



INDIANA

*Promoting the implementation of the
Americans with Disabilities Act in Indiana*

2021 Coros Local Community ADA Grants Program

Request for Proposals

Notice of Request for Proposals

ADA-Indiana, in conjunction with the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, is pleased to announce the availability of funding for organizations in Indiana to carry out local community projects to promote the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (the "ADA"). The purpose of this program is to increase awareness, knowledge, and compliance with the ADA in Indiana's local communities.

Focus of the Proposals:

Applicants may submit projects that address issues around ADA-Indiana's 2021 funding priority: **transportation and employment**. Projects that can be replicated in other communities are also encouraged.

Who Is Eligible?

Community organizations, businesses, local government entities, schools, institutions of higher education, Centers for Independent Living, advocacy organizations, and/or state and regional organizations are eligible to apply for funding. ADA-Indiana will attempt to distribute its grants to reach diverse regions and populations in the State.

Interested individuals are encouraged to submit an application according to the specifications in the following sections of this Request for Proposals.

Alternative Formats:

This Notice of Request for Proposals is available in alternative formats on request.

ADA-Indiana serves as a statewide resource for promoting the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act in Indiana. ADA-Indiana was established in 1991. ADA-Indiana receives funding from the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities and the Great Lakes ADA Center.

2021 Coros ADA Community Grants: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Purpose:

The purpose of the Coros Local Community ADA Grants Program is to promote increased implementation of the ADA in local communities.

- Proposals for 2021 funding must be received or postmarked no later than **Friday, January 22, 2021**. If funds permit, there may be a second round of funding, to be announced in February.
- Applicants may request up to **\$3,000** for training or systems change projects in their communities. Target audiences can include employers, businesses, local government, transportation entities, persons with disabilities, family members, and/or other community members.
- All projects must be completed by **Friday, August 27, 2021**.
- Projects already funded (by public or private funding) are not eligible for ADA-Indiana funding, unless the applicant clearly shows how the project will extend beyond the objectives and activities that the current funding supports.

Priorities:

This year's priorities for ADA-Indiana's grant funding are on **transportation and/or employment**; the proposal can address transportation or employment as a standalone emphasis, or together. We are most interested in projects that will show ***specific changes and real impact***. We are ***NOT*** interested in projects that focus only on awareness building but understand that disability awareness might be a component of a training activity. Projects that have potential for replication in other communities are also encouraged.

- **Specific Focus** – proposals might focus on a specific area or population related to the priority areas such as a training for job coaches/employment specialists about the rights of people with disabilities and the responsibilities of employers under Title I of the ADA, or training for transportation providers on their responsibilities under the ADA.
- **Broad Focus** – proposals might take a broader approach to the priority areas while targeting an audience. For example, a training on ADA and employment issues for area employers, or a training on the ADA and transportation for disability and aging advocates.
- **Community Focus** – proposals might take a community approach to the priority areas: transportation and employment. For example, hosting a community event on employment (lack of) for people with disabilities or on the connection between transportation and employment in the community, or on transportation (transit, alternative transportation, mobility) in the community. Even with a "community approach," there should be some attention to "ADA" issues, a brief overview of the civil rights law and the connection to the topic of discussion.

