prompts and requested materials on this page are *optional*. If your organization is applying for a Build it Yourself grant and/or is applying on a tight timeline (i.e. if you received the application less than seven days before the application deadline), we recommend skipping this page.

If you are applying for a Build it with KaBOOM! grant, we encourage you to respond to one or more of the prompts below. The information you share will be used to create a rich snapshot of your project.

All questions are optional and you will not be penalized for skipping questions or for skipping this page entirely (we promise)!

Upload candid pictures of the children and/or the community you serve. These pictures may be included in a PowerPoint 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 playground. Why do they need a new playground?

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 the current state of your community and highlight what makes your community unique.

CREATIVE PLAY PRODUCTS ONLY (Round 2)

Please select which Creative Play product you are interested in applying for:

Imagination Playground

Rigamajig

Both

Which type of community will be served by the Creative Play product? Urban, Suburban, Rural

Describe what currently occupies the exact site(s) where the Creative Play product will be utilized.

What are the dimensions of the area where the Creative Play product will be utilized?

Please keep in mind that this space must be a minimum of 450 square feet for Imagination Playground.

Is this space outdoors or indoors?

Indoors.

Outdoors.

Our primary space is indoors, but we also plan to use the Creative Play product outdoors.

Our primary space is outdoors, but we also plan to use the Creative Play product indoors.

Where will you store the Creative Play product(s) when not in use?

The dimensions of each the products' carts are 74"W x 27"D x 37"H for Imagination Playground and 32"W x 21"D x 49"H for the Rigamajig.

Will the Creative Play Product(s) be open to the general public, or is it only available to a private group? Public / Private

Who will have access to your Creative Play product?

How will the Creative Play product(s) provide increased access to quality play opportunities for your community's children?

Please provide specific examples.

Describe any new recreational and/or educational programming or activities you would like to create around the Creative Play product(s).

Do you have plans to open use of the Creative Play product(s) to other child-serving organizations in your community? If yes, please describe how it will be used. Y / N

If yes, please describe how the product(s) will be used with other organizations.

How will the Creative Play Product(s) enhance/supplement your existing programming?

Will you be traveling with the Creative Play product(s) to different areas of the community? Y / N

Please provide details on how you would transport the product(s).

Do you have permission to use and store the Creative Play product on your site? Y / N

What prompted you to apply for the Creative Play product grant?

What impact do you think the addition of the Creative Play product(s) will make on your community?

Include examples around increased community engagement, advances in child health and well-being, strengthened community-based programming, etc.

Have you completed any actions in the following categories?

If so, please elaborate.

Funding (raised funds or received funds through grant programs for play focused programming)

Policy (actively organizing and advocating for play at the city or state level)

Programs (implemented programming that is ongoing in community)

Public Affairs (participating in media interviews, publications, and conferences discussing the importance of play)

Do you have staff or volunteers that can serve as Play Associates?

We recommend having at least three trained Play Associates on site to work with the children and the Imagination Playground. Training is completed online and takes approximately one hour.

CREATIVE PLAY PRODUCTS ONLY

(Round 2), continued

Required Materials

Letter of Agreement

I have reviewed the Letter of Agreement and if awarded this opportunity my organization can sign this Letter of Agreement.

Letter of Support

Please upload one letter of support. It can be from educators, kids, parents, partner organizations, the Executive Director, or the Board of Directors.

Storage Picture

Please upload one picture of where the play product will be stored.

Candid Pictures

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

Play Site Picture

Please upload one picture of where the play product will be used.

Proof of Insurance

Signed Letter of Intent

Sign the Letter of Intent and upload using the button below.

Samples of all of these documents are available in the Resources section of apply.kaboom.org.

BUILD IT YOURSELF GRANTS ONLY

(Round 2)

While you are not required to submit these materials with your application, it may be useful to start gathering these items so they are ready once your application has been reviewed.

Evidence of non-profit status

Our ideal candidates are 501(c)3 non-profits. If your organization is still applying for non-profit status or you are not a non-profit (i.e., a school or municipality), please provide documentation to signify that.

Proof of insurance

All grant recipients are required to provide proof of commercial and general liability insurance for at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence. In addition, you will need to add KaBOOM! and any additional partners as “additional insured” prior to playground construction.

