National Park Service

CRFA-PGC - Cultural Resources Financial Assistance

2024
P24AS00542

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A. Program Description

Authority:

Legislative Authority:

- 54 USC §302904 - Direct grants for the preservation of properties included in the National Register of Historic Places
- 54 USC 300301 et seq. (National Historic Preservation Act)
- Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024, enacted as Public Law 118-42

Federal Regulations: 2 C.F.R. § 200, 2 C.F.R. § 1402, 36 C.F.R. § 68

Other Authority: Executive Order 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

Assistance Listing:

15.966

Program Background, Objectives, and Goals:

The National Park Service's (NPS) African American Civil Rights Grant Program (AACR) will document, interpret, and preserve the sites and stories of the full history of the African American struggle to gain equal rights, from transatlantic slave trade forward. The program funds history and preservation projects using the NPS report, Civil Rights in America, A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites, as a guide in determining the appropriateness of proposed projects and properties. Grants are awarded through a competitive process and do not require non-Federal match.

There are separate funding announcements for physical preservation projects and for history/research/documentation projects in addition to this announcement. Funding

announcement P24AS00541 is for physical preservation of historic sites only; P24AS00540 is for history/research/documentation projects. Please ensure you apply under the correct opportunity number for your project.

This opportunity, P24AS00542, provides members of the African American Civil Rights Network (AACRN), including NPS Master Cooperators, funding for physical preservation projects. Applicants must be documented members of the AACRN at the time of application. Of the $24 million total available, $5 million is designated for this opportunity.

FY2024 Public Law 118-42 provides $24,000,000 for the AACR Grant Program to include this announcement as well as preservation and history announcements.

Funded projects:

- Preservation projects under this NOFO may not exceed $5 million in federal share, of which no more than 20% of the total budget may go toward pre-preservation costs such as architectural or engineering services.
- Grants fund physical preservation of historic sites to include historic districts, buildings, sites, structures, and objects. Projects must comply with applicable laws, such as Section 106, 110, and NEPA, and execute a preservation easement.
- Eligible costs include pre-preservation studies, architectural plans and specifications, historic structure reports, preservation plans, and the repair and rehabilitation of historic properties according to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*.
- Properties must be listed **or eligible for listing** in the National Register of Historic Places or designated a National Historic Landmark, either individually or as contributing to a district, whose significance is associated with African American civil rights and the struggle for equality. Projects not listed in the National Register or not listed in association with African American civil rights **must** prepare or amend a nomination as part of the grant project.
- Projects funded under this NOFO will only be awarded to documented members of the African American Civil Rights Network (including NPS Master Cooperators) at the time of application.

RELATED PROGRAM REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION:
NPS African American Civil Rights Network
The African American Civil Rights Network (AACRN) is a voluntary designation program that aims to present a comprehensive narrative of the people, places, and events associated with the African American Civil Rights movement in the United States. Documented membership must be in place at the time of application.

Please visit https://www.nps.gov/subjects/civilrights/african-american-civil-rights-network.htm if you would like to apply for the African American Civil Rights Network (AACRN). **Questions about membership should be directed to: aacrn@nps.gov .**

Please note that the AACRN is **not connected** with the AACR Grants Program. Becoming a

member of the AACRN will **NOT** guarantee a grant in any way. AACRN is not a competitive program; all properties, facilities, and programs that meet the requirements will be added to the Network and will be eligible to use the program logo in limited fashion, with permission, and to receive technical assistance. AACRN membership is a requirement for application to P24AS00542.

For information on membership in the African American Civil Rights Network, contact aacrn@nps.gov .

Funding Opportunity Goals

- To document, interpret, and preserve the sites and stories of the full history of the African American struggle to gain equal rights in America, from transatlantic slave trade forward.

B. Federal Award Information

B1. Total Funding

Estimated Total Funding
$5,000,000

B2. Expected Award Amount

Maximum Award
$5,000,000

Minimum Award
$750,000

Projects must range from $750,000 to $5,000,000 in federal share, of which no more than 20% of the total budget may go toward pre-preservation costs such as architectural or engineering services.

B3. Anticipated Award Funding and Dates

Anticipated Award Date
March 01, 2025

Projects receiving funding through this Notice of Funding Opportunity may start once funding has been secured and awards have been made. Agreements are not effective until released through Grant Solutions by the NPS Financial Assistance Awarding Officer (FAAO). Work performed before the grant award will not be eligible expenses for the grant. **Do not anticipate a start date sooner than 6 months following the application deadline**.

B4. Number of Awards

Expected Number of Awards
3
1 to 5 awards anticipated.

B5. Type of Award

Funding Instrument Type
G - Grant
Grant Agreement - A legal instrument of financial assistance between The National Park Service and a non-Federal entity that, consistent with 31 U.S.C. § 6302, 6304:
(1) Is used to enter into a relationship the principal purpose of which is to transfer anything of value from the Federal awarding agency to the non-Federal entity to carry out a public purpose authorized by a law of the United States (see 31 U.S.C. § 6101(3)); and not to acquire property or services for the Federal awarding agency's direct benefit or use;
(2) Is distinguished from a cooperative agreement in that it does not provide for substantial involvement between the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity and the non-Federal entity in carrying out the activity contemplated by the Federal award.
Substantial Involvement:
No substantial involvement on the part of the National Park Service (NPS) is anticipated.

C. Eligibility Information

C1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants
25 – Others (see text field entitled "Additional Information on Eligibility" for clarification)
Additional Information on Eligibility
Eligible applicants are current members of the National Park Service African American Civil Rights Network at the time of application. For information on membership in the African American Civil Rights Network, contact aacrn@nps.gov .

