



BUILDING COMMUNITIES GRANTS PROGRAMS

The Building Communities Grants Programs consist of five grant programs established and funded by the Vermont Legislature to “*help communities preserve important historic buildings and enhance community facilities*”. All of these grant programs, with the exception of the Barn Grants, require that the applicant be a non-profit organization, regional economic development organizations, or municipalities. The deadlines for all five occur in the fall, and selections are made by individual boards through an established selection process. All grants require matching funding. Funds raised from local fundraising efforts are encouraged. You may not apply to more than one of the grant programs for the same project in one calendar year.

- ***Read the descriptions carefully below to determine which programs fund the type of project you are planning.***
- ***Look at the grant application and instructions on-line at the websites listed below.***
- ***Contact representatives from the agencies listed below if you have questions concerning their respective grant programs.***
- ***Be prepared to demonstrate strong community support for projects on public buildings through fundraising campaigns and grass roots initiatives.***
- **Good luck!**

CULTURAL GRANTS

Agricultural Fairs Capital Projects Competitive Grant

Competitive grants are awarded to agricultural fairs to make improvements to physical sites and infrastructure. Examples of endorsed grant activities include: improvements to electricity, sewer and water systems; establishing ADA compliance; projects that promote public safety; and land purchases for fair locations. Emphasis is placed on leveraging other funds and generating community support for the fair through improvements to the infrastructure, which can be utilized by the whole community during fair days, and throughout the year.

For more information, contact:

Reg Godin

Department of Agency of Agriculture

Phone: 802-522-3648

Email: Reg.Godin@vermont.gov

Website: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/>

* After the initial application deadline remaining funding will be awarded on a rolling basis at the convenience of the grants committee.

Cultural Facilities Grant Program

The cultural facilities grant program is administered by the Vermont Arts Council in conjunction with the Vermont Historical Society, and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. The program awards grants on a competitive basis to assist nonprofit organizations and municipalities to improve community facilities used to provide cultural activities to the public. The purpose of the program is to enhance or expand the capacity of an existing building to provide cultural programming. Grants range from \$1,000 - \$30,000 and require a 1:1 match (at least 50% of which must be in cash and up to 50% of which may be in well documented in-kind materials and/or labor). The Arts Council will offer Cultural Facilities Grants Workshops in spring. Details will be posted on our website.

For more information, contact:

Michele Bailey

Vermont Arts Council

Phone: 802-828-3294

Email: mbailey@vermontartscouncil.org

Website: <http://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants-and-services/organizations/cultural-facilities>

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Historic Preservation Grant Program

Since 1987, 50/50 matching grants have been offered through a competitive process administered by the Division for Historic Preservation to assist municipalities and nonprofit organizations in restoring important historic buildings across the state. Each year, grants of up to \$20,000 are awarded by the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to help preserve and repair buildings that will promote the public's awareness and appreciation of Vermont's cultural heritage. Town halls, municipal buildings, churches, historical societies, granges, and many other kinds of buildings have been funded. Eligible work includes restoration and repair of roofs, structural elements, windows, foundations, and other components of historic buildings.

For more information, contact:

Caitlin Corkins

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

Phone: 802-828-3047

Email: Caitlin.Corkins@vermont.gov

Website: http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/preservation/grants/historic_preservation

Historic Barn and Agricultural Buildings Grant Program

Since 1991, 50/50 matching grants have been offered through a competitive process administered by the Division for Historic Preservation to assist owners with the repair of historic agricultural buildings (barns, corn cribs, silos, grist mills, etc.) across the state. Grants of up to \$15,000 are awarded by the

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Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to assist in the restoration and repair of endangered agricultural buildings, which can be in private ownership. Historic barns may qualify whether they are in active agricultural use or non-agricultural use. Eligible work includes restoration and repair of roofs, structural elements, windows, foundations, and other important components of historic agricultural buildings.

For more information, contact:

Caitlin Corkins

Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

Phone: 802-828-3047

Email: Caitlin.Corkins@vermont.gov

Website: http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/preservation/grants/barn

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS & GENERAL SERVICES

Human Services and Educational Facilities Competitive Grant Program

The human services and educational facilities grant program provides awards of matching grants to municipalities and nonprofit organizations for capital costs associated with the major maintenance, renovation, and development of facilities used for the delivery of human services and health care, or educational opportunities in Vermont communities. This is a 1:1 matching grant award. Grants in this category range from \$1000 - \$25,000. The deadline for this award is November 20, 2015.*

Recreational Facilities Grant Program

The recreational facilities grant program provides competitive grants to municipalities and nonprofit organizations for capital costs associated with the development and creation of community recreational opportunities. The program requires a 1:1 match from the recipient and awards are capped at \$25,000. This program requires that there be demonstrated community support for the project, both in financial and grassroots engagement. The application deadline is November 20, 2015.*

Regional Economic Development Grant Program

The regional economic development grant program is open to municipalities and non-profit organizations to stimulate the creation and development of potentially cost generating activities for Vermont communities. Projects must promote financial engagement in either an individual community or recognized community service area. The program requires a 1:1 match of funding from the recipient. This award is capped at \$25,000 and the application deadline is November 20, 2015.*

For more information, contact:

Department of Buildings and General Services

Phone: 802-828-3314

Email: Judy.Bruneau@vermont.gov

Website: <http://bgs.vermont.gov/formsandpublications>

* After the initial application deadline remaining funding will be awarded on a rolling basis at the convenience of the grants committee.