

Purpose

The Valley Athletic Trainers Association Continuing Education Committee has been charged with encouraging secondary schools to apply to the NATA's Safe Schools Program. The purpose of this grant program is three-fold:

1. Encourage each secondary school to promote the NATA's Safe Sports School Award within their district.
2. Help secondary schools overcome the financial stumbling block associated with the award application fee.
3. Increase the number of NATA 1st Team and 2nd Team Safe Sports School Awards presented to Rio Grande Valley secondary schools.

Procedures for VATA SSS Grant Requests

I. Eligibility Requirements for Secondary School Grant

- a) Eligibility is open to all secondary schools in Texas that employ an athletic trainer.
- b) Each candidate secondary school applying for this grant must have athletic trainers on staff be VATA members in good standing prior to January 1st.
- c) An athletic trainer representing the candidate secondary school will be required to provide the following: State License, and NPI (National Provider Identifier) numbers.
- d) Each candidate secondary school applying must meet the safe sports school award criteria for 1st team or 2nd team.

II. Applying for Secondary School Grant

- a) Go to the NATA Safe Sport School website to access the online application.
 - i) Click "Manage Safe Sport School Application".
 - ii) You will be required to "Log In".
 - iii) Once logged in, you will be on the "My Applications" page, click on "Applications and Forms".
 - iv) Here you will see a listing of various award applications, click on the "Safe Sport School Award" link and then you will be able to begin the online application process.
 - v) Once you complete this initial process, you will then submit for your school's administrator to sign in for review and approval.
 - vi) After your school administrator has approved, you will now need to print a copy to submit with your VATA SSS Grant Request Form.
 - vii) You can "Print to PDF" or print a copy to scan to PDF.
- b) Download and complete a VATA SSS Grant Request Form

c) Email the following documents to VATA Continuing Education continuing.ed@vatargv.org (incomplete grant requests shall not be considered):

- PDF of your completed NATA SSSA online application.
- Completed VATA SSS Award Grant Request Form.

d) Once notified by the VATA Continuing Education Director in regards to funding, approval/declination, please log in and “Submit” your application. VATA will notify NATA directly of all grant recipients and authorize payments of appropriate application fee(s).

III. Notification of a VATA Safe Sports School Awards

- a) SSSA Winners will be selected and notified via email from the NATA.
- b) SSSA winners shall notify VATA Continuing Education Director of receiving the award. The continuing education director shall in turn notify the VATA Board of Directors of the award.

IV. Publicity of Awards

- a) VATA Public Relations (PR) will contact the athletic trainer(s) at each secondary school who receive the SSSA to coordinate publicity and press releases for VATA.
- b) The VATA PR director will also notify the respective State Association PR Chair for publicity and press releases at the state level.
- c) Grant winners are encouraged to recognize VATA as the funding source for the SSSA grant in press releases, interviews, and other forms of publicity about the award.

V. Allocation of Unused Funds

- a) If funds remain after March 31st, applications will continue to be considered and requests to fund renewals will be considered at that time.