C2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement
No
Non-Federal cost share is not required.

C3. Other

Program Requirements

1. Applications for renewal or supplementation of existing projects are not eligible. Each application must be for a separate phase if it is a part of a multi-phase project, and **significant progress** must be demonstrated on prior phases to warrant additional funding. Applicants may be excluded if progress has not been demonstrated.
2. Projects funded under this program constitute "undertakings" as defined by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended (54 U.S.C. 306108). Accordingly, after the grant is awarded, the National Park Service will work with the grantee to complete the consultation process for Section 106.
3. Section 110 of the NHPA will apply to National Historic Landmarks.
4. All projects will also be reviewed for effects under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA).
5. All work will be reviewed to ensure it meets the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.*
6. If the project is doing preservation work to or preparing a National Register nomination for a property and the owner is different from the applicant, then the applicant must include written permission from the owner to proceed with the project, including agreeing to any required easements or covenants. The Letter of Owner Consent must be submitted with the application, signed no earlier than 60 days before the application due date, and pertain to the proposed project with this particular application. Previous letters of owner consent will not be accepted.
7. For archaeological surveys, provide plans for curating any artifacts recovered incidentally, including any strategies for outreach and the sharing of survey reports, research, results, etc. These will also require NEPA and NPS review prior to surveying.
8. For properties not National Register-listed for association with the struggle to obtain equal rights, before a grant will be considered complete, an amendment to an existing National Register or National Historic Landmark nomination to include association with the struggle to obtain equal rights must be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office and approved by the NPS.
9. Administration costs plus indirect costs necessary to complete and administer the program cannot exceed 25% of total cost (admin and indirect combined). This limitation for the Historic Preservation Fund is by statute, 54 U.S.C. 302902. Equipment and other capital asset expenditures, such as acquisition, renovation or alteration, are unallowable as indirect costs per 2 CFR 200.439.b.7. Capital assets are defined under 2 CFR 200.1.
10. All projects from application through close out must follow all requirements set out in 2 CFR 200 including procurement requirements.
11. Preparation of architectural/engineering plans and specifications not to exceed 20% of the total project cost.
12. Historic Preservation Fund Easement Requirement: Section 54 USC 302902 (b)(1)(c) of the National Historic Preservation Act requires that Historic Preservation Fund grantees

agree to assume, after the completion of the project, the total cost of continued maintenance, repair and administration of the grant-assisted property in a manner satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior. Accordingly, recipients awarded funds for the physical preservation of a historic site shall sign a Preservation Covenant/Easement with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in which the site is located or with a nonprofit preservation organization acceptable and approved in writing by the NPS.

A draft covenant/easement must be submitted to the NPS for review within one calendar year of the date of the Notice of Award. Following the completion of all grant-assisted work, the preservation covenant/easement must document the grant-assisted condition of the site and the character defining features. The covenant/easement must then be executed by registering it with the deed of the property. A certified copy of the executed covenant/easement must be submitted to the NPS prior to the end of the award period of performance.

The term of the preservation covenant/easement is dependent on the amount of assistance the historic property receives from this opportunity:

1. If the historic property is not currently protected by a preservation covenant/easement, a preservation covenant/easement must be executed for a term as given in the table below per the amount of funding awarded.
2. If the historic property is currently subject to a preservation covenant/easement that meets the minimum federal preservation requirements, an extension must be executed for an additional duration to meet the requirements of the new funding awarded. Required term is identified in the table below. For example, if a property had 10 years remaining on a previous 20-year easement, and receives $300,000 in HPF funding, an amendment to add 15 years would be required. This includes previous grants from the NPS HPF.
3. If the historic property is currently protected by a perpetual or other preservation covenant/easement that meets or exceeds the requirements of this grant program as determined by the NPS, no additional duration or restrictions are necessary.

Amount of Federal Assistance Awarded	Covenant/Easement Term Requirement
$1-$50,000	5-year minimum preservation agreement; a covenant/easement amending the deed is not required
$50,001 - $250,000	10-year minimum preservation covenant/easement
$250,001 - $500,000	15-year minimum preservation covenant/easement
$500,001- $750,000	20-year minimum preservation covenant/easement
$750,001+	25-year minimum preservation covenant/easement

Eligible costs

Eligible costs under this award are as described in this Notice, 2 CFR 200, and the Historic Preservation Fund Grants Manual (HPF Manual).

For this program they also include:

- Administrative costs necessary to complete and administer the grant requirements;
- Rehabilitation of historic properties;

    - Eligible properties include historic districts, buildings, sites, structures and objects listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or listing in relevant Tribal Register,
    - Properties not listed for association with civil rights that receive funding must complete and submit a nomination as part of the project,
    - All work must meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*,
    - All projects involving physical preservation work must enter into a preservation agreement/covenant/easement,
    - Projects must substantially mitigate the threat and include steps to mitigate future damage;
- Cost for producing or amending a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places or Tribal Register (if applicable);
- Cost for establishing/administering an easement/covenant for the property;
- Cost for any required audits or financial requests;
- Cost for the production of a project sign;
- Costs for public notice of grant award;
- Costs associated with required training or reporting; and
- Any other costs as determined eligible by the NPS in accordance with the OMB circulars, NPS policies, and the Historic Preservation Fund Grants Manual.

