Grants for Local Projects Program Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility:

Does a municipal library qualify for the Grants for Local Projects program if it doesn't have a foundation or 501(c)3 Friends of the Library group to apply on its behalf?

A municipal library qualifies for the Grants for Local Projects program as it is recognized as a nonstate organization.

Can counties apply for these grants?

Yes, counties, as local government units, are eligible for the Grants for Local Projects program.

Can municipalities and townships apply?

Yes, municipalities and townships, as local government units, are eligible to apply for the Grants for Local Projects program.

Can tribal government apply?

Yes, tribal governments are eligible to apply for the Grants for Local Projects program.

Funding and Matching:

Is there a maximum grant award?

Yes, due to limited funding, grant awards are capped at $2 million.

What type of match documentation is required? Will a letter of credit be sufficient, or do the funds/loan have to be approved?

Match documentation can be provided through a letter of credit or a financial statement from an individual with fiduciary responsibility, showing the dollar amount of pledges and the revenue resulting from them.

Can federal grant funds be used as match funds?

Yes, federal funds may be used as match funds. However, if federal funds are involved, the project may be subject to federal requirements such as BABA or Davis-Bacon, for which the applicant is responsible.

Do you have to have a hard dollar match, or is a soft dollar match acceptable, where you have donations of materials and labor?

A hard dollar match is not required. The grantee match can be a combination of cash or gifts/donations, including the value of materials and labor.

Project Details:

Are there specific projects that would rank well? (parks, streets, libraries, open spaces, etc.)

Grants applications are scored based on the criteria outlined in the application – see Step 4: Scoring.

Does the program only consider construction or building as capital, or do other items fit into the grant application?

A capitalized asset must be purchased or constructed so the State can retain an ownership interest in the asset. Applicants are encouraged to consult with their legal counsel to ensure the State can retain an ownership interest in the asset. The grant cannot be used to cover programmatic expenses.

Can funds be used for design or planning work, or only for construction/rehabilitation?

The grant is for construction/rehabilitation, and the project costs can include soft costs such as design and planning work.

What design development stage is acceptable for the Plans and Specifications by an AE of Record requirement?

Eligible applicants will include final design plans and specifications by an AE of Record.

Timeline and Process:

Is there a timeframe in which the project needs to be completed?

There are no restrictions on when projects must be started or completed after funding is awarded, but eligible projects must be shovel ready.

When can projects start, and what is the latest date by which funds need to be spent/reimbursements requested?

There are no restrictions on when projects must be started or completed after funding is awarded. Projects cannot be complete prior to application for funding.

When will grantees receive notification of award, and when can they expect funds to become available?

See the program timeline for this information.

Application and Organization:

Does the application need to be submitted before we start spending money on the project?

No, projects already underway are eligible, and the application does not need to be submitted before spending begins.

Is it allowable for our organization to apply for the funds and then pass along a portion of the award to our partner?

The grantee must be the entity spending the money on the capitalized asset.