Proof of land ownership and/or letter of permission from the land owner to build a playground at their site

All grant recipients must be the land owner or have land owner permission. Short-term leases are not accepted, as KaBOOM! would like to ensure that the playgrounds will be safe and maintained for many years to come!

Please note that additional materials will be required for recipients of a Build It Yourself grant, such as a playground quote from a KaBOOM! preferred vendor (if applicable), budget, fundraising plan and timeline.

Frequently asked questions

GENERAL QUESTIONS

What is the KaBOOM! community-build model?

For over twenty years KaBOOM! has supported community building in neighborhoods, towns, and cities across the country through our community-build model. At the heart of this model is a one-day playground build that represents an achievable win for a community on a defined time line. Community-build play spaces engage your larger community: residents, parents, neighbors, youth, local business, and your municipality to design, plan, and execute your Build Day. This process creates an environment that enables people to share their strengths and helps communities identify assets, as well as identifying other local companies and community groups that have important resources to contribute. The Build Day is the outcome of all your hard work throughout the planning process, however the true outcome is the long-term impact of the community-building work that you do. The KaBOOM! community-build model is successful if those that are involved learn new skills and are able to use them to continue to make a difference in your community after project completion.

Do KaBOOM! playgrounds meet the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines?

Yes. All KaBOOM! playgrounds and surfacing meet or exceed the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines. KaBOOM! believes in the importance of inclusive play and strives to design its playgrounds to provide access to children of all abilities.

What safety surfacing does KaBOOM! use?

Build it with KaBOOM

For the majority of Build it with KaBOOM! projects, the safety surfacing used is Engineered Wood Fiber, which is an ADA approved playground surfacing (for wheelchair accessibility). It is safe for all children, cost effective, easy to install and maintain, and volunteer-friendly. Applicants may choose to pay for an alternative surfacing.

Build it Yourself

Those awarded Build it Yourself grants must agree to purchase only surfacing that meets ADA Accessibility Guidelines, is IPEMA (International Play Equipment Manufacturers Association) certified and meets and/or exceeds the standards set forth by ASTM (American Society for Testing Materials) and CPSC (Consumer Product Safety Commission).

Please contact a KaBOOM! preferred vendor to discuss safety surfacing if you have additional questions.

Can the same organization apply for more than one site?

Yes! Organizations can be considered for more than one site. To apply for additional sites, please log in to your account and select "Add a Submission" to be considered for additional opportunities.

If I have a question regarding the KaBOOM! grant opportunities, the application process or need technical assistance, who should I contact?

Please email all questions to grants@kaboom.org. Please include your full name, organization, city/state and a brief description of your question. All emails will be answered in the order that they were received.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

After I submit my initial application to KaBOOM!, what happens next?

The initial application is Round One of the application process. After submitting your application, the KaBOOM! team will review to understand if it is a match for one of the grant opportunities that are currently offered. If you are eligible, you will be notified via email or by phone with next steps. Round Two may include submitting additional documentation as well as an initial logistics phone interview facilitated by a KaBOOM! Outreach Team Member. Round Two is meant for KaBOOM! to learn more about your site and vision for your community space. KaBOOM! does not follow typical grant cycles, so KaBOOM! cannot provide a specific timelines for when you may receive funding. Funding may be available within a few weeks or up to one year. If you have not heard back from KaBOOM! within 4 weeks of your application, please email grants@kaboom.org and include your name, organization, and date of application.

The application asks us to provide a main point of contact. Can a staff member be the designated contact for a KaBOOM! project?

Yes, a Staff Member can be the main point of contact, but please ensure that parents and non-staff members from your community are active members in the entire process. Community engagement is an essential part of every KaBOOM! project and will make your application more competitive and will ultimately create a project that is more meaningful, dynamic and successful.

ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

Are organizations who do not serve low-income families eligible to apply?

KaBOOM! strives to work in communities with the most need. Sites in communities that are low-income have more of a competitive advantage. KaBOOM! also focuses on organizations that serve children with special needs as well as communities who may have been impacted by a disaster. At times, your site may be in an area that is not considered low-income by census data, but you may serve children from areas outside of your site location. KaBOOM! encourages organizations to apply, so that the team can review and learn more.

How does KaBOOM! define “low-income” when evaluating eligibility?