What Is Not Funded

- Construction of new buildings;
- Acquisition of collections or historic sites;
- Long-term maintenance or curatorial work beyond the grant period;
- Reconstructing historic properties (recreating all or a significant portion that no longer exists);
- Moving historic properties or work on moved historic properties that are no longer eligible for listing in the National Register;
- Cash reserves, endowments, revolving funds, or fund-raising costs;
- Work performed prior to receipt of grant funding;
- Sites or collections owned or leased by the NPS, or in which the NPS holds a property interest, are not eligible grant funding;
- Lobbying or advocacy activities;
- Costs for work already completed or funded through other programs;
- Administrative costs plus indirect costs beyond 25% of the total project budget;
- Miscellaneous costs, contingencies, reserves, and overhead.

NPS Oversight

The NPS will provide oversight of this grant project through the following NPS reviews:

- Review and approval of interim and final reporting to include compliance with 2 CFR 200;
- Review and approval for compliance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation;*

- Review and approval for compliance with Sections 106 (54 U.S.C. § 306108) and 110f (54 U.S.C. § 306107) of the National Historic Preservation Act in coordination with the appropriate State or Tribal Historic Preservation Office;
- Review and approval for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); and

Any other reviews as determined by the NPS based on program needs or financial/programmatic risk factors (i.e. Draft National Register nomination if required, Architectural plans at 80%, etc.).

Excluded Parties:

NPSconducts a review of the SAM.gov Exclusions database for all applicant entities and their key project personnel prior to award. The NPS cannot award funds to entities or their key project personnel identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits, as their ineligibility condition applies to this Federal program.

Sites or collections owned or leased by the NPS, or in which the NPS holds a property interest are not eligible for funding.

Foreign Entities or Projects

This program does not provide funding to foreign entities or for projects conducted outside the United States.

D. Application and Submission Information

D1. Address to Request Application Package

All application information and documentation can be found on grants.gov under opportunity number P24AS00542 for African American Civil Rights Network (AACRN) for physical preservation projects. P24AS00541 for preservation projects. P24AS00540 for history projects.

A full application consists of:

Documents 1 through 8 will be available within the “Manage Workspace” Page

1. SF-424 (Application for Financial Assistance)
2. SF-424A (Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs)
3. SF-424B (Assurance for Non-Construction Programs)

***Note: ALL applicants must fill out the SF-424A and SF-424B, they are mandatory for all grant applications.**

4. SF-424C (Budget Information for Construction Programs)
5. SF-424D (Assurance for Construction Programs)
6. SF-LLL (Disclosure of Lobbying Activities), if anticipated award is over $100,000. If your organization does not participate in lobbying activities, simply put N/A in the appropriate sections.
7. Project Abstract Summary

8. Attachments Form

Documents 9 through 12 can be found on the "Related Documents" tab within the Grants.gov opportunity, not within Workspace.

9. Project Description Worksheet
10. Budget Justification Worksheet

- Do you have policies and procedures in place that meet the financial management standards in 2 CFR 200.302? NPS may ask for copies of policies if selected for funding.
- Do you have a single audit and was it submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse? If no, do you have another type of audit or other annual financial statement?
- Can you certify that there will be no overlap of Federal Funding?
- Attach a complete set of financial statements including:
    - Balance sheet/Statement of Financial Position
    - Statement of Revenue and Expense/Statement of Activities
    - Statement of Cash Flow

11. Project Images Worksheet
12. National Register Eligibility Worksheet
13. Proof of AACRN Membership
14. Indirect Cost Statement (See D6. Funding Restrictions below)
15. Letters of Support (Submit if applicable, see below)
16. Letter of Owner Consent (Submit if applicable, see below)

Materials not specifically requested as part of the application may not be reviewed, nor will attachments take the place of a completed application.

There is no required sequence or naming convention for attaching items to the Attachments Form.

D2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Project Narrative

- Project descriptions must address each of the evaluation criteria separately and applications will be reviewed with the rubric as a guide as part of the merit evaluation process.
- NPS will evaluate and consider only those applications that separately address each of the criteria listed in Section E.
- A Project Description Worksheet format is included under the "Related Documents" tab on grants.gov which includes all character limits. Each criterion is limited to 6,000 characters including spaces. No additional sections will be reviewed.

SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

Applicants must submit the appropriate Standard Form (SF)-424, Application for Federal Assistance. Individuals applying as a private citizen (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own or operate in your name), must complete the SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance-Individual form. All other applicants must complete the standard SF-424,

Application for Federal Assistance. The required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. The SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance must be complete, signed, and dated. Do not include any proprietary or personally identifiable information. Please note: Enter only the amount requested from this Federal program in the "Federal" funding box on the SF-424 Application form. Include any other Federal sources of funding in the "Other" box and provide details on those Federal source(s) and funding amount(s) in the required Budget Narrative (see the "Budget Narrative" section below).

- Complete this form as much as possible with all applicable information.
- Note: You must provide your ZIP Code + 4, 0000 is not acceptable. Your Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) must exactly match the UEI under your SAM.gov record.

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424 Budget Information form and Budget Narrative. For non-construction programs or projects, applicants must complete and submit the SF-424A, "Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs" form. All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200.

Applicants must submit the appropriate SF-424 Budget Information form and Budget Narrative. For construction programs or projects, applicants must complete and submit the SF-424C, "Budget Information for Construction Programs". All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov. Federal award recipients and subrecipients are subject to Federal award cost principles in 2 CFR 200.

Any applicant organization that has not completed the financial assistance certifications and representations within their SAM.gov registration must submit the appropriate signed and dated Assurances form. All of the required application forms are available with this announcement on Grants.gov.

