













2023-24 Scholars & Scores Count! Grantees

	<p>Lauderdale County High School ROGERSVILLE, ALABAMA 1281 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“We were the first public school to win the 1A-3A title, and we were the first county school to win a state tennis title period...The players I have are all wonderful students who excel both in the classroom, as well as on the court. The majority of players on our team are Beta Club members, and many rank in the “Academic Top Ten” of their classes. Our team does not receive any sort of outside funding...Many of my players come from homes in which money issues are a real struggle...I have a very young boys team that shows incredible potential for growth, given the right equipment and opportunities.”</p>
	<p>Hoover High School SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 2,326 Students (Large)</p>	<p>“Hoover High School Boys & Girls varsity tennis programs have been a fun and safe place for our student athletes to grow, learn and be competitive. Most of them have never played tennis before...Our tennis programs have instilled the love for the game of tennis to our players...A large portion of the student athletes come from low-income families where it is a challenge for them to provide proper tennis gear & equipment. I remember one player’s shoes were so worn out that they had holes on the bottom. This grant will help us tremendously to provide the needed gear and equipments.”</p>
	<p>Calexico High School CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA 2,903 Students (Large)</p>	<p>“one of the biggest schools in California...is located in a border town in Calexico, California, and has nearly a 98% hispanic student population. Many of our students live below the poverty line, with 100% of our students receiving a free lunch...Nearly 30% of households in Calexico make below \$25k in household income.....many students simply cannot afford to play high school tennis, as equipment cost is very expensive not only for the students, but also causes limited school funding in our sport.”</p>
	<p>Hanford West High School HANFORD, CALIFORNIA 1,330 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“Many of our students are poor and we have to buy shoes and rackets for most of our athletes. We only get \$500 a year per team and we use most of that to buy balls and don't have much money for other things. We rely on donations and my assistant coach has been spending a lot of his personal money on shoes and rackets for our boys and girls tennis teams. He hasn't said anything about it, but I know he also has been helping pay for restringing and grips, even though he shouldn't be expected to. The girls have been asking about new uniforms or at least new skirts because we don't have team skirts and we don't have any money in our uniform budget this year.”</p>





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	<p>Eureka High School EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 1,281 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“Eureka High school is located in rural Humboldt county. We have a small but growing group of tennis players, I am working to foster inclusion, community and friendship amongst our players. We are a no cut program and are continuing to grow our program as the game of tennis is not as popular in this region mostly due to the lack of available courts, weather and social economic factors. As coach of both the girls and boys teams I'm building unity and consistency that the program has lacked for many years. Our current uniforms and balls are very old and in desperate need of an upgrade.”</p>
	<p>Buena High School VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 1,949 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“We have just donated our last donated tennis racquet. Our program has changed from just a school sport to a developmental program.This means we are no cut, training is offered year round, and players NEVER have to pay for lessons...we are in desperate need of an assistant coach to support as most students pick up a racquet for the first time when coming to high school.(not much community opportunity). We have used funds to get used shoes, clothes, and racquets to lower the cost of entry into the sport as low as possible..in the past I have taken balls from the community park recycle bin and replaced them with our balls just so our kids have balls to hit.”</p>
	<p>Orville H. Platt High School MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT 1,068 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“The team consists of 16 boys who work so hard each day to improve their game. They are on the courts hitting before practice and stay after practice to play ladder matches against one another. They show up each day and give 200%! Households in the city of Meriden earn below-average incomes...Many are from the inner city and came to the tennis team without tennis rackets or proper footwear. Donations make it possible to outfit the players and give them a fighting chance against more affluent towns. Most of the boys only started playing tennis their freshman year, so they are new to the sport and work hard to learn the fundamentals.”</p>
	<p>Benjamin Banneker Academic High School WASHINGTON, DC 454 students (Small)</p>	<p>“Our students are well rounded academically and...their good sportsmanship shows in practices and league games...Our team is cohesive and everyone helps another to become a better player...Our uniforms are from previous years and do not fit every player. Some sizes are missing for the girls. We have unmatched pieces (tops and bottoms) for the whole team.”</p>





