



GRANT PROGRAM CRITERIA

Staff is available to assist you with your questions or discuss your application in advance of its submission. You are encouraged to call early in

Your Vision: "CRNHA seeks to implement programs that engage community partnerships and through application, natural resource management, heritage tourism, and planning."

Our Mission: "CRNHA's mission is to preserve and promote the cultural and natural resources of Cane River and encourage economic development by strengthening heritage tourism in the region."

GOAL OF THE GRANT PROGRAM

Cane River National Heritage Area is a place where American Indian, French, Spanish, African, and Anglo-American cultures combined to create a way of life dependent on the land, river, and each other.

Designated by Congress in 1994, Cane River National Heritage Area is a non-profit organization that works to identify, preserve, and promote the unique culture of the Cane River region so more people can understand and celebrate our region's diverse and nationally important heritage.

Like most NHA's, Cane River NHA uses a grassroots, community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development. Through public-private partnerships, Cane River NHA supports Historic Preservation, Conservation & Collections Management, Land & Water Conservation, Recreation, Heritage Education & Interpretation, Promotion & Marketing. Leveraging funds and long-term support for projects, Cane River NHA partnerships foster pride of place and an enduring stewardship ethic.

The CRNHA Grant Program is an integral component of the Cane River National Heritage Area's operation and heritage preservation advancement within our region. Our Program Goal is to provide individuals, communities, and organizations a resource to support, cultivate or facilitate projects that align with our Mission and commitment to the Cane River Area's cultural legacy.

Projects receiving funding through this program become a link in a partnership chain that starts at the federal level with Congress and ends at the grassroots level with local organizations and communities.

ELIGIBLE GRANT PPLICANTS

Eligible grant applicants are individuals or organizations requesting funding for projects that will be implemented within the boundaries of Cane River National Heritage Area (CRNHA).

Eligible applicants include private citizens and property owners, educational institutions, federally recognized tribes, local businesses, commuions, religious organizations, non-profit organizations, and government entities (state and local).

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Eligible projects are those that are located within the boundaries of the national heritage area, closely align with the Mission of CRNHA, and provide long-term outcomes that directly or indirectly benefit the local community. Eligible projects should fall under the following project categories:

HISTORIC PRESERVATION & ENHANCEMENT

Projects that assist in the preservation, stabilization, and/or restoration of historic properties or other cultural resources that are at least 50-years old and listed on, or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Private owners of historical property may seek grant funding for preservation work on the exterior façade and structural elements of historic property.

** Funding will not be granted for interior work. Property owners applying for funding must include a copy of the bid/agreement with cost estimate and scope of work from the contractor with their application.

CONSERVATION & COLLECTIONS

The conservation and protection of tangible (i.e. archeological and cultural artifacts, artwork) and intangible (i.e. language, practices) cultural heritage resources; the documentation and archiving of historical records and accounts (i.e., photographic documentation, oral histories, video dairies, historic recordings, and mapping). Projects can include archival conservation, educational programs and fellowships, electronic recordation grants, and publications grants.

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION

The protection of natural resources (i.e. native plant species, waterways, historic transportation routes, earthen works, and historic landscapes). Projects that assist in the conservation of sensitive landscapes, such as those adjacent to nationally significant historic properties within CRNHA.

RECREATION

The development and enhancement of public spaces; development of programs that seek to improve the quality of life through health and leisure activities; trail development and enhancement; interpretive signage; park development and enhancement; lighting and security for public spaces; development of local tourism activities.

HERITAGE EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

Heritage education and interpretation projects help to preserve and provide access to cultural and educational resources, strengthen teaching and learning in schools and colleges, promote research and scholarship, provide opportunities for lifelong learning, and strengthen the understanding of the Cane River region.

PROMOTION & MARKETING

Public outreach and marketing efforts for events directly related to promoting cultural heritage

and tourism in the Cane River Area. **Routine social events such as fundraisers, picnics, parties, or parades are not eligible for funding.

SECTION 106 REVIEW

For all projects involving National Register eligible or listed properties, including landscapes, structures, and buildings, CRNHA must submit a Section 106 Review to the State of Louisiana Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for review and approval. This process takes approximately 30-days. CRNHA will provide technical assistance to awardees to complete the review process. The Section 106 approval letter must be received from the SHPO before the project can begin.