Detailed Budget Narrative

The project budget shall include detailed information on all cost categories and must clearly identify all estimated project costs. Unit costs shall be provided for all budget items including the cost of work to be provided by contractors or sub-recipients. In addition, applicants shall include a narrative description of the items included in the project budget, including the value of in-kind contributions of goods and services provided to complete the project when cost share is identified to be included (reference section C of this announcement). Cost categories can include, but are not limited to, those costs items included on the SF424A or SF424C.

- The Budget Justification Worksheet, included under the "Related Documents" tab on grants.gov, fulfills the detailed budget narrative requirement.
- All costs listed in the SF-424A and SF-424C must correspond to the activities in the Project Description and must be outlined in the Budget Justification Worksheet. However, do not include your cost breakdown as part of the narrative Project Description.
- Costs must be broken out into Federal and matching funds by cost center such as personnel, fringe benefits, travel, administrative costs, etc.
- If matching share is included in your budget, list the sources of non-Federal match, as well as if the match is secured or unsecured.

- The following questions must be answered in your budget justification:
    - Do you have policies and procedures in place that meet the financial management standards in 2 CFR 200.302? NPS may ask for copies of policies if selected for funding.
    - Do you have a single audit and was it submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse? If no, do you have another type of audit or other annual financial statement?
    - Attach a complete set of financial statements including:
        a. Balance sheet/Statement of Financial Position
        b. Statement of Revenue and Expense/Statement of Activities
        c. Statement of Cash Flow

- A Budget Justification Worksheet format is included under the "Related Documents" tab on grants.gov.
- **Note:** Maximum hourly wages charged to this grant for personnel and consultants may not exceed 120% of the salary of a Federal Civil Service GS-15, Step 10. Current salary tables for your location can be found on the Office of Personnel Management website: https://www.opm.gov.

Project Abstract Summary

Please complete and submit with your application package the Project Abstract Summary form with the following information:

- Funding Opportunity Number;
- Goals and Objectives of your proposed project;
- Summary of Project Activities;
- Performance Goals including milestones and expected outcomes;
- Who will benefit from your project.

This information will be transmitted to USASpending.gov and be viewable by the public.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

Per the Financial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), 2 CFR §1402.112, applicants must state in their application if any actual or potential conflict of interest exists at the time of submission.

(a) Applicability.

(1) This section intends to ensure that non-Federal entities and their employees take appropriate steps to avoid conflicts of interest in their responsibilities under or with respect to Federal financial assistance agreements.

(2) In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by recipients and by sub recipients, the conflict of interest provisions in 2 CFR §200.318 apply.

(b) Notification.

(1) Non-Federal entities, including applicants for financial assistance awards, must disclose in writing any conflict of interest to the DOI awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with 2 CFR §200.112.

(2) Recipients must establish internal controls that include, at a minimum, procedures to identify, disclose, and mitigate or eliminate identified conflicts of interest. The recipient is responsible for notifying the Financial Assistance Officer in writing of any conflicts of interest that may arise during the life of the award, including those that have been reported by sub recipients.

(c) Restrictions on lobbying. Non-Federal entities are strictly prohibited from using funds under a grant or cooperative agreement for lobbying activities and must provide the required certifications and disclosures pursuant to 43 CFR §18 and prelim@title31/subtitle2/chapter13&edition=prelim">31 USC §1352.

(d) *Review procedures*. The Financial Assistance Officer will examine each conflict of interest disclosure on the basis of its particular facts and the nature of the proposed grant or cooperative agreement, and will determine whether a significant potential conflict exists and, if it does, develop an appropriate means for resolving it.

(e) Enforcement. Failure to resolve conflicts of interest in a manner that satisfies the government may be cause for termination of the award. Failure to make required disclosures may result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR §200.339, Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (see also 2 CFR §180).

Uniform Audit Reporting Statement

All U.S. states, local governments, federally recognized Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non- profit organizations expending $750,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in the applicant's fiscal year must submit a Single Audit report for that year through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System, in accordance with 2 CFR 200 subpart F. U.S. state, local government, federally recognized Indian tribes, institutions of higher education, and non-profit applicants must state if your organization was or was not required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year. If your organization was required to submit a Single Audit report for the most recently closed fiscal year, provide the EIN associated with that report and state if it is available through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse website.

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting more than $100,000 in Federal funding must certify to the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying. If this application requests more than $100,000 in Federal funds, the Authorized Official's signature on the appropriate SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance form also represents the entity's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants and recipients must not use any federally appropriated funds (annually appropriated or continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a Federal award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any U.S. agency, a Member of the U.S. Congress, an officer or employee of the U.S. Congress, or an employee of a Member of the U.S. Congress connection with the award. Applicants and recipients must complete and submit the SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities" form if the Federal share of the proposal or award is more than $100,000 and the applicant or recipient has made or has agreed to make any payment using non-

appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with the application or award. The SF-LLL form is available with this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 and 31 USC 1352 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement
If the project proposed in this application is funded through another Federal financial assistance award, in part or in whole, the applicant must provide a statement detailing the potential funding overlap in regards to activities, costs, or time commitment of key personnel. Provide a copy of any overlapping or duplicative proposal submitted to any other potential funding entity and identify when that proposal was submitted or copy of Federal financial assistance award covering activities covered under this proposal. The statement and the description of overlap or duplication, when applicable, may be provided within the proposal or as a separate attachment to the application. Any overlap or duplication of funding between the proposed project and other active or anticipated projects may impact selection and/or funding amount. If no such overlap or duplication exists, state, "There are no overlaps or duplication between this application and any of our other Federal applications or funded projects"

