



Underrepresented Community Grant Program (URC)



W.R. Dorsey grocery store in Helena, MT. Courtesy of Montana Historical Society, Helena.

Who May Apply

- State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs)
- Indian Tribes that meet the definition in 54 USC 300309 and Native Hawaiian Organizations that meet the definition in 54 USC 300314
- Certified Local Governments (CLG). A current list of CLGs is found at go.nps.gov/clglist.
- Non-profit Organizations
- Eligible applicants may partner with other local government jurisdictions.

What Is Funded

- Grant projects support the survey, inventory, and designation of historic properties that are associated with communities currently underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places and among National Historic Landmarks.
- Projects must result in the submission of a new nomination to the National Register of Historic Places or National Historic Landmark Program, or an amendment to an existing National Register or National Historic Landmark nomination to include underrepresented communities.

What Is Not Funded

- Construction of new buildings
- Acquisition of collections or historic sites
- Conservation of collections, except as part of gathering oral history documentation
- Long-term maintenance or curatorial work beyond the grant period
- Reconstructing historic properties (recreating all or a significant portion that no longer exists)
- Moving or work on moved historic properties that are no longer eligible for listing in the NRHP
- Cash reserves, endowments, revolving funds, or fund-raising costs
- Work performed prior to announcement of award
- Lobbying or advocacy activities
- Costs for work already completed or funded through other federal programs
- Administrative costs may not be over 25% of project budget
- Miscellaneous costs, contingencies, reserves, and overhead
- Nominations of sites not previously determined eligible by the SHPO or that may have owner objection to listing.

Grant Amounts

The minimum grant request is \$15,000 Federal share. The maximum grant request is \$75,000 Federal share. Please note that the selection panel may, at its discretion, award less than the minimum grant request. Matching funds are not required, but may be considered as part of the evaluation process.

Selection Process

NPS personnel and when required, qualified Federal employees will review all complete proposals using the criteria outlined below. Reviewers' evaluations are based solely on the material provided in the application. **Additional materials not specifically required by the application, and materials sent separately from the application, will not be considered.** A summary of the review panel comments may be provided to the applicant if requested after the grant process is complete. Panel recommendations will be made to the Secretary of the Interior who will select successful applicants and forward to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. NPS will conduct risk assessments on all projects prior to funding.

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Project descriptions must address, and applications will be rated on, each of the criteria listed below. NPS will evaluate and consider only **complete** applications that separately address each of the criteria. You are required to provide a detailed narrative of these elements using the project description and budget justification worksheets.

- 1. Significance:** Describe the community and the historic resources affected by this project, including a description of why they are determined to be underrepresented in your jurisdiction. Include whether they are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and/or designated at the State, Tribal, or local level, and if not currently listed, why they should be. Applicants must include concurrence of eligibility from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), such as a determination of eligibility from the SHPO or a completed survey that was reviewed by the SHPO.
- 2. Planning:** Describe how the project meets the goals of a local, state, or tribal preservation plan or comparable planning document for your jurisdiction.
- 3. Feasibility:** Describe all tasks and their results. Discuss your timeline and budget justification to show that costs are necessary, reasonable, and allowable. Demonstrate how you will successfully complete the project within the given timeframe (2-3 years) and with the given resources, while meeting all Federal requirements and guidelines. Briefly describe who will be involved in carrying out the project and their qualifications, attach resumes/CVs as applicable.
- 4. Sustainability:** Describe the impacts of the project after completion including long lasting effects. Describe the public-private partnerships and community engagement involved in the project and how these partnerships will sustain and continue to support the resource(s) after the grant project is complete.

Process and Deadlines

This program is administered by the National Park Service. Congress has appropriated \$1.25 million for this grant program in Fiscal Year 2023. Applications are anticipated to open in Spring of 2023 and are due Summer of 2023. All applications must be submitted through grants.gov. No paper applications will be accepted. Registration in Grants.gov, SAM.gov, and other federal systems can take up to four weeks, so please start early. Extensions will not be granted due to incomplete registrations in these systems.

Additional Information

Visit <http://go.nps.gov/urc> for more information about this grant program.

For more information on our other programs, please visit www.nps.gov/stlpg.

For application assistance:
National Park Service
STLPG@nps.gov
202-354-2020

For Grants.gov assistance:
support@grants.gov
1-800-518-4726