

2024-2025 GRANT GUIDELINES

Since 2005, AtlantiCare has been partnering with area schools to improve the health and wellness of staff, students and their families, with a vision of building a healthier community. In the 2024-2025 school year, AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children will award funding opportunities to partnered schools to promote the adoption and sustainability of wellness actions that align with AtlantiCare's strategic community initiatives.



AVAILABLE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The following funding opportunities will grant dollars to schools to initiate or sustain ongoing wellness activities within the school setting. **One-day health fairs or one-day events will not be permitted**, as AtlantiCare is only funding ongoing activities and/or programming that will result in long-lasting behavioral changes and/or policy or environmental changes that align with the grant actions noted in their application. Schools are eligible to apply for financial support for the ***AED Heart Heroes Program and/or one of the grant offerings listed on the menu below**. Actions are to focus on nutrition, physical activity, and/or emotional well-being or substance use prevention. Please use the menu below to identify actions eligible for funding.

AED HEART HEROES PROGRAM

The AtlantiCare Heart Heroes is an AtlantiCare Foundation-funded program that places AEDs in the community on behalf of the Heart & Vascular Institute at AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center. Schools can apply to receive a new AED or to replace/purchase AED supplies with the AtlantiCare Healthy Schools Grant covering the total cost. *AED Heart Heroes Program is open year-round.*

****Schools will be required to complete an additional AED Heart Heroes Request Form if grant application is approved. (Applies to new AED only)***

NUTRITION

\$750 Enhancement Grant	Cafeteria enhancements/equipment, Breakfast After the Bell resources/needs, sustain existing edible garden, support USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), replacement filters for water bottle filling stations
\$1000 Innovation Grant	Before/after school garden club, Harvest of the Month (Jersey Tastes) or fruit/vegetable monthly cafeteria taste tests, weekend backpack nutrition program
\$1000 School Food Pantry Grant	Equipment and materials to start a new school food pantry or support an existing school food pantry. <i>*Schools will be connected to the Community Food Bank of NJ with the opportunity to apply to become a CFBNJ agency</i>
\$1500 New Edible School Garden/Alternative Garden Grant	New Edible School Garden/Alternative Garden Project (Aeroponic/Hydroponic Indoor Garden). <i>*Schools that have been awarded funding in the past for a new edible school garden but NOT an alternative garden project are eligible to apply for this award</i>
\$1500 Hydration Station Grant	New water bottle filling station/hydration station, plumbing and installation services

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

\$750 Enhancement Grant	Organized play equipment, yoga balls, desk cycles, yoga mats, physical education equipment, materials to support existing student physical activity related clubs, classes, and/or teams
\$1000 Innovation Grant	New before/after school physical activity clubs, classes, and/or teams; adaptive physical education or playground equipment for students with disabilities



BUILDING RESILIENCY AND SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION

In an attempt to prioritize impact in the areas of mental health and substance use, AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children seeks to assist schools in developing youth resiliency through social-emotional competency, substance use resistance, and emotional wellbeing. These grant opportunities will assist schools with the identification, implementation, and sustainability of proven social-emotional learning (SEL) and substance use prevention programs.

\$750 Enhancement Grant	Purchase student incentives for Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) or SEL programming, staff training on resiliency/emotional wellbeing, mental health first aid or substance use/vaping prevention, design and printing of promotional materials
\$750 Resiliency Room/Zen Den Enhancement Grant	Continue updating resiliency room for students and/or staff or mobile cart with materials to support resiliency, practicing mindfulness, and developing social skills
\$1000 Innovation Grant	New before/after school clubs, such as empowerment or support group, student wellness committee or advocacy board initiatives, vaping detectors
\$1500 New Resiliency Room/Zen Den Grant	New room for students and/or staff with equipment and materials that support building resiliency, practicing mindfulness, and developing social skills

SPECIAL REQUEST (up to a \$2000 maximum budget)

If your school is requesting funding to support a specific action that does not fall under one of the above categories, you may apply for a **Special Request Grant**. Your Special Request Grant proposal must be related to student, staff, or overall school wellness. Please contact a member of the Healthy Schools team at healthyschools@atlanticare.org to review your proposal with the following information: a brief summary of your special grant request, the target population(s), the total requested dollars, and a detailed budget breakdown in dollar amount. (Ex: Clothing closet for students or CPR certifications for staff)

***Participating schools are committing to establish a School Wellness Committee that meets at least 2 times per school year.** Under the leadership of their School Wellness Committee, schools will be required to collectively decide on a grant action to apply for, complete the required annual School Health Survey, and designate a person for submission. If awarded, the School Wellness Committee will ensure grant dollars are to be used to support ongoing wellness programming at the school, based on committee recommendations garnered through review of the AtlantiCare School Health Survey results and/or areas of identified need.



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for a 2024-2025 AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children funding opportunity applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant must be a K-12, public or private school serving students who reside within Atlantic County, Cape May County and/or Southern Ocean County, New Jersey, or connected to AtlantiCare through our DOH grant partnership.
- Applicant school agrees to become and/or maintain its status as an active partner in AtlantiCare's Healthy Schools, Healthy Children Initiative. This includes designating a representative from its school/district to serve on the AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children Steering Committee.
- Applicant must be in good standing with prior AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children grant reporting requirements from SY 2023-2024 or have spoken to AtlantiCare Healthy Schools staff about an extension date.



HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants are instructed to complete an **AtlantiCare School Health Survey** and submit a **completed grant application**. Both are available on the AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children website (www.atlanticare.org/healthyschools) for online completion.

The **AtlantiCare School Health Survey** is a tool to assist a school's Wellness Committee or staff in the grant application process. Please use the survey to identify areas where funding may support valuable actions promoting school health. Additional resources for developing and executing school health actions can be found online at: www.healthiergeneration.org/resources

All applications must be completed no later than **Wednesday, November 27, 2024**.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

If awarded, the school is required to send at least one representative to our mandatory grant award workshop to learn about relevant topics that impact school health, gardening instruction, program details and reporting expectations. The workshop information is below.

Applicant must agree to an AtlantiCare site visit, if requested, to view your school's wellness efforts.

All grant dollars are to be used for education, activities and support materials. If at any time, AtlantiCare feels that the grant dollars are not being used appropriately, AtlantiCare has the right to request a refund of all monetary awards.

Awarded schools are required to submit a summary report completed in its entirety, including the appropriate supporting materials, no later than **Friday, May 23, 2025**.

Late submission of required documentation could jeopardize future eligibility for AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children funding opportunities.

Schools may only submit **one** grant application per school.

GRANT TIMELINE

November 27, 2024	Grant application submitted and received by AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children
December 16, 2024	Grant award notification sent by AtlantiCare to schools
January 15, 2025	In-Person Mandatory Grant Workshop: Morning session will be attended by school garden grant recipients only; Afternoon session will be attended by ALL Grant recipients
May 23, 2025	Grant report due



MANDATORY GRANT WORKSHOP

Award checks will be mailed to the school following the mandatory workshop. A school representative **MUST** be at the grant workshop in order to receive the grant check. Failure to attend this mandatory workshop may jeopardize your grant award.

January 15, 2025 @ ACUA in EHT
 Morning Garden Session 10am-11:30am
 Afternoon Wellness Session 12:30pm-2pm

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HEALTHY SCHOOLS