D3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration:
This requirement does not apply to individuals applying for funds as an individual (i.e., unrelated to any business or nonprofit organization you may own, operate, or work within), or any entity with an exception to bypass SAM.gov registration with prior approval from the funding bureau or office in accordance with bureau or office policy. All other applicants are required to register in SAM.gov prior to submitting a Federal award application and obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) which replaced the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number from Dun & Bradstreet in April 2022. A Federal award may not be made to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the program is ready to make an award, the program may determine the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. Federal award recipients must also continue to maintain an active SAM.gov registration with current information through the life of their Federal award(s). See the "Submission Requirements" section of this document below for more information on SAM.gov registration. **There is no cost to register with SAM.gov**. There are third-party vendors who will charge a fee in exchange for registering entities with SAM.gov; **please be aware you can register and request help for free**.

Register with the System for Award Management (SAM):
Applicants can register on the SAM.gov website. The "Help" tab on the website contains User Guides and other information to assist you with registration. The Grants.gov "Register with SAM" page also provides detailed instructions. Applicants can contact the supporting Federal Service Desk for help registering in SAM. Once registered in SAM, entities will be assigned a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least once every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly encouraged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure their information is up to date and reflects changes that may have been made to the entity's IRS information. If applicable, foreign

entities who want to receive payment directly to a U.S. bank account must enter and maintain valid, current banking information in SAM.

D4. Submission Dates and Times

Due Date for Applications
09/05/2024

Application Due Date Explanation
Electronically submitted applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM, ET on the listed application due date.

Applicants are held responsible for their proposals being submitted to the National Park Service. Applications must be received by the date above. Applicants are encouraged to submit the application well before the deadline.

Application preparation time may take several weeks. Start the application process as soon as possible. Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed or considered for award. If it is determined that a proposal was not considered due to lateness, the applicant will be notified after the selection process.

D5. Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required for applications submissions from a U.S. state or local government prior to submission. Applicants must contact their State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state's process under Executive Order 12372.

D6. Funding Restrictions

The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency for indirect costs, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your organization's cognizant agency, the Interior Business Center will negotiate your indirect cost rate. Contact the Interior Business Center by phone 916-930-3803 or using the IBC Email Submission Form. See the IBC Website for more information.

Organizations must have an active Federal award before they can submit an indirect cost rate proposal to their cognizant agency. Failure to establish an approved rate during the award period renders all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs unallowable under the award. Recipients must have prior written approval from the Service to use amounts budgeted for direct costs to satisfy cost-share or match requirements or to cover unallowable indirect costs. Recipients shall not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized to do so by legislation.

Required Indirect Cost Statement to be submitted with Application.
All organizations must include the applicable statement from the following list in their application, and attach to their application any documentation identified in the applicable statement:

We are:

- A U.S. state or local government entity receiving more than $35 million in direct Federal funding each year with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate]. We submit our indirect cost rate proposals to our cognizant agency. Attached is a copy of our most recently approved rate agreement/certification.
- A U.S. state or local government entity receiving less than $35 million in direct Federal funding with an indirect cost rate of [insert rate]. We have prepared and will retain for audit an indirect cost rate proposal and related documentation.
- A [insert your organization type; U.S. states and local governments, do not use this statement] that has previously negotiated or currently has an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. [Insert either: "Attached is a copy of our most recently approved but expired rate agreement. In the event an award is made, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award is made." *or* "Attached is a copy of our current negotiated indirect cost rate agreement."]
- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate]. If we receive an award, we will submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after the award date.
- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency and has an indirect cost rate that is lower than 10%. Our indirect cost rate is [insert rate; must be lower than 10%]. However, if we receive an award we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award. We request as a condition of award to charge a flat indirect cost rate of [insert rate; must be lower than 10%] against [insert a clear description of the direct cost base against which your rate is charged (e.g., salaries; salaries and fringe benefits; or modified total direct costs). However, please note that your organization cannot charge indirect costs in excess of the indirect costs that would be recovered if applied against modified total direct costs as defined in §2 CFR 200.68]. We understand that we must notify the Service in writing if we establish an approved rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period.
- A [insert your organization type] that has never submitted an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency and has an indirect cost rate that is 10% or higher. Our indirect cost rate is [insert your organization's indirect rate; must be 10% or higher]. However, if we receive an award we will not be able to meet the requirement to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to our cognizant agency within 90 calendar days after award. We request as a condition of award to charge a flat *de minimis* indirect cost rate of 10% to be charged against modified total direct project costs as defined in 2 CFR §200.68. We understand that we must notify the Service in writing if we establish a negotiated rate with our cognizant agency at any point during the award period. We understand that additional Federal funds may not be available to support an unexpected increase in

indirect costs during the project period and that such changes are subject to review, negotiation, and prior approval by the Service.

- A [insert your organization type] that is submitting this proposal for consideration under the "Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Network", which has a Department of the Interior-approved indirect cost rate cap of 17.5%. If we have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must apply this reduced rate against the same direct cost base as identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement per 2 CFR §1402.414. If we do not have an approved indirect cost rate with our cognizant agency, we understand that we must charge indirect costs against the modified total direct cost base defined in 2 CFR §200.68 "Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)". We understand that we must request prior approval from the Service to use the 2 CFR 200 MTDC base instead of the base identified in our approved indirect cost rate agreement. We understand that Service approval of such a request will be based on: 1) a determination that our approved base is only a subset of the MTDC (such as salaries and wages); and 2) that use of the MTDC base will still result in a reduction of the total indirect costs to be charged to the award. In accordance with 2 CFR §200.405, we understand that indirect costs not recovered due to a voluntary reduction to our federally negotiated rate are not allowable for recovery via any other means.