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	<p>Gainesville High School</p> <p>GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA</p> <p>1,873 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“We are a diverse, no-cut, all-inclusive group. About two-thirds of our team comes from families that struggle financially. We try to assist these players as much as possible, but unfortunately we do not receive the funds, donations, or boosters that larger sports teams do. The majority of our girls excel academically and I place a great emphasis on succeeding in the classroom. Every member of our 2022-23 team received the academic award. This grant would be so helpful for our team as it would reduce the financial stress on our players' families and would also enable us to provide a Senior recognition award to help one of our deserving players.”</p>
	<p>Rabun County High School</p> <p>TIGER, GEORGIA</p> <p>663 students (small)</p>	<p>“Imagine the impact of a team united not only by their skills but also by their distinctive, professional attire... uniforms go beyond aesthetics, acting as a source of pride and cohesion that can fortify our team's spirit...Elevated equipment standards will naturally elevate our players potential, nurturing a culture of continuous improvement...The tennis court is a platform for more than just competition; it serves as a conduit for giving back to our community while also growing our program.”</p>
	<p>Waipahu High School</p> <p>WAIPAHU, HAWAII</p> <p>2,475 Students (Large)</p>	<p>“This is many players' first exposure to sports and travel and it provides many life lessons not found in the classrooms. The skills learned on the tennis team are communication, responsibility, timeliness, grit, hard-work, honesty, fair play, dedication and many more. Many of our players come with no knowledge of tennis and do not have much parental support...As their coach, I provide structure, expectations and coaching to teach the students how to be successful not only in tennis but in life.”</p>
	<p>South Tama County High School</p> <p>TAMA, IOWA</p> <p>445 Students (Small)</p>	<p>“Our school district is the only location for usable community courts, this means that members of our community use our 6 courts through the year when school is not in session or there are no HS meets...The reason we are applying for this grant to help with funding to build a shed or storage space near our courts. In this shed we would store ball machines, balls, rackets, etc. Right now we transport this equipment from our main HS building by car/truck each day before practice. This grant would helpful to offset the cost to build a small storage shed that our community and school can use to continue to grow our tennis program.”</p>





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	<p>Nicholas Senn High School CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 1,660 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“Since we were not being provided with equipment by our school, coaches were purchasing match and balls along with a very limited amount of other equipment, but as our rosters grow this is no longer sustainable, so we are beginning to seek external funding such as this grant to provide our teams with needed equipment, particularly those items that must be continually replaced, such as balls. Given the socio-economic background of many of our players, doing fundraising within our school community is challenging.”</p>
	<p>Goshen High School GOSHEN, INDIANA 2,015 Students (Large)</p>	<p>“A higher than average amount of our population is on free/reduced lunch, which means many don’t have the freedom in their family budgets to pay for lessons, equipment, apparel, tournaments, etc. Our new athletic department hasn’t been able to continue the previous rotation of new uniforms and warm ups so we are getting by on old apparel in addition to what players purchase each year with fundraiser assistance...We have been able to build our program into a conference champion, sectional champion, regional champion, and semi-state contender in recent years and hope to continue that success.”</p>
	<p>Boyd County High School ASHLAND, KENTUCKY 858 Students (Small)</p>	<p>“Boyd County Tennis as a no-cut team...This means the team supports a number of beginner players each year along with the more experienced ones...Receiving this grant will allow me to purchase a portable ball launcher machine. This would be able to benefit all of my student athletes regardless of experience as it would be able to be used in different drills, hitting practice, etc...The team purchases all uniforms, rackets, tennis balls, and other supplies ourselves. Many of my players are low-income or support their own extracurricular activities with part-time jobs so with this grant I would be able to ease the burden.”</p>
	<p>Oakdale High School OAKDALE, LOUISIANA 293 Students (Small)</p>	<p>“Oakdale High School is a rural tennis program that has had great success in the past seven years...We have won the regional championship in 2018 and 2019 and have finished as high as 3rd in Regionals in the past three years after moving to a higher division...We have dedicated students that play year round and the team average GPA has been 3.5 and above. Because of our location and the investments in other sports it's a struggle for these young adults, parents, and non-paid volunteer coach. Students have to work odd jobs and engage in fundraisers each year to make their season happen, which takes away from time that could be on the courts. I would love for tennis and academics to be their sole focus this season.”</p>



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	<p>Boston Latin Academy</p> <p>BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS</p> <p>1,685 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“The Boys and Girls teams are co-op teams, with players from 8-10 different Boston high schools each year. Both teams have a no-cut policy. The Boys team had 30 players in 2023, the girls had 23 players. Almost all the students are from low income and/or recent immigrant families. We give racquets to new players who don't have one. Each team has a budget of \$700 from the BPS Athletic Department for all clothing and equipment, including tennis balls. It's not enough, so we get used balls from Sportsmen's Tennis and Enrichment Center, reuse team jerseys and forego some clothing options (like sweats) that suburban teams have. This grant would be an equalizer for our urban youth.”</p>
	<p>Raytown High School</p> <p>RAYTOWN, MISSOURI</p> <p>1,443 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“We have started from the ground up and are making an impact in the community as we grow the sport. We are a no cut program...a diverse group and for many this is the first sport they have ever played in high school...we do not have students joining the team who have tennis experience or tennis equipment. I am constantly working to secure the things they need to be successful in learning the sport...Another set of uniforms would be so helpful to accommodate our busy schedule of 3 to 4 duals and tournaments per week, so that students don't have to wear the same dirty uniform all week long and parents can get a break from laundry...At the same time that we are seeking to grow the program, we have been balancing to keep our costs low to the district so we do not risk getting cut.”</p>
	<p>Smithfield-Selma High School</p> <p>SMITHFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>1,246 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>“The Smithfield-Selma High School Tennis program is not just a sports team; it's an opportunity for growth within our community...serves a low-wealth area in Johnston County, with a predominantly minority population. Many of our students come from backgrounds where access to extracurricular activities, especially tennis, is severely limited due to financial constraints...This program is not just about producing star athletes; it's about instilling a love for the sport, fostering teamwork, and teaching important life skills like discipline, dedication, and perseverance...Tennis, once seen as an unattainable dream for many in our area, would become a reality for countless students.”</p>
	<p>Basic Academy of International Studies</p> <p>HENDERSON, NEVADA</p> <p>2,586 Students (Large)</p>	<p>“Basic Academy of International Studies is the lowest income high school in the Henderson area. Our program is made up of freshmen who pick up a racquet for the first time. They can compete pretty well by senior year. Most students play with old racquets or the \$25 ones from walmart. They are happy kids that just want to be part of a sport and find tennis fun. We say all of the time we like how the ball sounds on the racquets and the smell of new tennis balls. Incredibly, this team won both the boys and girls state championship in the fall of 2021. Repeating the wins isn't the goal, but the dedication and love of tennis is what we strive for.”</p>