Project Requirements

- A. Priority will be given to projects that will result in specific and measurable **CHANGES**. Emphasis on awareness-only activities is discouraged unless the proposed project also shows that ***specific changes*** will occur because of the activities.
- B. Projects for training, development of original materials, dissemination, and/or research will be considered. Please note that funding is ***not*** available for personnel, direct services, building modifications, equipment, or activities associated with litigation.
- C. The purpose of this funding program is to ***initiate*** ADA projects in local communities rather than serving as a vehicle to fund the same project on a long-term basis. Thus, new initiatives will receive the greatest priority in the selection process.
- D. Projects that involve collaboration with another agency or individual are encouraged. However, such proposals must include a letter of intent from each collaborating party.
- E. Projects that have potential for replication are encouraged. For instance, projects that result in a “handbook” so that other communities can carry out a similar activity; print materials and booklets that can be used by other communities, etc.
- F. Award recipients are required to invest a matching contribution of funds and/or in-kind support of at least 25% of the awarded amount.
- G. "People First Language" must be used in all proposals, publications, reports, and presentations to emphasize positive images of people with disabilities as people first.
- H. Materials and activities should be developed with cultural diversity in mind.
- I. All advertisements, news releases, reports, and materials created because of the project must indicate that “funding was provided by ADA-Indiana and the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities.”
- J. All projects must comply with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- K. All projects must comply with any safety precautions in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) as required by local, state, or federal government entities. For instance, following the State of Indiana’s guidelines for public gatherings. Projects with an alternative plan if in-person activities are not possible are encouraged.
- L. **An interim report is required by Friday, June 4, 2021.** Progress should be reported as well as any changes in personnel or project direction. Lack of progress may result in termination of funding.
- M. Grantees must also submit a final written report (to be provided by ADA-Indiana). A short presentation at a scheduled ADA-Indiana meeting (Thursday, September is also expected). The report should include:
 - A brief narrative of the project – what was done and what was accomplished
 - Data indicating the outcomes and impact of the project – specific changes that occurred
 - Data indicating the number and sectors trained
 - A final financial report
 - Copies of any materials developed
 - Electronic pictures of project activities/participants as appropriate

Application Process

1. Notice of this Request for Proposals is made broadly, through announcements to disability organizations and the general media. The Request for Proposals will also be posted on ADA-Indiana's website: www.adaindiana.org.
2. Proposal submission forms and instructions for completing the application are made available to potential applicants through media announcements and posted on ADA-Indiana's website, and are available upon request.
3. Staff of ADA-Indiana will be available for assistance with the application process, explanation of project priorities, and/or the use of "People First Language."
4. The submission deadline is **Friday, January 22, 2021**. Proposals must be **postmarked** no later than the due date to be considered. Unsolicited applications after those dates may be accepted, but only at the discretion of ADA-Indiana, the availability of funds, and/or the possibility of completion by **Friday, August 27, 2021**.
5. ADA-Indiana's Grants Committee will review proposals and make recommendations to the full membership. To avoid any conflicts of interest, the proposals will not be reviewed by any ADA-Indiana member who is employed by, under contract with, or has any other vested interest with an organization that is requesting funding.
6. A proposal checklist will be used by the Grants Committee as a tool for evaluating the proposals and making recommendations (see last page).
7. Final funding decisions are solely at the discretion of ADA-Indiana.
8. Notice of approval/disapproval of the project will be made in writing within 45 days of the submission deadline. Modifications to the original proposal and/or further review may be requested.
9. Funds will be distributed on a cost-reimbursement basis only, and only to the submitting organization.
10. All proposals should be emailed (attached Word Document is preferred) to: adainfo@indiana.edu. If the proposal needs to be submitted by mail, please contact ADA-Indiana staff by email (adainfo@indiana.edu) or by phone (812-856-5251) about your intention to mail the proposal.

ADA-Indiana
ATTN: Matt Norris, ADA-Indiana Staff
c/o Indiana Institute on Disability and Community
2810 East Discovery Parkway
Bloomington, IN 47408

If you have any questions, please contact Matt Norris at 812-856-5251 or e-mail at: adainfo@indiana.edu.