A [insert your organization type] that will charge all costs directly.

D7. Other Submission Requirements

Project Images Worksheet

- Provide photos of the potential affected context/sites/districts
- Photos should be of good quality and show current conditions and immediate threat
- May also be elevations, plans, or other images
- Color or black and white photos are both accepted
- Photographs should clearly show the community/context and the entire historic site involved in the project (outbuildings, district, landscape features, etc.)
- For physical preservation projects, ensure you include one current photo of each side of the property as well as one current overall photo at a minimum
- A suggested Project Images Worksheet format is included under the "Related Documents" tab on grants.gov which allows for 19 images to be uploaded in one document

National Register Eligibility Worksheet

- If your project is doing preservation or pre-preservation work, your application must respond to the questions and provide information on the current or potential National Register nomination.
- Suggested format is available on grants.gov under the "Related Documents" tab.
- All questions found in the suggested format must be answered.

Proof of Non-Profit Status, if applicable

- If your organization is a non-profit, submit proof of your current non-profit status as part of your application.

Proof of AARN Membership, (required)

- Submit proof of your current African American Civil Rights Network membership (email notification sent from NPS).

Letter of Owner Consent, if applicable

- If your project is doing work to or preparing a National Register nomination for a property and the owner is different from the applicant, then the applicant **must** include written permission from the owner to complete the project **and** any applicable easements or covenants with the application. If this is anticipated as part of the project, indicate the plan for obtaining this owner consent as part of the project.
- Previous letters of owner consent will **not** be accepted.

Letters of Support, if applicable

- Letters of support should be submitted if defining specific partner involvement, support, or matching funds. These letters **must be submitted with your application via grants.gov** as part of the attachments form. Letters received in any other manner may not be considered. All letters must be addressed to: Megan Brown, Chief of State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants, National Park Service.
- **DO NOT mail/send separately.** They must be submitted with your application. Letters not submitted via grants.gov may not be considered. This applies to Congressional letters of support as well; a copy must be included with your application.

If being considered or selected for award, NPS reserves the right to request additional or clarifying information for any reason deemed necessary, including, but not limited to:
(a) Other budget information
(b) Financial capability
(c) Evaluation of risk
(d) Name and phone number of the Designated Responsible Employee for complying with national policies prohibiting discrimination (See 43 C.F.R. § 17)

E. Application Review Information

E1. Criteria

Criterion 1

Maximum Points: 25

Description	The resource(s) receiving assistance from the proposed project must have direct significance to African American civil rights and the struggle for equality.

Significance	1. Describe the historic resource(s) in the proposed project and the role the resource(s) played in African-American civil rights and the struggle for equality from the transatlantic slave trade forward. 2. Identify current designations at the National, State, Tribal, or local level and if those designations describe the role the resource(s) played in the African-American civil rights and the struggle for equality from transatlantic slave trade forward. 3. Discuss the current integrity of the resource to include major changes that have been made since the time associated with civil rights. *Resources which are unlisted in the National Register of Historic Places or not listed for their civil rights association must include a concurrence of eligibility from the State or Tribal Historic Preservation Office (SHPO/ THPO). Concurrence may be in the form of a determination of eligibility by the SHPO/THPO or a completed survey that was reviewed by the SHPO/THPO. Request this early.

Criterion 2

Maximum Points: 25

Description	The proposed project must address issues that directly and imminently threaten the resource and fulfill a clear financial need.
Need/ Urgency/ Threat	1. Describe the threat to the site including the source, nature, extent, and severity. 2. Discuss how the project will directly mitigate the threat. 3. Discuss how the project is the next logical step towards long-term preservation of the resource(s).

Criterion 3

Maximum Points: 25

Description	The proposed project must be achievable within 3 years, within a reasonable budget, and be performed with qualified personnel and/or consultants
Feasibility	1. List and describe all tasks and their expected results. If you have a previous or active NPS grant, explain your progress to date and its relationship to the project proposed in this application. 2. Justify the timeline as provided in the Timeline section of the Project Description Worksheet, keeping in mind that award announcements are not expected until approximately 6 months following the application due date.

	3. Demonstrate that the costs identified in the Budget Justification Worksheet are necessary, reasonable, and allowable. 4. Demonstrate how you will successfully complete the project within the given timeframe (3 years) and with the given resources while meeting all federal requirements and guidelines. 5. Briefly describe what type of professional expertise will be involved in managing and completing the project and their qualifications. Note that prior involvement with consultants may exclude them from working on the project (2CFR200.320).

Criterion 4

Maximum Points: 25

Description	Proposed projects must develop sustainable long-term preservation of the resource(s).
Sustainability	1. Describe the potential impact of the project after completion, including long-term effects. 2. Describe the maintenance plan for the site after grant work is completed. 3. Describe how the preservation of this site will support the community and continue to tell the story of the struggle for African American civil rights from transatlantic slave trade forward.

E2. Review and Selection Process

Prior to award, the program will review any applicant statement regarding potential overlap or duplication between the project to be funded and any other funded or proposed project in terms of activities, funding, or time commitment of key personnel. Depending on the circumstances, the program may request modification to the application, other pending applications, or an active award, as needed to eliminate any duplication of effort, or the Bureau may choose not to fund the selected project.

