



North Dakota 250th Commission ND250 Community Initiatives Grant 2025

The ND250 Grant Program is a state-funded initiative of the North Dakota 250th Commission, administered by the State Historical Society of North Dakota. Its mission is to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States through inclusive community projects and events that inspire North Dakotans to renew and strengthen our democracy.

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to non-profit organizations, as well as city, county, or tribal governments, for projects related to the celebration of the past 250 years of North Dakota's people, places, innovations, and achievements contributing to the nation's story during America's 250th anniversary. Eligible projects may include:

- Implementing tours
- Hosting exhibits or public programs
- Creating educational materials
- Organizing travel to Bismarck to visit the ND250 exhibit at the North Dakota Heritage Center & State Museum (Opening June 2026)

For a complete list of allowable and unallowable expenses, please refer to the grant guidelines. Interested eligible organizations that have a project they wish to be considered for an award should thoroughly read the guidelines. Application will be reviewed quarterly starting October 1, 2025 and grants will be awarded until funds are exhausted.

Application information: <https://www.nd.gov/north-dakotas-celebration-americas-250th>

GRANT GUIDELINES

1. The following organizations are eligible to apply for ND250 Grants:
 - organizations with officially recognized 501(c)3 non-profit status
 - legally organized subsidiaries of city, county, or tribal government
2. The following are ineligible to apply for a ND250 grant:
 - Individuals
 - Projects that have been started or completed prior to awarding of the grant (this does not include preliminary planning)
3. Grant funds cannot be used to:
 - Establish endowments.
 - Purchase collections.
 - Fund-raising activities.
 - New construction.
 - Administer the grant.

4. Qualified organizations may apply for a grant of any amount up to and including \$10,000. A 20% match for grant funds is required and can be in the form of cash or in-kind. The total project cost includes the grant funds and the cash match.
5. Eligible organizations are limited to one grant application.
6. A 20% match for grant funds must be demonstrated in the grant application. Matching funds may be in cash or in-kind. In-kind matches (donated labor, supplies, and equipment) must be used in the specific project supported by the grant funds, not for work completed prior to the applications or award of the grant. Donated time for in-kind will be valued at \$25 per hour or as documented for professional services.
7. Application Deadlines
 - Grant Application will be available August 1, 2025
 - All applications must be submitted via WebGrants portal. <https://grants.nd.gov/>
 - Application will be reviewed Quarterly on the following schedule:
 - Round 1: October 1, 2025
 - Round 2: January 1, 2026
 - Round 3: April 1, 2026
 - Round 4: July 1, 2026
8. Grant recipients will be notified of grant status within 30 days after review deadline. A grant may be approved for all, or a portion of the amount requested in the proposal.
9. Projects must be completed by **December 31, 2026**.
10. On-site visits may be scheduled by ND250 Commission members during the term of the project. A final report identifying how the grant funds were used and describing the completed project in comparison with the grant proposal must be filed by within 30 days of completion of project or by January 31, 2027.
11. Grant funds will be distributed by reimbursement, after a project is completed, and final report submitted with request for reimbursement.
12. Any unused funds resulting from uncompleted or unacceptable projects may be allocated by the Society to other projects that can be completed by the deadline.
13. Completed applications must be submitted on WebGrants portal: <https://grants.nd.gov/>
14. This is a **competitive** grant. Failure to address all criteria will eliminate the application from further consideration.

15. For any questions relating to the grant application, proposed projects or application process please contact:

Melissa Klocke

ND250 ND Coordinator

701-328-6073

melissaklocke@nd.gov

Amy Munson

Grants & Contracts Officer

701-328-3573

amunson@nd.gov

Allowable Expenses

Project must align with ND250 mission to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States through inclusive community projects and events that inspire North Dakotans to renew and strengthen our democracy. Possible projects must be offered at no cost to the public and could include:

- Implementing tours, exhibitions, or other public programs.
- Speakers/Scholar, screenings, discussion series, book club kits.
 - A scholar is defined for this project as an individual having either an advanced degree (MA or PhD) or as a recognized expert having special knowledge or experience. Community events and family programs.
- Exhibits (permanent or temporary) including interpretation, public art.
- Digital projects resulting in virtual exhibitions, web content, or virtual tours.
- Educational materials and curriculum development for K-12 and higher education purposes.
- Research leading to documentary films, exhibits, books, or other products.
- Trip to the North Dakota State Heritage Center & State Museum to view ND250 exhibit or trip to a local organization to view ND250 exhibit or program (\$1,000 max).

Unallowable

- Capital assets, expenses or repairs including land, vehicles, machinery, and construction
- Contracts including extended warranties, subscriptions or maintenance that extend beyond the grant period
- Staff salaries and benefits
- Weapons
- Fireworks
- Alcoholic beverages
- Food or Beverage
- Decorations
- Parade
- Endowment
- Purchase collections
- Fund raising activities
- Merchandise
- Advertising
- Administration of the grant

GRANT APPLICATION CRITERIA

Section 1 – Project Narrative

1. Description of project (what is the project, how will the grant funds be utilized and where will the project be located?)
2. What is the projected timeline for the proposed project?

Section 2 - Project's Relevance to North Dakota History

1. Describe how the project will benefit the organization, community, region and/or state.
2. How does the proposed project integrate with existing or planned projects and activities by other local and/or regional groups? (is this a one-time event or ongoing?)
3. What is the project's importance to the local area and how is it tied to the heritage of North Dakota and the celebration of America's 250th anniversary?

Section 3 - Financial & Budget Description

1. What is the total cost of the proposed project?
2. What are the individual cost items that make up the total. Justification for each cost item must be provided (ie: how did you come up with the price? A professional quote, research online for the going rate...)
 - a. Sample:
Cost Item: Rent facility for 8-hour event \$150 per hour
Justification of cost: Quote from owner of space
Total Cost: \$1,200
3. A 20% match is required for all grants. Donated time for in-kind will be valued at \$25 per hour or as documented for professional services. (Please note: grant administration fees cannot be paid by grant funds; however, the value can be used as a match).

Section 4 – Evaluation, Sustainability & Publicity

1. How will the project's success be evaluated?
2. Describe how the applicant will publicly recognize the ND250 Commission and the State Historical Society for grant funding.