



## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Current estimates are that 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime.

Melanoma is the most common form of cancer for young adults 25-29 years old and the second most common form of cancer for adolescents and young adults 15-29 years old.

The Alabama Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition (Coalition) Shade Structure Grant Program awards grants to public schools for installing permanent shade structures for outdoor locations that are not protected from the sun, such as playgrounds or recreation spaces. Each shade structure grant is valued at a maximum of \$15,000, which includes the cost for a shade structure and installation. The number of grants depends on the availability of funding each year. In addition to the grant, the Coalition also provides a permanent sign near the shade structure, and will facilitate a school assembly (date TBD by the recipient school) after installation of the structure. All applications must be submitted by **June 30, 2020**.

## **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

The Coalition's Shade Structure Grant Program is open to public schools that provide services, programs and curricula to children ages 18 and younger. Examples of outdoor locations that are eligible for grant funds can include, but are not limited to, playgrounds, playground equipment, ball field dugouts, eating areas, etc.

### **To be considered, applicants must:**

- Be a public school.
- Provide services for children ages 18 and younger.
- Demonstrate an ongoing commitment to sun-safety/skin cancer awareness within their organizations by teaching sun-safety in the classrooms, practicing healthy sun-safe behaviors while outside and making a commitment to educating the youth on the dangers of UV rays and prevention of skin cancer.
- Be recommended by an active Coalition member.
- Have a documented need for a shade structure.
- Be considering a shade structure that meets the stringent shade requirements of the American Academy of Dermatology. [www.aad.org/spot-skin-cancer](http://www.aad.org/spot-skin-cancer)

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Applicants must submit their application through a sponsoring Coalition member when applying for a shade structure grant. Mailed submissions will not be considered.

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

### The following items must be submitted when applying for a shade structure grant:

- Application, in an essay form, providing a description of your designed sun-safety program, clearly defined project goals and practices, and contributing collaborative partners. Please include the number of children that will be impacted by the installation of the shade structure, any plans for future construction in the area the shade structure will be installed, a description of the area that includes access points for large equipment, a summary of past property vandalism (if any), and the estimated date you would like to have the structure installed.

### Additional items to be included along with your essay:

- Complete budget that is cost efficient and activity/outcome-related.
- Two (2) full-color photographs of the area to be shaded.
- Coalition member letter of recommendation.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you are awarded a grant, you must have your structure installed by the deadline date (**Date TBD**), otherwise you will forfeit your grant award.

## COALITION MEMBER RECOMMENDATION REQUIREMENTS

Each shade structure application must be recommended by a Coalition member. The recommending member can be from your city or surrounding area. **Members are able to recommend more than one shade structure application.** There is no financial obligation, or liability by a Coalition member recommending a shade structure application.

The Coalition member must provide one letter of recommendation.

The letter should:

- Be placed on the Coalition member's organization letterhead.
- Include the sponsoring member's signature.
- Be written by the sponsoring member.
- Include how he/she knows your school/organization.
- Describe what he/she knows about your school/organization's current sun-safety/skin cancer awareness program, including his/her participation in such programs.
- Describe how he/she will be working with your school/organization in the future.
- Provide information about the area to be shaded, including whether or not he/she has visited the location.
- Include any additional information he/she would like to include about your school/organization, its sun-safety/skin cancer awareness program and/or your organization's need for shade.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/QUESTIONS

For additional information about the Alabama Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition, or to join the Coalition, please visit [alabamapublichealth.gov/cancercontrol](http://alabamapublichealth.gov/cancercontrol).

Any questions regarding eligibility, or to find your nearest Coalition member, please email Carol Garrett at [carol.garrett@adph.state.al.us](mailto:carol.garrett@adph.state.al.us).



Shade Structure

## SHADE STRUCTURE CRITERIA

A shade structure is defined as being a permanent structure with a roof made of protective materials, such as textile, fabric, metal or wood, and supported by permanent columns or posts. Grant recipients are able to select the size and type of the structure that best fits their outdoor location and meets the shade structure criteria.

The manufacturer or contractor must design and install a shade structure that meets the following criteria:

- The shade structure must be a permanent structure with a roof constructed of shade cloth, metal or wood and provide significant protection from ultraviolet radiation (UVR).

### Cloth/Textile roof structures

- Shade cloth or roof structures must include documentation about the percentage of UVR that will be blocked by the fabric or the Ultraviolet Protection Factor (UPF).
- The Coalition recommends fabric that provides a UPF of 30 or above, which is approximately 96.7% of UVR blocked.
- If a UPF value cannot be determined for the fabric style and color you have selected, you will be asked to choose a shade structure roof material which blocks a percentage of UVR closest to this recommended percentage.
- Grant recipients must provide the manufacturer's specification documents showing the UVR-blocking properties and test method. The AAD recommends that shade cloth meet U.S. standards for UPF testing and labeling of UV-protective textiles (AATCC 183; ASTM D6603).

### Hard-top roof structures

- Hard-top roof structures, either wood or metal, will block 100% of direct UVR and do not require documentation about the UVR blockage.

**If the shade structure that your organization is considering does not meet the criteria above, please do not complete an application.** Examples of ineligible shade structures include: slat-roof structures, slat-roof/trellis gazebos, trellis roofs designed for future plant coverage, shade trees, small cap-roof structures for pieces of playground equipment. Structures covering the entire playground area are permissible.

## SAMPLE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Alabama Department of Public Health  
Program Coordinator, Alabama Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition (ACCCC)  
201 Monroe Street, Suite 1400  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

[Date]

Dear fellow ACCCC Members,

I am excited to recommend (Name of public school or district) as a recipient for a shade structure grant. A shade structure is a welcomed and natural addition to the school.

[Brief description of school's need and intended benefit of structure]

With over (Total number of students) current students this grant has a lasting impact that goes beyond those currently enrolled in school. All of the future students and the surrounding community will be impacted by the installation of a shade structure at the school.

The ACCCC Shade Structure Grant Program is offering an award up to \$15,000 per grant for the installation of permanent shade structures and I highly recommend a full award (\$15,000; 100%) to (School's Name) to cover at least one shade structure.

Sincerely,

ACCCC Member Name, Title/Position  
Organization