Application Format and Content

1. Complete the **Application Cover Sheet**. Include a **Project Abstract** (a clear, brief description of the project and the expected outcomes) in 100 words or less. Also indicate what **Priority Area** your project will address.
2. Include a **narrative** that clearly describes the proposed project (not to exceed four pages). Your narrative should include the following sections:
 - a. **Project Description and Rationale** – clearly and concisely describe what you intend to do and why it is needed.
 - b. Provide information about the **Target Audience** and the **Geographic Area(s)** that the project will focus on.
 - c. List the specific **Project Objective(s)**, along with the **Action Steps** and the **Timelines** needed to accomplish the objective(s).
 - d. Identify any **Collaboration** that will occur, if applicable. Include **Letters of Intent** from any collaborating partner.
 - e. Describe **Staff Qualifications** – indicate what ADA expertise and experiences the project staff, trainers, and/or collaborating partners have.
 - f. Include a specific **Evaluation Plan**. Describe what changes you expect will occur (**Expected Outcomes**). Explain how you will show that your project “made a difference” in your community. Indicate the **Types of Data** you will collect.
 - g. Indicate, if applicable, what **Replication Materials** you will make available for other communities to carry out a similar project.
 - h. Include a **Proposed Budget and Justification**. Please break out the use of the requested funds in the format shown below. Indicate what other funds and/or in-kind contributions will be used (25% required).

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Amount Requested from ADA-Indiana</u>	<u>25% In-kind Contribution</u>	<u>Justification</u>
Consultant (speaker fee or honorarium)			
Materials, supplies			
Duplication, printing			
Travel			
Postage			
Hospitality			
TOTALS:			

*Note: Personnel, direct service, building modifications, or equipment cannot be funded.
If you have line items not listed here, please contact ADA-Indiana staff for guidance.*

3. Send **an electronic copy (Word is preferred) by email to adainfo@indiana.edu**, including the Application Cover Sheet and any supporting materials. (If a print original of the completed proposal needs to be mailed, please contact project staff by email (adainfo@indiana.edu) or by phone: (812) 856-5251.)

**2021 Coros ADA Community Grants
Application Cover Sheet**

Project Title: _____

Your Community: _____

Project Abstract:

What Priority Area(s) does the project address? _____

Amount of Funding Requested: _____

Applicant Organization: _____

Address: _____

Project Director: _____ Position: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Certification by Authorized Representative of Primary Applicant

The information in this application seeking funding as
a COROS ADA COMMUNITY GRANT from ADA-Indiana
is accurate and true to the best of my belief and knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Position: _____

Send Applications by Email: adainfo@indiana.edu

If the proposal needs to be mailed to ADA-Indiana, please notify Matt Norris, ADA-Indiana staff, by email (adainfo@indiana.edu) or by phone: (812-856-5251) of your intention to mail the proposal.

ADA-Indiana
ATTN: Matt Norris, ADA-Indiana Staff
c/o Indiana Institute in Disability and Community
2810 East Discovery Parkway
Bloomington, IN 47408

Proposal Review Checklist

(All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated according to the following criteria)

Project Objectives:	20 points	Professional Capability of Staff:	15 points
Project Design:	30 points	Project Impact/Evaluation Design:	20 points
Priority Area Points:	10 points	Budget:	5 points

A. Project Objectives:

How clearly and concisely is the project described? Is there a sufficient ADA focus?

How clearly organized is the proposal? How well does the applicant justify need for the project?

How does this project benefit the applicant's community?

B. Project Design:

Are objectives included? How clear and achievable are they?

Are specific action steps described? How complete is the implementation plan?

Is a timeline provided? Is the timeline reasonable and feasible?

C. Funding Priority Area(s):

To what extent does the project target the ADA priority areas identified for this year?

D. Professional Capability of Staff:

Do key staff have adequate knowledge/experience about the ADA to carry out the project?

Does the proposal use People First Language?

Does the proposal include qualified persons with disabilities whenever applicable?

E. Plan for Documenting the Potential Impact of the Project

Is there a specific evaluation plan?

Does the plan indicate the specific changes expected to occur because of the project?

What data will be collected? Does the data measure specific outcomes or changes?

Are there plans to incorporate follow-up to identify specific outcomes?

Is there potential for replication? What will be included?

F. Budget:

Is the budget clearly presented?

Does the project include 25% matching funds or in-kind support?

Does the budget cover the costs of necessary accommodations?

Proposal Strengths:

Proposal Weaknesses:

Requested Adjustments:

RECOMMENDATION:

Fund Fund w/Adjustments Consider Further w/Changes Do Not Fund