

Rural Nebraska Historic Preservation Grant (RNHP)

The Rural Nebraska Historic Preservation grant (P22AP01544) is the name of the subgrant program funded by the National Park Service's Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program (HPF, CFDA 15.904). Below is some general information about the grant that can help answer some frequently asked questions. If you have any additional questions please contact Betty Gillespie at betty.gillespie@nebraska.gov.

Funding (\$) Information:

- The subgrant will be called the Rural Nebraska Historic Preservation Grant (RNHP)
- \$327,890 will be available for grant awards.
- Grant awards will range in amount from \$10,000 to \$75,000.
- Grant awards can fund up to 90% of the total project cost.
 - Ex: If the total project cost is \$50,000, an applicant can request up to \$45,000
- Grants will require a **10% cash match**, not in-kind matches
 - A 10% match of the total project cost. Not 10% of the grant request.
 - Ex: If the total project cost is \$50,000 and they request a grant of \$45,000, the applicant needs to have a \$5,000 cash match.

Eligibility Information:

- Structures must be either on the National Register of Historic Places (individually or contributing) or be eligible for listing.
 - If not listed, the applicant will need to reach out to the SHPO to receive a letter stating the building is eligible for listing.
 - By the end of the project, an unlisted building will need to be listed.
- All standing structures, including private homes, are eligible
 - If a private home applies, the project can only include exterior work. NO INTERIOR WORK IS ELIGIBLE ON PRIVATE HOMES.
- Structures must be located in rural communities of less than 30,000 people.
 - Applicants will need to justify their community's rural identity. A community could have less than 30,000 people but be a suburb of a major city and they would not be eligible.
- Applicants that are individuals, Local Governments, Historical Societies, non-profit organizations, unincorporated businesses, and for-profit corporations are all eligible to apply.

Ineligible Activities:

- Interior work on private homes.
- Interior work on existing apartments (shared spaces such as hallways and reception areas are eligible).
- Archeology preservation projects

- Single applications for multiple buildings. All individual buildings need their own application.
 - Some exceptions for farmsteads.
- Acquisition of real or personal property.
- Additions to a historic building or to the surrounding property.
- Major reconstructions. For example, the reconstruction of a whole building or addition from photographs with new materials on an existing foundation.
- Grant administration expenses or other indirect costs.
- Equipment purchases, except items that are directly related to the building operation and specifically approved by the SHPO
- Costs incurred before the project starting date or after the project completion date.
- Costs over the approved project budget.
- Costs for work not included in the scope of work established in the project agreement.
- Work not in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards*.
- Damage judgments arising from construction or equipping of a facility, whether determined by judicial process, arbitration, negotiation, or otherwise.
- Fundraising, including grant application preparation.
- Lobbying.
- Costs for general maintenance or utilities.
- Construction of auxiliary structures or site work not directly related to the preservation of the historic property.
- Interpretive exhibits or displays.
- Demolition unless necessary for repair or preservation of the historic property (i.e. removing roofing to inspect and repair underlayment). Costs for such necessary demolition must be rolled into the budget line item for the work item (i.e. replacement of the roof) and repair work must be complete before the costs are reimbursed through the grant.
- Relocation of structures, buildings, or objects.
- Federal and State-owned properties are not eligible to apply.

Timeline Information:

- Public announcements and information about the grant will be made available to the public in October. This will include a general fact sheet explaining eligibility and a larger grant manual.
- The RNHP grant application will go live to the public December 12, 2022.
 - Apply, is the application platform.
- After the application is launched, HN will host a public webinar to provide additional information about the application, answer any questions, and give some detail about the grant processes after applications are turned in.
 - The webinar will be on December 21, 2022, at noon. The webinar will be recorded and uploaded to the HN website for later viewing.

- The applications will be due March 1, 2023 at midnight.
- Grant awards will be announced on May 12, 2023.
- The grant has a 3-year timeline (Sep 2022- Aug 2025) so once contracts are signed, awarded projects will have until Aug 2025 to finish their planned work.

Project Evaluation Information:

- **All project work needs to follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.**
 - This information can be found on NPS' website (<https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation.htm>)
- **Overall Application:** organization, completion of the application, and understandable
- **Justification of being located in a rural community** and the structure's impact on the community. Community support for the project.
- **Project need and urgency:** describe its current state, how it came to be in that state, and what urgently needs to be done.
- **Measuring Success:** how will the community measure success? Preservation of history, social and economic viability?
 - How will the project create an economic/social impact? How will that be measured, etc.
- **Applicant's Administrative Ability:** Applicants must demonstrate their ability to administer a grant or have someone working with them who will help administer it.
- **Budget, Schedule, and Scope of Work:** estimates of cost and time will need to be provided as well as a detailed description of what the proposed project work will be.
- *Sustainability:* an optional question, will not be evaluated as part of the final score but may be looked at in the case of a large number of qualifying applicants. Are sustainable practices/ideas being used? Is there a plan in place to maintain the building once the project is completed to prevent it from returning to its current state?
- SHPO will conduct a risk analysis of all applications before the review committee scores applications and makes the final recommendations on awardees.
- Other materials needed:

- Proof of ownership	- Photos
- Proof of cash match	- Letters of support (up to 5)
- Please look at the Application Checklist for a full list of additional documents and materials needed for a complete application.

Other Information:

- Communities can apply for more than one grant as long as each submission is for a different property.
- Other grants/bonds can be used as matching as long as it demonstrates a 10% cash match.
- Announcements about the grant will be made on HN's website and social media and EDDs will be informed along with preservation organizations.