Environmental Protection Fund Grant Program for Parks, Preservation and Heritage

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Summary of EPF in CFA 2015

- $18.9 million awarded
- 65 projects funded
- Projects in all 10 REDC regions

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EPF in CFA 2016

- **$20 Million** is available.
- The maximum grant award is **$500,000**.
- Funding provides assistance for the acquisition, planning, development, and improvement of **parks**, **historic properties**, and **heritage areas** located within the physical boundaries of the State of New York.
- All grant awards come with **long term protections**, either through parkland alienation law, conservation easements or covenants recorded against the deeds.

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Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities and not-for-profit organizations with an ownership interest in the property are eligible to apply.

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Requirements for Not-for-Profit Applicants

- Register AND pre-qualify in the **Grants Gateway**
  - Must be in **Prequalified status as of 4:00 PM on July 29, 2016,** the application due date, in order to be eligible under EPF.
  - Must provide the **Document Vault Identifier from the Grants Gateway** in order to submit an application in the CFA.
- Have tax-exempt status under the IRS code.
- Be current with pertinent federal and state filings.

Project phases eligible for funding

All OPRHP's EPF grants are for **capital** projects directed toward the development of property.

- Planning
- Acquisition
- Development

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Parks Program

- Eligible projects **preserve, rehabilitate or restore** lands, waters or structures for park, recreation or conservation purposes and for structural assessments and/or planning for such projects.

Examples include:

- Playgrounds
- Courts
- Rinks
- Community gardens
- Facilities for swimming, boating, picnicking, hunting, fishing, camping or other recreational activities.

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Historic Preservation Program

- Eligible projects **improve, protect, preserve, rehabilitate, restore or acquire** properties on the Register, and for structural assessments and/or planning for such projects.
  - Historic properties must be listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places.
  - All work must conform to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

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Heritage Areas Program

- Projects must be identified in the **approved management plans** for Heritage Areas designated under Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law.

- There are **19 designated Heritage Areas** with approved management plans.

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Reimbursement

- Successful applicants are **reimbursed for up to 50 percent** of their eligible expenditures.
- For projects located in **impoverished areas**, the grant award can be up to **75 percent** of the eligible project cost.
- All applicants are expected **to raise their share within one year of the award**, or risk cancellation of the grant.
- All projects must be **completed within 5 years** from the date of the award of the grant.

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Tips for Preparing a Competitive Application

Visit:

http://www.nysparks.com/grants/consolidated-funding-app.aspx.

1. Read the **2016 CFA Guidance Document** as linked from the Consolidated Funding Application web page.
2. View recorded informational **webinar**.
3. Work closely with the **Regional Grants Administrator** for your county as listed on the workshop handout and on the Grants Contact web page.
4. Provide all of the required documentation and any necessary supporting documentation as described on the **Attachment Checklist** on our web site and as marked in the online application.

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More Tips for Preparing a Competitive Application

5. These must be **shovel-ready** projects.

6. Show how your project meets the **Funding Priorities** and **Parks Commissioner Priorities** for 2016.

7. **Do not commence work or hire professionals** before award or contract without consulting with the Regional Grants Administrator for your county.

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More Tips for Preparing a Competitive Application

8. Click on **SCORING TIPS** for each question in the CFA.

9. Pay particular attention to the **Budget** questions.

10. If you are applying to other agencies in addition to OPRHP, **show what part of the project is specific to OPRHP**.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2016

Do not wait until 4:00 PM to submit your application. Start now, read all available guidance, and prepare accordingly.

Good luck!

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Contact Info

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OR

OPRHP Regional Grants Administrator

http://nysparks.com/grants/contact.aspx

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