

Date: October 9, 2023

To: Certified Local Government Coordinators

From: Devin Colman, State Architectural Historian
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

2024 CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Funds are Available for Historic Preservation Projects in Your Community!

When is the Application Due?

Applications for 2024 CLG Grants are due **Monday, December 11, 2023**. The Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will review the applications and award the grants at their meeting on January 18, 2024.

Who Can Apply?

The nineteen Vermont communities participating in the Certified Local Government (CLG) program are eligible to apply for grant funding. [Click here](#) for a list of Vermont's CLG communities.

How Much Money is Available?

We anticipate having approximately \$79,126.00 to award to eligible 2024 CLG Grant projects.

How Do I Apply?

The 2024 Grant Application, Budget Form, and Manual are available on our website [here](#).



When Does the Project Have to be Completed?

The grant period for 2024 CLG Grant projects is October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2026. This grant period follows the federal fiscal year. **All projects must be fully completed and submitted for final review and reimbursement no later than August 1, 2026.**

What are the 2024 CLG Funding Priorities?

The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation is encouraging projects that focus on disaster preparation, mitigation, and resilience. Such projects could include a survey to document historic resources in flood-prone areas; an educational project to develop local guidance for property owners about flood proofing and mitigation; or a pre-development project to undertake disaster preparedness assessments for National Register-listed properties in your community.

What are Eligible Projects?

This list is not comprehensive. If you have a project in mind that is not listed here, please contact me.

- **SURVEY** projects must conform to the Vermont Architectural Resource Inventory or Vermont Archaeological Inventory, as appropriate. The survey identifies those buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts which are significant in Vermont's history and pre-history. Depending on the extent of the survey required in the community, it may be advisable to phase the survey over more than one year. For assistance in designing a survey project, the applicant should contact the Division in advance of preparing the grant application. Survey projects are eligible for 60% CLG grant funding.
- **NATIONAL REGISTER** projects, to be the most cost effective, should be for historic districts and/or multiple property nominations identified by the CLG commission, along with the Division, as being eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Historic districts are physically grouped properties that are related historically and/or architecturally. Multiple property listings are those properties which are linked by a common property type or association, such as historic agricultural properties, bridges, mills, etc. Nominations for individual properties are also eligible. The Division can assist in designing these projects, which are eligible for 60% CLG funding.
- **PRESERVATION PLANNING** must be coordinated with the Vermont Historic Preservation Plan, the statewide preservation planning process. The current plan was published in 2016 and is available online [here](#). The plan describes important themes in Vermont's history and pre-history, the historic resources associated with them, and goals for their preservation. Through the survey and National Register process, and applying the information from the plan's themes, a community can identify and evaluate its significant properties and establish goals and priorities for their continued use and protection. This information should be integrated into the community's land planning documents and

conservation efforts. The Division can assist any applicant with planning projects, which are eligible for 60% CLG grant funding.

- **INFORMATION AND EDUCATION** projects inform the public about the value of historic preservation. Every CLG grant project must contain a public information and education component, but a CLG may apply for a grant to do ONLY a public information and education project. This is an excellent way to publicize the workings of the CLG Commission. For example, the CLG could sponsor programs, design and print brochures or facilitate a newspaper series about local historic resources. Special events in May for “National Historic Preservation Week” can be eligible for funding. Training sessions for CLG commission members and municipal staff working with the commission are eligible for funding. Contact the Division for clarification on allowable costs. These projects are eligible for 60% CLG grant funding.
- **PRE-DEVELOPMENT** projects plan for the work necessary to carry out construction work. Architectural plans and specifications, historic structures reports, engineering studies, archaeological testing and feasibility studies are types of pre-development work. To be eligible to apply for a pre-Development grant, the project must be for a property – or properties – listed in the National Register of Historic Places or determined eligible by the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and will be nominated before or as part of the pre-development project. The project must provide information necessary to carry out a development project that will meet the “Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.” The level of information produced by the proposed pre-development project should be determined by the needs of the property. Nevertheless, the products produced by the pre-development grant project must clearly be consistent with the Standards. These projects are eligible for 50% grant funding, or up to 60% if enough CLG funds are available.
- **DEVELOPMENT** projects are actual “bricks and mortar” construction work. To be eligible to apply for a CLG grant for a development project, the project must be for a property listed in the National Register; the property must be owned by the municipality; the property must be open to the public; the property must be accessible to the handicapped; and the project must conform to local and regional plans. In addition, the project must be for stabilization or restoration work – new additions, code improvements, utility systems work, and routine maintenance are ineligible for funding. The project must meet the “Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.” These projects are eligible for 50% grant funding, or up to 60% if enough CLG funds are available.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the 2024 CLG Grants.

I can be reached at 802-585-8246 or devin.colman@vermont.gov.