The program may not make a Federal award to an applicant that has not completed the SAM.gov registration. If an applicant selected for funding has not completed their SAM.gov registration by the time the Bureau is ready to make an award, the program may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. The program can use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Prior to award, the program will evaluate the risk posed by applicants as required in 2 CFR 200.205. Programs document applicant risk evaluations using the Bureau's "Financial Assistance Recipient Risk Assessment" form. Prior to approving awards for Federal funding in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold (currently $250,000), the Bureau is required to review and consider any information about or from the applicant found in the Federal Awardee

Performance and Integrity Information System. The Bureau will consider this information when completing the risk review. The Bureau uses the results of the risk evaluation to establish monitoring plans, recipient reporting frequency requirements, and to determine if one or more of the specific award conditions in 2 CFR 200.207 should be applied the award.

Qualified NPS personnel, and in some cases independent federal reviewers, will review all proposals. All proposals for funding will be considered using the criteria outlined above. A summary of the review panel comments may be provided to the applicant if requested.

a. Initial Review

Prior to conducting the comprehensive merit review, an initial review will be performed to determine whether: (1) the applicant is eligible for an award; (2) the information required by the NOFO has been submitted; (3) all mandatory requirements of the NOFO are satisfied; and (4) the proposed project is responsive to the program objectives of the NOFO (program determination). If an applicant fails to meet the requirements or objectives of the NOFO, or does not provide sufficient information for review, the applicant will be considered non-responsive and eliminated from further review.

b. Comprehensive Merit Review

All applications that satisfactorily pass the initial review will be eligible for the Comprehensive Merit Review. Each criteria element will be scored with the following **suggested** range:

Criterion 1	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	Rating
25	25	25	25	Superior
20	20	20	20	Good
15	15	15	15	Satisfactory
10	10	10	10	Marginal
5	5	5	5	Poor
0	0	0	0	Not Acceptable

The scoring of each criterion must be based on the strengths and weaknesses of the application materials. To assist in assigning an appropriate score, the following will be used as guidance:

Rating	Descriptive Statement
Superior	Applicant fully addresses all aspects of the criterion, convincingly demonstrates that it will meet the Government's performance requirements, and demonstrates no weaknesses.
Good	Applicant fully addresses all aspects of the criterion, convincingly demonstrates a likelihood of meeting the Government's requirements, and demonstrates only a few minor weaknesses.
Satisfactory	Applicant addresses all aspects of the criterion and demonstrates the ability to meet the Government's performance requirements. The Application contains weaknesses and/or a number of minor weaknesses.

Marginal	Applicant addresses all aspects of the criterion and demonstrates the ability to meet the Government's performance requirements. The Application contains significant weaknesses and/or a significant number of minor weaknesses.
Poor	Applicant addresses some aspects of the criterion and demonstrates some doubt in the likelihood of successfully meeting the Government's requirements. Significant weaknesses are demonstrated and clearly outweigh any strength presented.
Not Acceptable	Applicant does not address all aspects of the criterion and the information presented indicates a strong likelihood of failure to meet the Government's requirements.

c. Selection

The Selection Official may consider the merit review recommendation, program policy factors, and the amount of funds available to select applications for funding.

d. Discussions and Award

The Government may enter into discussions with a selected applicant for any reason deemed necessary, including, but not limited to: (1) only a portion of the application is selected for award; (2) the Government needs additional information to determine that the applicant is capable of complying with the requirements of DOI Financial Assistance Regulations, and/or (3) additional specific terms and conditions are required. Failure to satisfactorily resolve the issues identified by the Government may preclude award to the applicant.

Evaluation of Applicant Risk

In accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.205, applications selected for funding will be subject to a pre-award risk assessment which may include a review of information contained within the applicant's proposal, past audits, Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS), and/or past performance on previous Federal financial assistance awards. Negative information that leads to an applicant being designated as "Medium Risk" or "High Risk" may result in specific conditions, as identified in 2 C.F.R. § 200.207, being incorporated into the final award.

E3. CFR – Regulatory Information

See the National Park Service's Award Terms and Conditions for the general administrative and national policy requirements applicable to Service awards. The Service will communicate any other program- or project-specific special terms and conditions to recipients in their notices of award.

E4. Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

Projects receiving funding through this Notice of Funding Opportunity will start once grant awards have been made. Agreements are not effective until released through Grant Solutions by the NPS Financial Assistance Awarding Officer (FAAO). **Do not anticipate a start date sooner than 6 months following the application deadline**.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

F1. Federal Award Notices

Upon being selected for the award, successful applicants will receive notification of the selection of their application for funding. NPS anticipates funding notifications to the applicants selected for award around 6 months following the application deadline. A notice of selection is not an authorization to begin performance on an agreement. This notice will detail the next steps in the awarding process. Once all clearances and reviews have been conducted, a Notice of Award will be issued to the grantee in GrantSolutions, our online grants management system.

The non-Federal Entity's proposal, including all representations of capability, proposed approaches (including those of subgrantees), and other specific undertakings upon which the non-Federal Entity was evaluated (see Section E), also shall form the basis of award. Accordingly, these are terms and conditions (see below) for which the non-Federal Entity will be held responsible.