GRANTS & APPLICATIONS

Award Ceiling: \$10,000

Award Floor: \$500

Grants range from \$500-\$10,000, with the majority of grants between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

FUNDING

****Funds are allocated on a reimbursable basis upon receipt of invoicing and final report.**

What does this mean? To receive payment, you must present all receipt(s) or invoice from a third party totaling the amount of your requested funding (or less) to receive the money awarded to your project after its completion. You must also complete and submit a copy of the final report and final invoicing forms before receiving reimbursement.

Under no circumstances should the recipient begin work on the grant project until the agreement has been signed by both a CRNHA representative and the grant recipient. Failure to follow this guideline will result in the revocation of your grant.

INELIGIBLE REQUESTS FOR FUNDING

CRNHA grant programs do not support requests for:

- General operating support
- Endowments

- The same project less than one year apart
- Retroactive funding for projects that have been complete or will be complete prior to the grant decision date
- Fundraising events, the purchase of tickets for benefits, or courtesy advertising
- Projects that seek to directly or indirectly influence legislation or election campaigns; activities related to influencing government policies, permitting, or regulations will not be considered
- Higher education scholarships.

MATCHING FUNDS

A 50/50 match is required for all eligible projects.

Projects funded through the CRNHA Grant Program must provide matching funds at the time of application.

Matching funds may be a combination of cash and in-kind products or services. In-kind matches must be directly attributable to the project. Unpaid personnel time for employees, volunteers, and consultants and contributions of services, materials, and supplies are considered an in-kind match and must be documented.

Unacceptable matches include operating costs of sites/organizations and routine repair, utility, and maintenance costs for office sites.

GRANTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Before any work is done in developing a proposal, the authorizing official of the applicant organization should review the following section on the grantee's responsibilities to determine if his/her organization can comply with federal requirements as laid out in OMB Circulars A-87, 102, 110, & 133. For more information, please contact our offices or visit www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/circulars.

PROJECT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must answer and provide information for all the questions and fields in the application. The application is a three-page document that includes a proposal form and budget summary.

The signature of the project manager or authorizing official of the applicant organization, or individual, is required. By signing the application, the applicant certifies: that to the best of their knowledge and belief, data in the application is true and correct, including commitment of local resources; the document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant; and the applicant will comply with all applicable federal and state requirements, including the above if funding is approved.

I. Budget Form

The budget must include the project costs that will be charged to the grant funds and those supported by the applicant or third-party cash and in-kind contributions. A sample budget summary is included in the application packet.

APPLICATION REVIEW & SCORING /CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All Competitive and Small Request Grant applications will be reviewed and scored by an advisory panel made up of key stakeholders who understand the Mission and goals CRNHA. The

panel will make recommendations for funding to the CRNHA, Inc. Board of Directors. The CRNHA, Inc. Board of Directors will approve all grant awards. Projects will be scored based on the following criteria:

1. Alignment with the Mission of CRNHA.
2. Adherence to historic preservation standards and a commitment to accuracy in historic and cultural interpretation. The project's ability to provide research or information that will enhance and promote the history of the Cane River Area.
3. The project's ability to reach or serve diverse and underserved populations.
4. Project's ability to provide protection to a resource (tangible/intangible) that is under threat.
5. Budget and organizational capacity necessary to implement and complete the project.

Cane River NHA is subject and compliant to the State of Louisiana Code of Ethics Policy. To maintain the highest standards of fairness in the competition for grants, any member of the staff, advisory panel, or Board of Directors will abstain from deliberating or voting on any proposal in which he/she is connected through employment, through service as an unpaid consultant to the project, or as an officer or other representative. Staff members are available for questions and information only, the responsibility of preparing the application is solely that of the requesting entity.

SOLICITATION

CRNHA does not permit solicitation for charitable donations at its offices or among staff members.

For more information or questions regarding the grant program contact:

Cane River National Heritage Area
318-356-5555
canerivernha.org
4115 University Parkway, Natchitoches

We are proud to be in partnership with the National Park Service and members of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas.