

The attached **Heritage Grant Rule** is a new rule to be promulgated.

Rule Summary

Arkansas Heritage Grants

This rule establishes the guidelines and process for the administration of a grant program to promote education, awareness and enjoyment of Arkansas's heritage. The rule includes items such as who is eligible to apply for the grant, how applications are evaluated, documentation required by the applicant and the timeline for application and decision. The maximum award per applicant is \$5,000.

Legal Notice Ad

The Department of Arkansas Heritage is instituting a grant program designed to promote education, awareness and enjoyment of Arkansas's heritage. This program will expand the scope of the Heritage Month Grants and may be offered more than one time per year depending on available funding.

The Department is accepting public comment on the grant application rules and procedures through November 30, 2018. Interested persons may review the rules online at www.arkansasheritage.com. Written comments may be returned to Arkansas Heritage Grants, Department of Arkansas Heritage, 1100 North Street, Little Rock, AR 72201. Phone: (501) 324-9150.



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

Arkansas Heritage Grants

The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Since 1975, the Department of Arkansas Heritage (DAH) has been charged with discovering, strengthening, protecting and preserving Arkansas's natural and cultural heritage. To fulfill its mission, the department houses the following natural and cultural heritage resource divisions:

DAH Museums: Museums research, preserve, present and interpret historic structures, objects and natural and cultural assets. They serve as a partner in education with public and private schools throughout Arkansas. The department's four museums are the **Delta Cultural Center, Historic Arkansas Museum, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center and Old State House Museum.**

DAH Resource Divisions: The **Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission** identifies, protects and promotes areas that best exemplify Arkansas's rich heritage of biological diversity. These areas might be habitat for rare or disappearing species, or natural communities such as a tallgrass prairie or a river and its dependent aquatic system. The **Arkansas Arts Council** and the **Arkansas Historic Preservation Program** are conduits for federal and state grant money, and they provide technical assistance for developing and conserving Arkansas's cultural resources. They preserve and promote Arkansas's cultural resources including Arkansas's fine and traditional arts and historic structures, landscapes and archeological sites. The **Arkansas State Archives** collect and preserve the official records and historical materials for the state of Arkansas. These include state, county, and federal records, manuscript materials, newspapers, military records, family histories, an extensive Arkansas history and genealogy library, and a collection of Arkansas art and artifacts.

ARKANSAS HERITAGE GRANTS

GRANT PROGRAM GOALS

The Department of Arkansas Heritage (DAH) has set these goals for Arkansas Heritage Grants:

- promote awareness and enjoyment of Arkansas's heritage
- increase community-based and non-profit groups' abilities to create Arkansas heritage related programs
- make heritage related programs possible where they would otherwise not occur
- foster cooperative efforts among organizations, businesses and government to increase the size or scope of events
- create ongoing components to heritage related celebrations: a curriculum or teaching tool, exhibits, displays, a lively event or festival that can recur, a photographic essay, a roadside exhibit, etc.

APPLICATION BASICS

An Arkansas Heritage Grant proposal should show familiarity with the mission of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, which is to identify Arkansas Heritage and enhance the quality of life by the discovery, preservation, and presentation of the state's cultural, historic and natural resources; grant guidelines; and the goals of the Arkansas Heritage Grant Program.

The grants will be evaluated against the goals of the Arkansas Heritage Grant Program criteria.

Requests for funding will include completing the following sections of the online application:

1. *Project Overview*
2. *Project Description and Justification*
3. *Line Item Budget/Budget Explanation*
4. *Agreement and Authorization*

Answers may be brief. Please use the space provided as directed in the application process.

If you have questions about preparing an Arkansas Heritage Grant application, contact the DAH Grants Manager at the Department of Arkansas Heritage, (501) 324-9150 or via the DAH website.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Arkansas Heritage Grants come from a limited funding source, so not every applicant can be funded. Since that is the case, certain criteria have been established for making Arkansas Heritage Grants to include:

- your organization's relationship to your local community
- the degree to which the proposed project meets the grant program goals as set forth in these guidelines and the Notice of Funding Opportunity
- the local or statewide impact of the project
- whether the program results in an ongoing or lasting component
- the degree to which the project shows collaboration and cooperation among community organizations
- the degree to which the project will foster heritage tourism development
- your organization's mission and sources of income

ARKANSAS HERITAGE GRANTS *WILL NOT*

- exceed \$5,000
- fund academic research unless the research results in an ongoing component that can be shared by the community
- be made to for-profit organizations or events, or directly to agencies of local, county, federal or state government (though collaborative efforts, i.e., friends groups, involving state government agencies are acceptable)
- fund infrastructure (bricks and mortar) construction, staff salaries (although contracted personnel may be paid with grant funds), travel by paid staff members (although travel for contracted personnel is allowed)
- fund ongoing operating costs of the organization.

DECISION PROCESS

The Arkansas Heritage Grant is designed to assist communities in planning and implementing meaningful Arkansas Heritage programs and events at the local level.

Grant proposals will be reviewed by a panel of at least five (5) DAH staff members designated by the Department of Arkansas Heritage Director. This panel will make funding recommendations. Successful applicants will be notified within 60 days of the application deadline.

Anyone with questions about the application criteria or decision-making process should call the DAH Grants Manager at the Department of Arkansas Heritage. See DAH website for contact information or call (501) 324-9150.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

A Notice of Funding Opportunity will be posted sixty (60) days prior to the application deadline. Grant opportunities are subject to available funding.

Only ONE Arkansas Heritage Grant will be made to any one organization during a given grant year. Grant recipients will be required to participate in an orientation program prior to receipt of award as specified by the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

Information about the online application will be located on the DAH website.