Work cannot begin before the non-Federal entity receives a copy of the Notice Of Award which contains the signature of the Financial Assistance Awarding Officer. Any pre-award costs incurred prior to the receipt of the Notice of Award or written notice provided by a Financial Assistance Awarding Officer authorizing pre-award costs, is at the applicant's own risk. A Notice of Award signed by a Financial Assistance Awarding Officer is the only authorizing document to begin performance.

Organizations whose applications have not been selected will be advised as promptly as possible.

F2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

See the "DOI Standard Terms and Conditions" for the administrative and national policy requirements applicable to DOI awards.

Data Availability
Per theFinancial Assistance Interior Regulation (FAIR), 2 CFR §1402.315:

(a) All data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, valuation products or other scientific assessments in any medium or form, including textual, numerical, graphic, cartographic, narrative, or audiovisual, resulting from a financial

assistance agreement is available for use by the Department of the Interior, including being available in a manner that is sufficient for independent verification.

(b) The Federal Government has the right to:

(1) Obtain, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, produced under a Federal award; and

(2) Authorize others to receive, reproduce, publish, or otherwise use such data, methodology, factual inputs, models, analyses, technical information, reports, conclusions, or other scientific assessments, for Federal purposes, including to allow for meaningful third-party evaluation.

F3. Reporting

Financial Reports

All recipients must use the SF-425, Federal Financial Report form for financial reporting. At a minimum, all recipients must submit a **final** financial report. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award. The only exception to the interim financial reporting requirement is if the recipient is required to use the SF 270/271 to request payment and requests payment at least once annually through the entire award period of performance. We will describe all financial reporting requirements in the Notice of Award.

Performance Reports

Performance reports must contain a comparison of actual accomplishments with the established goals and objectives of the award; a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and any other pertinent information relevant to the project results. Final reports are due no later than 120 calendar days after the award period of performance end date or termination date. For awards with periods of performance longer than 12 months, recipients are required to submit **interim** financial reports on the frequency established in the Notice of Award.

Significant Development Reports

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates which have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Bureau in writing as soon as the recipient becomes aware of any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The recipient should also notify the Service in writing of any favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Real Property Reports

Recipients and subrecipients are required to submit status reports on the status of real property acquired under the award in which the Federal government retains an interest. The required frequency of these reports will depend on the anticipated length of the Federal interest period.

The Bureau will include recipient-specific real property reporting requirements, including the required data elements, reporting frequency, and report due dates, in the Notice of Award when applicable.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

Recipients must notify the program immediately in writing of any conflict of interest that arise during the life of their Federal award, including those reported to them by any subrecipient under the award. Recipients must notify the program in writing if any employees, including subrecipient and contractor personnel, are related to, married to, or have a close personal relationship with any Federal employee in the Federal funding program or who otherwise may have been involved in the review and selection of the award. The term employee means any individual engaged in the performance of work pursuant to the Federal award.

Other Mandatory Disclosures

The Non-Federal entity or applicant for a Federal award must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Non-Federal entities that receive a Federal award including the terms and conditions outlined in 2 CFR 200, Appendix XII—Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters are required to report certain civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings to SAM. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.339 Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment.

Reporting Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds $10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings in accordance with Appendix XII to 2 CFR 200.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

G1. Program Technical Contact

For **programmatic technical assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name:
State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants (STLPG)

Address:

Telephone:
202-354-2020 (voicemail)

Email:

STLPG@nps.gov
Contact State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants (STLPG) Staff with any questions regarding the program. If you have questions regarding the use of grants.gov, please contact their help desk. Questions about membership in AACRN should be directed to: aacrn@nps.gov

G2. Program Administration Contact

For **program administration assistance**, contact:

First and Last Name:
State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants Staff

Address:

Telephone:
202-354-2020 (voicemail)

Email:
STLPG@nps.gov

G3. Application System Technical Support

For Grants.gov technical registration and submission, downloading forms and application packages, contact:
Grants.gov Customer Support
Numeric Input Field: 1-800-518-4726
Support@grants.gov

For GrantSolutions technical registration, submission, and other assistance contact:
GrantSolutions Customer Support
1-866-577-0771
Help@grantsolutions.gov

H. Other Information

Payments

Domestic recipients are required to register in and receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), unless approved for a waiver by the Service program. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank outside the U.S. are required to receive payment through the U.S. Treasury's International Treasury Services (ITS) System. Foreign recipients receiving funds to a final destination bank in the U.S. are required to enter and maintain current banking details in their SAM.gov entity profile and receive payment through the Automated Clearing House network by electronic funds transfer (EFT). The Bureau will include recipient-specific instructions on how to request payment, including identification of any additional information required and where to submit payment requests, as applicable, in all Notices of Award.

Program Information

The National Park Service's (NPS) African American Civil Rights Grant Program (AACR) will document, interpret, and preserve the sites that tell the full story of the African American struggle to gain equal rights as citizens, from transatlantic slave trade forward. The NPS 2008 report, Civil Rights in America, A Framework for Identifying Significant Sites, will serve guidance for determining the appropriateness of proposed projects and properties. AACR Grants are funded by the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF), administered by the NPS, and will fund a broad range of preservation projects for historic sites including architectural services, historic structure reports, preservation plans, and physical preservation to structures. Grants are awarded through a competitive process and do not require non-Federal match. This announcement is only open to documented members of the African American Civil Rights Network. There are separate additional funding announcements for physical preservation projects and for history/research/documentation projects.

General program information is available at the State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants website at www.nps.gov/stlpg

General grant information is available at the State, Tribal, Local, Plans & Grants website at http://go.nps.gov/grants and program specific information at http://go.nps.gov/civilrightsgrant.