**What is siggi’s starters?**

Now in its third year, siggi’s starters is a grant program that supports nutrition professionals seeking to develop innovative ways to improve health in their communities.

siggi’s will provide a $20,000 grant to one nutrition professional to help them kickstart a community nutrition initiative of their own design.

**How do you apply?**

You can apply through the siggi’s starters application portal on the siggi’s starters website. [Click here](https://siggis.com/starters) to apply!

**Who can apply?**

You must be a registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) or dietetic technician registered (DTRs) at the time your application is submitted, and the grant is awarded.

**Can I apply on behalf of my organization?**

Yes! We encourage groups or employees of non-profit 501(c) organizations to apply, however the individual RDN or DTR associated with the program must submit the application. You must be an RDN or DTR at the time your application is submitted, and the grant is awarded. Please see the siggi’s starters grant program’s [Official Rules](https://siggis.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/siggis-starters-Grant-Program-Official-Rules_FINAL.pdf) (Official Rules) for more details.

**Does my submission have to be for a completely new program?**

No. You can submit a proposal for a brand-new program, or you can submit a proposal for an existing program that you want to take to the next level. Just be sure to explain your plan in your proposal.

**Does my program have to be provided free to participants?**

Your program can be either free or at a cost to participants at your discretion.

**What is required in the application?**

In addition to submitting an application with a plan that outlines your idea and complying with the Official Rules at all times, you’ll need to a budget specifying the types of costs that would be covered with the grant and what audience will benefit from your initiative.

Use this opportunity to share your goals for the program and describe the partners, tools and resources you would use to execute your proposal.

Templates are available within the application to help with your submission. All required application fields are listed on the application portal.

**Who will judge our proposals?**

A panel of judges will review all eligible applications. Using the criteria outlined in the [Official rules](https://siggis.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/siggis-starters-Grant-Program-Official-Rules_FINAL.pdf), we will announce the top finalist applications. We’ll then open the voting to the public on the siggi’s starters website. The total number of community votes will be factored into the final judging criteria to be used by the panel of judges for up to 15 percent of the total judging criteria.

**How do I get more votes in the public voting phase?**

We encourage the finalists to reach out to the community their programs will be helping. To help generate support, the finalists will receive a public voting toolkit with resources to help them engage local media and utilize their social media networks.

**Are there any key dates I should be aware of?**

You can find our full timeline on the siggi’s starters website and more details in our Official Rules.

**Is the grant recipient responsible for the taxes on the grant as an individual?**

Per the Official Rules of the siggi’s starters grant program, the grant recipient is solely responsible for reporting and paying any and all applicable federal, state, and local taxes due in connection with the grant received. The grant recipient will also receive a single cash payment in the form of a corporate check which is intended to assist with any federal, state, or other tax obligations related to the grant, but may not be sufficient to cover the grant recipient's entire tax liability related to the grant received. Please review the Official Rules before finalizing your application submission.

**What happened to Siggi Supports Entrepreneurs?**

To give back, and to support the nutrition community’s entrepreneurial spirit, we introduced Siggi Supports Entrepreneurs in 2015, to award funding to registered dietitian nutritionists looking to make a difference and improve nutrition in his/her/their local community.

And now, we’re building on the successful results of that program with siggi’s starters. siggi’s starters is designed to dig even deeper to positively impact community nutrition and provide ongoing support and mentorship directly to nutrition professionals.

**Why are you only giving one grant this year?**

This year, we want to utilize siggi’s starters as a way to focus on one program that addresses the disproportionate impact COVID-19 and subsequentially food insecurity has had on BIPOC communities and how to allow for more access to more real and less sweet foods within these communities. We’re thrilled at the enthusiasm around siggi’s starters over the past years from the nutrition community along with the successes our grant winners have achieved.

We’re excited continue siggi’s starters for another year and look forward to seeing what innovative programs are submitted.

For more information on siggi’s starters, reach out to nutrition@siggis.com or siggisstarters@porternovelli.com.