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	<p>Sprague High School SALEM, OREGON 2,362 Students</p>	<p>"We have been District Champions 14 times and State champions 3 times. I have never cut a student trying out for the tennis team ever. I'm semi-retired and work part time as a local tennis professional. My objective is to give all new players the gift of a lifetime by showing and teaching them how to play and excel with great strokes and knowledge of the game for the rest of their lives! Truly tennis is a lifelong sport and a second family for many who play the game now...The boys and girls team usually each year lead the highest GPA average for all school sports. Academics is huge and what a great reward to see your players excel after they move on from high school to great careers."</p>
	<p>Central High School PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 2,381 Students (Large)</p>	<p>"Our diverse socially economically disadvantaged student athletes come from every neighborhood in Philadelphia...Our no-cut tennis program plays a very competitive...schedule against suburban, private, and Catholic schools which have many more financial resources available. This disparity in funding and the inability for most of our student athletes to afford basic uniforms...hurts our ability to compete against these schools...Uniforms are very costly and asking our student athletes to pay for their own adds to financial hardship for our students...we do not have courts on our campus and our student-athletes rely on public transportation to reach public courts that are nearly two miles from the school."</p>
	<p>Cranston High School East CRANSTON, RHODE ISLAND 1,577 Students (Medium)</p>	<p>"The tennis program...is full of dedicated and hardworking students that continuously push themselves...Despite their hard work, the program...is lacking in the resources to adequately prepare and support these players. The courts that the team plays on are two miles from the school and shared with the public. As a result, the team is at a disadvantage as we not only lose practice time...the players have trouble affording the equipment needed to play. Jerseys and balls are the only things provided to the tennis team. Outside of this, I pay for other expenses out of pocket...In comparison to our opponents, our team looks mismatched; although superficial, this has a major effect on our team as the students often feel inadequate and embarrassed."</p>
	<p>Devine High School DEVINE, TEXAS 545 Students (Small)</p>	<p>"We are a small 4A Texas school, which has continued to have budget cuts year after year. I use my budget for basically balls. Our uniforms are a little mix match, and we are in need of new matching uniforms. We had the 3rd place mixed doubles in state last year, and 3 years ago we had the girls singles state champion. We are barely a 4A school by 16 students and compete with schools that are more than twice our size. This money would help install a sense of confidence in our players, who look at the other teams at regionals that are funded at a much higher rate."</p>

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	<p>Manti High School MANTI, UTAH 625 Students (Small)</p>	<p>“Our tennis program is one of the least funded programs in the entire state of Utah. Currently the budget for the program is consistently below normal operating costs. Much of the equipment (nets, balls, score cards, rackets, etc) were provided by donations because of the connections that the former head coach had with people connected to tennis programs in the state. Unfortunately, with the retirement of that coach...the program is now in need of alternate forms of funding. If this desperately needed grant was awarded to us we would immediately use it to repair nets, purchase new tennis balls for matches, and provide rackets for new players who are unable to purchase a quality racket due to financial constraints.”</p>
	<p>Jenkins Jr/Sr High School CHEWELAH, WASHINGTON 304 Students (Small)</p>	<p>“We live in one of the poorest towns in our State...but have built 5 courts at our High school through grants (2004-2007) and have one of the largest teams, for all sports, in the school. Our kids and parents LOVE tennis, and support the program, but we don't have much money. We finally got new uniforms last year and are now looking for some equipment like a ball machine and ball picker upper so more players can get more reps and practice more specific skills. I have two players who practice year round and won 1st and 2nd in singles at State last year and would love to have more opportunities. Our team always maintains a high grade point average and we are consistent in insisting that grades come first and tennis second. Last year all players kept up great grades. Our better players set a great example for our newer players. We have a motto to win every game possible, no matter how easy or tough your opponent is. We work on the mental and physical aspects of the game while keeping social interaction very positive.”</p>