

America 250 Oregon Grant

A GRANT FROM THE AMERICA 250 OREGON COMMISSION

Purpose

The America 250 Oregon Commission, in order to meet its mission to coordinate, provide guidance, and ensure that Oregon's official observance of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States is inclusive and shares the histories of Oregon's diverse populations, including the histories of the Indigenous peoples who have resided here since time immemorial is offering a grant for work related to the commemoration of the anniversary. The funding supports projects associated with the recognition of the semiquincentennial anniversary of the establishment of the United State of America.

Applications will be accepted in three cycles of funding. The grant is awarded on a first come, first served basis.

Eligibility

Organizations

ELIGIBLE

- Nonprofit organizations incorporated in the State of Oregon with a legally constituted board of directors or trustees.
- Local governments
- Public schools
- Universities and colleges
- Federally recognized Tribes in Oregon

NOT ELIGIBLE

- Individuals
- Religious organizations
- For-profit organizations
- State and Federal agencies

Number of awards per organization

One organization may receive one grant award per grant cycle. However, if the organization has received a grant in the first cycles, their application will be held until the end of the later cycle application period. Applicants that did not receive a grant in the first cycle will be prioritized over those that did.

Projects

Project Types

- Events, exhibitions, and programming
- Collections processing and development (including acquisition)
- Research and interpretation

Project Requirements

- All events, exhibitions, and programming must be accessible to the public. K-12 public schools can offer programs to students without inviting the general public.
- Funded projects may not be primarily intended as fundraisers, but may charge a fee.
- Projects must support the America 250 Oregon mission to ensure that Oregon's official observance of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United State is inclusive and shares the histories of Oregon's diverse populations, including the histories of the Indigenous peoples who have lived here since time immemorial and align with one or more of the seven guideposts of America 250 Oregon.
 - To inspire Oregonians to participate in the forming of a more perfect union.
 - To highlight the importance of civics and history education in building a better future.
 - To highlight the work of Oregon's many history and heritage organizations.
 - To encourage a robust, thorough, and honest examination of our collective history.
 - To celebrate the unique traditions, arts, and cultures of communities throughout Oregon.
 - To honor the service and sacrifice of made by Oregon veterans.
 - To celebrate the power of place through Oregon's remarkable landscapes and scenic beauty.

Financial Information

Award Amount

The America 250 Oregon Commission originally allocated \$100,000 of the funding provided by the Oregon State Legislature toward this grant program. And additional \$50,000 as been approved for a third grant cycle.

- Awards will be up to \$3000 each.
- 50% of the funds are slated to be awarded to organizations in rural communities. For the purposes of this grant a rural community is under 30,000 in population and outside the Portland Metro urban growth boundary.

Match

No match is required.

Use of Funds

Funds can be used for equipment purchase, staffing, materials, supplies, volunteer support, promotion and marketing, and other costs directly associated with the funded project.

Grant Coordination

Oregon Heritage and Oregon Historical Society have teamed to coordinate the grant for the America 250 Oregon Commission. Oregon Heritage is coordinating the application, selection, and reporting processes. Oregon Historical Society (OHS) will disburse the funds to Grantees.

Grant Process

The America 250 Oregon Grant is a noncompetitive grant. Organizations apply using an online [form](#) that requires basic organizational, budget, and project information. A project and organization that meets the grant eligibility and requirements will be awarded funds based on the order of submission until funds are fully allocated for each category (urban and rural) and for each cycle. \$50,000 is available in cycle one, \$25,000 each for rural and urban communities. At the end of the cycle one application period, remaining funds from the first cycle will be allocated to the second cycle. At least \$50,000 is available in cycle two, \$25,000 each for rural and urban communities. At the end of the cycle three application period, remaining funds in the rural or urban categories may be award in the other category. At least \$50,000 is available in cycle three, \$25,000 each for rural and urban communities. At the end of the cycle three application period, remaining funds in the rural or urban categories may be award in the other category.

Timeline

There will be three grant application periods, allowing for organizations that have not yet prepared a project to have an opportunity to have access to funds in the first-come, first-served grant process.

APPLICATION CYCLE 1

September 15 – November 1, 2025 or until funds are expended

APPLICATION CYCLE 2

January 5 – March 1, 2026 or until funds are expended

APPLICATION CYCLE 3

March 4, 8:00 a.m. – April 3, 2026 or until funds are expended

GRANT PERIOD

The grant period begins when the grant agreement is signed. Grant funds will be distributed upon award. Only work completed during the grant period which is between the agreement start date and June 30, 2027.

Applications Questions

Please provide responses using the online application [form](#). Prepare your responses before starting the application. You will not be able to save your responses and sign back in to complete the application.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

- Organization Name:
- Organization Mailing Address:
- Organization Website (if available):
- Organization Tax ID:

- Organization County:
- Organization Type (select one):
 - Nonprofit organizations incorporated in the State of Oregon with a legally constituted board of directors or trustees.
 - Local government
 - Public school
 - University or college
 - Federally recognized Tribe in Oregon
- What is the population of community where the organization is based?
- Is the community where the organization is based outside of the Portland Metro Urban Growth Boundary? ([map link](#))

CONTACTS

- Application Contact
 - Name:
 - Phone:
 - Email address:
- Financial Contact (can be the same as other contacts)
 - Name:
 - Phone:
 - Email address:
- Signature Authority Contact
 - Name:
 - Phone:
 - Email address:

PROJECT INFORMATION

- Project Name (50 characters max):
- Project Description (1000 characters max):
- Alignment with America 250 Oregon Mission: Projects must support the America 250 Oregon mission to ensure that Oregon's official observance of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United State is inclusive and shares the histories of Oregon's diverse populations, including the histories of the Indigenous peoples who have lived here since time immemorial, and align with at least one of the seven guideposts of America 250 Oregon.

Select the guidepost(s) that best fit(s) your project:

- To inspire Oregonians to participate in the forming of a more perfect union.
- To highlight the importance of civics and history education in building a better future.
- To highlight the work of Oregon's many history and heritage organizations.
- To encourage a robust, thorough, and honest examination of our collective history.
- To celebrate the unique traditions, arts, and cultures of communities throughout Oregon.
- To honor the service and sacrifice made by Oregon veterans.
- To celebrate the power of place through Oregon's remarkable landscapes and scenic beauty.

Explains how the America 250 Oregon guidepost(s) you selected is/are represented in your project (700 characters max):

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- Enter the total project cost:
- Enter the grant request amount (\$3000 max):

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- Complete W-9

Award Process

All applications will be reviewed by an Oregon Heritage Commission advisory panel to ensure the project meets eligibility requirements. Applications are collected every two weeks during the application period. The review could take up to three weeks.

If approved, the applicant will be sent a grant agreement for signature before award funds are distributed.

Project Requirements, Completion and Reporting

GRANT REQUIREMENTS

- Grant funds must be used as proposed in the application.
- Project materials must acknowledge the America 250 Oregon Commission and include its logo.
- Grantees must complete a final report.

GRANT DEADLINE

The deadline to complete projects and submit reports is June 30, 2027.

REPORTING

Grantees must submit a final grant report responding to the following questions.

- What was the public benefit of the project?
- Who participated in the activity?
- About how many people participated in the activity?
- Submit 3-5 photos of the activity.

Reports can be submitted using the submission form.

Questions and Information

Visit the America 250 Oregon Commission website for information and links to application and reporting forms. Contact Kuri Gill at kuri.gill@opr.d.oregon.gov or 503-986-0685 for specific questions.