

**Small Matching Historic Preservation Grants
Formal Solicitation for Applications
April 1, 2024 – June 3, 2024
for Fiscal Year 2026**

The Florida Department of State is soliciting applications for Small Matching Grant-in-Aid assistance for historic preservation projects. Applications will be accepted **online** at dosgrants.com. The application submission period **will open April 1, 2024, and close at 5:00 p.m. (Eastern) on June 3, 2024** (as June 1st is not a business day). Applications will only be accepted electronically and must be complete to be considered for evaluation.

SMALL MATCHING GRANTS PROGRAM

The purpose of the Small Matching Grants Program is to provide funding to assist local, regional and state-wide efforts to preserve significant historic and archaeological resources, and to promote knowledge and appreciation of the history of Florida. The program does not fund operational support for historic preservation organizations.

Project types include: Survey; Planning; Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places; Heritage Education; and state Historical Markers. For questions about project types or the eligibility of a project or work item, please refer to the *Small Matching Grant Guidelines* on FLHeritage.com/grants.

STATEWIDE PRESERVATION PRIORITIES

Though the Division of Historical Resources will accept applications for all eligible project types, this cycle's priorities are:

- Projects to survey historic resources within the boundaries of (or within close proximity to) active Florida Main Street communities
- Projects that support survey of unrecorded historic sites, or sites that have not been surveyed in 10 or more years
- Projects that support survey of resources in coastal areas or areas vulnerable to flooding.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible Applicant Organizations are either a public entity or an active Florida nonprofit. For questions about eligibility, please refer to the *Small Matching Grant Guidelines*.

AWARD AMOUNT AND MATCH REQUIREMENTS

Maximum award amount: \$50,000 (depending on project type).

Match requirement: 1:1, unless waived as explained below, with a minimum cash match contribution of 25 percent.

Match waiver: Applicants that are Certified Local Governments (CLGs), Florida-based accredited Main Street Programs, and all National Register Nomination projects are eligible for match waivers as stipulated in the *Small Matching Grant Guidelines*. A waiver is also available for projects proposed to be located within REDI-qualified counties or communities at the time of application submission, as stipulated in the *Small Matching Grant Guidelines*. State agencies, state colleges, or state universities are not eligible for a waiver regardless of project location.

APPLICATION RESTRICTIONS

An Applicant Organization may submit only one (1) Small Matching Grant Application under a single application deadline for a particular application cycle. State agencies, county or city governments, or universities may submit single applications from more than one division or department under a single application cycle provided that those divisions or departments are separate and distinct budgetary units, and provided that applications do not address the same facility, project, property, or site.

CLG applicants may submit separate applications for federal funding and state funding under a single application submission period. When applying for federal funds, a CLG Applicant Organization shall apply only for Survey, Planning and National Register Nomination projects. CLGs may also submit a separate application for Heritage Education to compete for state funds. However, no more than two (2) grant applications, one for federal funding and one for state funding, may be submitted under a single application deadline using the CLG match waiver.

APPLICATION REVIEW AND PROJECT SELECTION

Eligible applications will be evaluated on a competitive basis by a Secretary of State appointed Grant Panel in a public meeting. The Grant Panel will review and score applications pursuant to criteria in the *Small Matching Grant Guidelines*, and recommend to the Secretary of State those applications that should be forwarded to the 2025 Legislature for funding consideration in State Fiscal Year 2026.

The Grant Panel's recommendation to the Secretary of State will not result in any immediate grant award. The award and level of funding for each Small Matching project will be subject to specific legislative appropriation.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

For projects receiving funding from the 2025 Legislature, funds will become available after July 1, 2025, which is the beginning of the 2025-2026 State Fiscal Year. To receive grant funds, grantees will be required to sign a Grant Award Agreement containing specific administrative responsibilities. Any unexpended balance of grant funds will revert to the state at the end of the 12-month period, on June 30, 2026.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding proposed projects, eligibility, or the online application form, please call the Historic Preservation Grants Program, Division of Historical Resources, at 800.847.7278 or 850.245.6333 or email at DHRgrants@dos.myflorida.com.