KaBOOM! takes into account various criteria, including Median Household Income as well as the percentage of students at a public school who receive Free & Reduced Price Lunches (FRPL). You will be guided in your application with instructions for how to find this information. While numbers alone can never tell a full story, they can serve as a guide. There is no absolute number KaBOOM! would or would not consider, but the most competitive applications come from communities where the FRPL program is 70% or higher and the children living in the community have a Median Household Income that is at or below the poverty level.

Are private daycare facilities eligible for a KaBOOM! grant opportunity?

Strong applicants are from 501(c)3 organizations. Applications from for-profit groups will be less competitive and most likely will not be eligible for funding. Please visit kaboom.org to utilize the resources available to you if you are ineligible for funding. You may also visit kaboom.org/grants/non_kaboom to learn more about additional grant opportunities available outside of KaBOOM!.

If an organization cannot open the playground to the public for liability reasons, can they still be considered for a KaBOOM! grant opportunity?

Yes. KaBOOM! understands that operating a public playground may not be possible for all community partners, and this is why it is not a requirement. KaBOOM! encourages all organizations that provide services to families and youth to submit an application.

If an organization does not allow volunteers to install the playground, can we still have a Build Day without volunteers?

No. The mission of KaBOOM! is to create great playgrounds through the participation and leadership of communities. Community volunteerism is a cornerstone of our mission.

Are there fundraising requirements for KaBOOM! grant opportunities? What happens if my organization has difficulty with this?

Yes, there are additional funding requirements for the community partner who is awarded a KaBOOM! grant. While KaBOOM! has dedicated funding partners that provide financial support for each project, each community will be responsible for additional fundraising. The contribution can be from current funds, direct fundraising or additional grant money that you have received. This investment by the community is important to ensure that your community will take ownership of the community space and will be responsible for long-term care and maintenance. KaBOOM! offers additional resources to help you with your playground planning. To learn more, please visit kaboom.org/toolkit.

Build it with KaBOOM!

KaBOOM! has dedicated funding partners who will cover the majority of the cost for the overall project. KaBOOM! requires that the community partner who is awarded the grant contribute funding towards the project. Typically, the community's contribution is \$8,500. This can change for uniquely sized projects. The funds are to be paid directly to KaBOOM! within 30 days of the Build Day.

Build it Yourself

The \$15,000 grant you are awarded will be used towards the purchase of playground equipment from a KaBOOM! preferred vendor of your choosing:

[Playworld, Inc.](#)
[BCI Burke](#)
[Miracle Recreation](#)
[Landscape Structures](#)

The total value of the playground equipment (including the \$15,000 grant) must be a minimum of \$24,000 and a maximum of \$40,000. That means, to meet the minimum requirement, your group will have to fundraise at least \$9,000 towards playground equipment. Additionally, the community partner is responsible for the cost of safety surfacing, freight, site preparation, installation supervision and any other non-playground equipment items.

If an organization has construction work taking place at the proposed playground site, could a Build Day happen before the site is open?

Due to safety and logistical challenges, KaBOOM! cannot host a Build Day event when there is construction in progress on the playground site. In addition, KaBOOM! will only build a playground that will be open to use (and play!) by children at least two weeks following the installation.

My group is applying to become a 501(c)3 non-profit. Are we eligible to apply before we secure this status?

Yes. If your organization is in the process of applying for non-profit status, KaBOOM! will still consider your application.

I do not think that a full playground “build” is the right fit for my organization. Are there other ways KaBOOM! can help me?

Yes, please sign up for Grant Alerts by visiting kaboom.org/grants in order to stay up to date for all future opportunities. In the meantime, KaBOOM! would still like to support you in pursuing your dreams of play and offers a number of other resources to assist organizations with bringing play to their community. Here is a list of a few of them:

- Creative Play grants: kaboom.org/grants/creative_play
- KaBOOM! toolkit and fundraising resources: kaboom.org/toolkit
- Playground Enhancement Projects: kaboom.org/enhancementprojects

INSURANCE/LAND QUESTIONS

If an organization has a short-term lease for the proposed playground site, can they still be considered for a KaBOOM! grant opportunity?

KaBOOM! requires that the organization that is applying either be the landowner (or have landowner permission). If the applicant has a lease, it must be a long-term. If the lease is not a long-term lease, the community organization must have demonstrated proof that the landowner intends for them to stay for the long-term. This will ensure that the play space will be maintained for many years to come!

