

LOCAL SHARE ACCOUNT STATEWIDE

Program Guidelines
July 2023



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Section I – Statement of Purpose

The PA Race Horse Development and Gaming Act (Act 2004-71), as amended, provides for the distribution of gaming revenues through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) to support projects in the public interest within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section II – Eligibility

A. Eligible Applicants

- **Counties**
- **Municipalities** – Any city, borough, incorporated town, township or home rule municipality
- **Municipal Authorities** – Organized under the Act of July 29, 1953 (P.L. 1034, No. 270), known as the Public Auditorium Authorities Law, or 53 Pa.C.S. Chapter 56 (relating to Municipal Authorities).
- **Economic Development Agencies**
- **Redevelopment Authorities** – Organized under Act of May 24, 1945, P.L. 991, No. 385, known as the Urban Redevelopment Law
- **Land Banks** – Organized under 68 Pa.C.S. Chapter 21 (relating to Land Banks)
- **Councils of Government** – An entity organized by units of local government under an intergovernmental agreement, which provides cooperative planning, coordination and technical assistance to its member governments on issues of mutual concern that cross jurisdictional lines, and which does not act under the direction and control of any single member government.

B. Eligible Projects

Eligible projects must be owned and maintained by an eligible applicant or a nonprofit organization.

- **Projects in the Public Interest**
Projects that improve the quality of life in the community.

C. Eligible Uses of Funds

- Acquisition
- Construction to include renovation and rehabilitation
- Demolition
- Infrastructure
 - Sidewalks for public use will be considered eligible regardless of eligibility outlined in Section II. B.
- Purchase of vehicles, machinery and/or equipment
- Planning, consulting and design costs related to planning projects.
- Engineering, design and inspection, to include permitting fees, for construction projects not to exceed 10% of the total grant award. Limitation does not apply to a planning-only project.

- Administrative costs of the applicant only, which are necessary to administer the grant shall not exceed 2% of the total grant request/award. Administrative costs can include advertising and legal costs, as well as documented staff expenses.
- Contingency costs not to exceed 5% of documented construction and infrastructure costs.

D. Ineligible Project Costs

- Operations and salary costs with the exception of administrative costs of the grantee directly related to grant administration (as outlined in Section II.C).
- Consumable supplies.
- Uniforms and personal protective equipment.
- Furniture.
- Training costs.
- Consulting fees with the exception of costs for an eligible planning project.
- Warranty fees.
- Public relations and marketing costs.
- Fees for securing other financing, interest on borrowed funds, and/or refinancing of existing debt.
- Lobbying, reparations, fines, application preparation/consultant fees.
- Costs incurred prior to the approval of CFA funding.

Section III – Grant Requirements and Limitations

A. Funding

- Grants are available for projects with a total eligible project cost of \$25,000 or more.
- Grant requests shall not exceed \$1,000,000 for any project.

B. Applications and Project Scope

- Each application must include a cohesive project scope based on a singular project. This may include multiple phases of the same project.
- Applicants may submit multiple applications.

C. Project Activity Period

- Projects may not commence work prior to receiving CFA approval. Projects that begin prior to approval, including any proposed match, will result in the project being ineligible for funding consideration. Projects that may require a down payment prior to the CFA awarding funds should contact the program office to determine project eligibility.
- To be eligible for reimbursement, project costs must be incurred within the time frame established by the grant agreement.

Section IV – Program Requirements

A. Nondiscrimination

No assistance shall be awarded to an applicant under this program unless the applicant and the project user certifies to the CFA that the project user shall not discriminate against any employee or against any person seeking employment by reason of race, gender, creed, color, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or in violation of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age, sex, national origin, handicap or disability, or in violation of any applicable federal laws. All contracts for work to be paid with grant funds must contain the commonwealth's official nondiscrimination clause.

B. Project Account

For record maintenance and audit purposes, all Local Share Account funds must be deposited in a separate project account.

C. Project Records

The applicant must maintain full and accurate records with respect to the project. The CFA requires access to such records as well as the ability to inspect all project work, invoices, and other relevant records at reasonable times and places.

D. Certification of Expenses

The applicant shall sign a payment request form certifying that the expenses were incurred and were in accordance with the scope of work approved by the CFA. In lieu of a formal project audit and prior to final closeout of the grant agreement, the applicant shall be required to submit copies of all canceled checks verifying the expenditure of the LSA Program proceeds. Bank statements may also be submitted if electronic payment of the expenditure occurred.

E. Bidding

If the applicant is a political subdivision or other entity for which open and competitive bidding procedures have been established by law, it shall comply with those statutory bidding procedures. If not, the grantee shall comply with open and competitive bidding procedures in awarding any contracts in excess of \$10,000 for construction, reconstruction, demolition, alteration and/or repair, for acquisition of machinery and equipment, or for engagement of the services of a professional consultant, when such contracts are funded at least 50% with funds made available under this Contract. In order to comply with open and competitive bidding procedures, the grantee must obtain a minimum of three arms-length bids from contractors who are capable of performing the services requested.

