

Deadline for submitting questions via mail, e-mail or telephone regarding the 2008 Historic Preservation Grant Application is 3 p.m., Wednesday, July 2.

Q & A

2008 PIERCE COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT

The following are typical questions asked about the grant and the answers are provided here for grant seekers who plan to apply for the Historic Preservation Grant in 2008.

1. What is the total funding available for this year's grant?

\$200,000.

2. Who will evaluate and select grant applications for grant award?

Pierce County Landmarks and Historic Preservation (LHP) Commission.

3. What evaluation criteria will be used to select projects for grant award?

Evaluation Matrix applying the following criteria will be used to do the primary level analysis and evaluation: Quality, level of public benefit, level of importance to community or Pierce County at large, capabilities of the applicant and/or project personnel, time urgency, financial need, the size of area and population to be served, contribution to distribution of grant fund throughout the county and leverage.

4. What is the earliest time a grant project can be estimated to start? How far can we go back for those resources/cash we expended toward the project to be counted as match?

Currently, the earliest time for a project to start is estimated to be early-mid September 2008. Those funds/resources you spent up to six months prior to early-mid September can be counted as match – March 1, 2008.

5. What can I include as match? Can we use grants we received from other sources as match?

Cash, in-kind services donated by volunteers, other funds received including grants can be included as match. However, you cannot use grants and other funding appropriations received from the County government as match. Grant funding for the project received from other levels of government such as federal and state can be included as match, so long as they were not received to cover expenses for the specific project aspect or component for which you are applying Pierce County Historic Preservation Grant. In short, "double-dipping" is prohibited. If you are fortunate enough to obtain grants from more than one grantor for the same project aspect/expense, you'd need to decide which grant to accept.

6. Would there be cases that grant award may be less than the grant amount requested by applicants?

In 2008, grant award to each of the selected grant projects will be identical in dollar amount to the grant amount requested by each applicant.

7. When would we get our grant money from Pierce County?

The grant payment is made on a reimbursement basis. Pierce County will pay grant recipients after grant projects are successfully completed per contract and adequate documentation of expenditures is submitted to Pierce County for reimbursement.

8. What is the purpose of notarized affidavit?

Only the grant applicant who is either a property owner or nonprofit organization needs to submit a notarized affidavit. One of the purposes is to make sure that the applicant will be responsible for researching applicable and relevant policies, regulations, and standards so that the grant project will be accomplished consistent with them. Examples include local land use policies, land-use and building regulations, sign code, and historic preservation rehabilitation standards. Another purpose is to make sure the applicant is responsible for the truthfulness of the financial information submitted. A notarized affidavit for a simple statement composed and signed by a grant applicant can be obtained at a local bank or other offices that provide a notary service to the general public.

9. The application guidelines say that we need to submit one signed original application form and 12 copies of the application form. Do we need to submit multiple copies of documents required for documenting the status of our IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations?

A minimum of one copy is sufficient. Just make certain the application packet that contains the signed original application form includes those documents.

All other project-related information such as project description, project personnel, and project budget needs to be submitted in one signed original and 12 copies.

10. Would you contact us to obtain any missing components from our grant applications?

It is each applicant's responsibility to prepare a checklist and check off all required submittal items stated in the application guidelines and form when application packet is put together. What you submit by the application deadline is what Pierce County Landmarks and Historic Preservation Commission will review.

11. Should I try to answer all questions on the application form?

It is up to each applicant to make effective presentation of the project proposed for grant. Detailed description of the project by answering all applicable questions, enabling the LHP Commissioners clearly comprehend what, why, who, where, and how of the proposal would raise the competitiveness of the application.

12. Where do we go to obtain prevailing pay or wage rate for consultants or construction jobs?

Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing) is a good source of information for wage rate for construction related jobs and the minimum wage in Washington State. U.S. Department of Labor (www.dol.gov) is a good source of information for wage/pay rate for a variety of occupations including professional fields. Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (www.dahp.wa.gov) has a list of qualified consultants such as Historians, Historic Architects, and Archaeologist. You may contact those on the list to ask about consultant fees.

13. Can you provide a list of online resources for grant applicants?

Here it is.

Resources for Historic Preservation Grant Seekers

1. Heritage League of Pierce County
<http://www.piercecountyhistory.org>

Provides advocacy for members comprised of historical societies, genealogists, museums, and individuals in Pierce County engaged in activities related to history

2. Washington Museum Association
<http://washingtonstatemuseums.org>

Provides advocacy for members comprised of museums of all types and sizes in Washington State

3. U.S. Department of Labor
<http://www.dol.gov>

Provides wage/pay rate for occupations – Occupational Outlook survey

4. U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Technical Preservation Services

<http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps>

Provides information on the standards and guidelines for historic preservation projects.

5. Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

<http://www.dahp.wa.gov>

Provides a list by county of historic properties designated to historic registers at the national and state levels.

Provides a list of qualifying professionals and consultants in the fields of History, Architecture, and Archaeology.

Provides federal standards for professional qualifications required for historic preservation consultants.

Provides a list of companies that produce the standard National Register

Plaques @ <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/pages/HistoricSites/NationalRegisterPlaques>

6. Washington State History Research Center

<http://www.wshs.org/wshs/research>

The History Research Center is located in Tacoma and provides public access to extensive historical collections and related materials.

7. Pierce County Planning and Land Services Department

Historic Preservation Program

<http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/pc/services/home/property/pals/other/histpreser>

Provides a list of properties designated to Pierce County Register of Historic Places.

8. Washington State Department of Labor and Industries

<http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing>

Provides information on prevailing wages for construction related jobs and occupation; labor regulations; and minimum wage in Washington State.

9. Pierce County Library System

<http://www.piercecountylibrary.org>

The Pierce County Library System is comprised of 18 branches of public libraries located around Pierce County.

Provides information on a variety of subject areas including history and general references.

10. Tacoma Public Library

Main Library (Tacoma Downtown) – Northwest Room

<http://www.tpl.lib.wa.us>

Northwest Room on the mezzanine floor of the Main Library located in downtown Tacoma is a history research center with extensive collections on the area history and history of the Northwest region in general.

Its reference materials include Pierce County Cultural Resource Inventory compiled in 1981-1983, comprised of approximately 1,500 potentially significant historic properties.