If an organization does not own the land for the proposed playground site, can they still be considered for a KaBOOM! grant opportunity?

Yes. In order to build with an organization that does not own the land of the proposed playground site, KaBOOM! will need written consent from the landowner. Applicants should be prepared to answer questions regarding who owns the land and with whom to speak to in order to get consent to build when submitting an application.

Who insures and takes liability for the playground or Creative Play product?

The community partner who is applying for the grant will be the sole owner of the playground once the playground project is complete or the Creative Play product is received. As the owner, the community partner must have liability insurance and provide long-term care and maintenance to ensure that the space or product is safe for years to come.

Can an organization still apply if they cannot provide insurance?

Yes. An organization can still apply as it is possible for two or more partners in the community to work together to provide insurance coverage.

The application states that approximately 2,500 square feet of space is needed for the playground, but if an organization does not have that requirement, can they still be considered for a KaBOOM! grant opportunity?

Build it with KaBOOM!

While 2,500 square feet is the standard space for a KaBOOM! playground, smaller and larger spaces can be considered as budget and space allows. Your site information, including photos and dimensions will be part of the Round One application and is critical for KaBOOM! to have these details in order to review.

Build it Yourself

2,500 square feet is not a set requirement, and you can have a smaller (or larger) space.

If a proposed site has two separate areas that equal 2,500 square feet, can they be combined and have two play structures?

If there are two separate areas, the spaces should be directly next to one another or be able to connect.

BUILD IT WITH KABOOM! QUESTIONS

What are the age ranges for Build it with KaBOOM! playgrounds?

Build it with KaBOOM! playgrounds offer playground designs that reflect the following age ranges: 2-5, 2-12 or 5-12 years old.

On a case by case basis, KaBOOM! can work with organizations interested in exploring equipment for children under the age of two. Interest in infant/toddler equipment should be shared on your application.

How many Build it with KaBOOM! grant opportunities are available each year?

KaBOOM! looks to bring brand new playspaces to 175-200 communities across North America, annually.

What playground equipment vendor is used for the Build it with KaBOOM! grant opportunity?

Those awarded a Build it with KaBOOM! grant are required to use Playworld, Inc.

BUILD IT YOURSELF QUESTIONS

Why are community partners selected for Build it Yourself grants required to work with a KaBOOM! preferred playground vendor?

All preferred vendors have been screened to ensure that they meet all of the criteria required by KaBOOM! and are able to provide the \$6,000 discount as part of the \$15,000 grant.

Are Build it Yourself community partners allowed to apply for and accept other grant funding outside KaBOOM! funding?

Yes, KaBOOM! encourages community partners to apply for and accept additional grants in order to meet your fundraising goals. Please note that community partners would not be eligible if you are accepting funding from a competitor of Dr Pepper Snapple Group. Please detail additional grants you may receive toward this project on your application or when working with a KaBOOM! Grants Manager (after awarded).

CREATIVE PLAY QUESTIONS

How do I apply for a Creative Play product grant?

Please visit apply.kaboom.org. After creating an account, you will select "Creative Play products" on your application in order to receive the questions for Creative Play.

After submitting my initial application (Round One) for Creative Play, what will I have to do for Round Two?

Once you complete the first round of the application, you will automatically receive an email invitation to complete the second round of your application titled, "Creative Play Application Form". KaBOOM! offers Creative Play grant opportunities at various times throughout the year. KaBOOM! will be in touch if you are eligible when funding is available.

Are there additional fundraising requirements for Creative Play grant opportunities?

At times, Imagination Playground grant opportunities require the community partner to pay for shipping the Imagination Playground (estimated \$1,000-\$2,000). KaBOOM! will contact all applicants when they are being considered for Creative Play grants to discuss additional costs. Rigamajig grants do not require any additional funds.

About KaBOOM!

KaBOOM! is the national non-profit dedicated to giving all kids—particularly those growing up in poverty in America—the childhood they deserve filled with balanced and active play so they can thrive. Since 1996, KaBOOM! has collaborated with partners to build, open or improve nearly 16,300 playgrounds, engaged more than one million volunteers and served 8.1 million kids. KaBOOM! creates great places to play, inspires communities to promote and support play, and works to drive the national discussion about the importance of play in fostering healthy and productive lives. To learn why #playmatters, visit kaboom.org or join the conversation at twitter.com/kaboom or facebook.com/kaboom.