F. Prevailing Wage

The Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act (43 P.S. § 165-1 et seq.; 34 Pa. Code § 9.101 et seq.) may be applicable to a project funded under this program. Prevailing Wage requirements are generally applicable to grants for construction, demolition, reconstruction, alteration, repair work, renovations, build-out and installation of machinery and equipment in excess of \$25,000. If applicable, the grantee is responsible for including prevailing wage rates in all bid documents, specifications, and construction contracts pertaining to the Project. The Department of Labor and Industry (L&I) has final authority to make prevailing wage applicability determinations.

G. Conflict of Interest

An officer, director, or employee of an applicant who is a party to or has a private interest in a project shall disclose the nature and extent of the interest to the governing body of the applicant, and may not vote on action of the applicant concerning the project, nor participate in the deliberations of the applicant concerning the project.

Section V – Application Procedures

1. To apply for funding, the applicant must submit the electronic on-line Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) Single Application for Assistance located at dced.pa.gov/singleapp. Required supplemental information outlined in Section VI of these guidelines must be attached electronically to the application on the Addenda tab.
2. The CFA will review applications to ensure that each proposed project meets eligibility requirements. Evaluation criteria are outlined in Section VII.
3. Applications will be received from September 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023.
4. The CFA charges a \$100 non-refundable application fee for the Local Share Account applications. The application fee must be paid electronically by credit or debit card through our secure, third-party vendor. Payment of the application fee must be completed prior to the certification and submission of the Electronic Single Application. Detailed payment instructions will be provided on the Certification Tab of the Electronic Single Application once all required fields have been completed.

Note: Upon completion of the payment transaction, you will be redirected to the Electronic Single Application to complete the submission process resulting in confirmation of submission and generation of a 12-digit Application ID number. Failure to complete this process will make your application ineligible for consideration.

Section VI – Application Supplemental Items

In addition to the basic online application, the Applicant shall submit the following list of items:

Exhibit 1: Project Description

Provide a description of the project which contains all the following:

- a. A clear, concise and focused description of the proposed project to include specific project activities and expected results;
- b. The specific location of the project site;
- c. As applicable, identification of the project as a priority investment in a local or regional economic development plan or strategy;
- d. As applicable, the anticipated positive economic development and/or community impact of the project;
- e. As applicable, a detailed, color-coded map with a color legend that shows a clear illustration of the project to include street names and project boundaries (note: this is not applicable, for example, when requesting equipment or single-site renovation/rehab/construction); and
- f. Estimated start and end dates for the project costs.

Exhibit 2: Cost Estimate(s)

Provide a detailed estimate of project costs. The estimate must be dated and current (within one year of application submission). Engineering and construction estimates must be provided by a PA licensed engineer or qualified professional. Estimates of costs for specified products, materials, equipment, etc. must be in writing from a qualified vendor. Acquisition costs must be supported by an appraisal that was completed within one year of application submission.

Exhibit 3: Ownership Notice

Provide confirmation that the project will be owned and maintained by an eligible applicant or nonprofit organization.

Note: A separate document including this language is unnecessary due to the inclusion of a formal electronic acknowledgement when completing the Single Application for Assistance.

Exhibit 4: Resolution

Public sector applicants must provide a resolution duly adopted by the applicant's governing board formally requesting the grant, designating two officials to execute all documents, describing briefly the project scope, and identifying the grant amount (See Appendix I for a Sample Resolution).

Exhibit 5: Matching Funds

Match is not required for this program. If your project budget, as outlined in this application, includes other funding sources, provide copies of funding commitment letters and/or evidence of organizational fund capacity – financials, loan commitments, etc.

Section VII – Application Evaluation

The CFA will review and evaluate applications based on cost, strategic importance, and impact.

Section VIII – Procedures for Accessing Funds

1. Upon approval of an application by the CFA, a grant agreement and commitment letter will be electronically issued to the applicant explaining the terms and conditions of the grant. The grant agreement must be electronically signed and returned to the CFA within 45 days of the date of the commitment letter or the offer may be withdrawn by the CFA.
 - At the time of application, the CFA will request the name, title, and email address of two individuals authorized to execute a contract, if awarded. For public sector applicants, this information should match the officials designated within the resolution. Staff will verify the accuracy of information prior to contracting, as necessary.
2. A *fully executed* contract between the applicant and the CFA is required prior to the disbursement of grant funds.
3. Requests for payment must be submitted to the DCED Center for Community Enhancement by submitting the required payment request form accompanied by invoices, bid tabs, construction contracts or other approved documentation verifying costs incurred by the applicant. Applicants should take note that payment requests require 2-4 weeks for processing.

Section IX – Program Inquiries

Program inquiries should be directed to:

PA Department of Community and Economic Development
Center for Community Enhancement
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 4th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225

Telephone: (717) 787-6245
Email: ra-dcedcbf@pa.gov

Appendix I – Authorized Official Resolution

Be it RESOLVED, that the _____ (Name of Applicant) of _____ (Name of County) hereby request a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant of \$_____ from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for _____.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate _____ (Name and Title) and _____ (Name and Title) as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the _____ (Name of Applicant) and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

I, _____, duly qualified Secretary of the _____ (Name of Applicant), _____ (Name of County) _____, PA, hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by a majority vote of the _____ (Governing Body) at a regular meeting held _____ (Date) and said Resolution has been recorded in the Minutes of the _____ (Applicant) and remains in effect as of this date.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I affix my hand and attach the seal of the _____ (Applicant), this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Name of Applicant

County

Secretary