



WASHINGTON COUNTY 2017 TOURISM GRANT PROGRAM

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

As part of the Washington County Tourism Promotion Agency's (WCTPA) mission to provide economic benefit to the area by attracting business and leisure travelers, a portion of the county's hotel room tax is directed to support area tourism assets through the Washington County Tourism Grant Program. The purpose of this grant program is to increase visitation, enhance the tourism experience, and generate overnight stays. Grants will be awarded on the basis of merit as determined by the Washington County Tourism Grant Review Committee and administered through the WCTPA.

CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

1. Grants will be considered for any not-for-profit tourism-related entity located within Washington County that submits the accompanying application for funds to promote tourism. Grants may be requested in each of the following categories:
 - a. **Capital Projects** which must enhance the visitor's experience by developing new or enhancing existing Washington County tourist attractions or amenities. A variety of eligible tourism-related projects include: restoration or acquisition of historic or cultural exhibits, on-site signage, and physical improvement of a tourism facility.
 - b. **Marketing Programs** which must primarily target non-Washington County residents. A variety of eligible tourism-related programs include: development of printed promotional material, image marketing, website development/enhancement, tourism awareness programs, and specialized advertising. The Tourism Grant Program will not fund advertisements in local publications, signage or related materials in which the majority are distributed or targeted within Washington County nor within media for which the WCTPA may incorporate similar promotion.
2. Grants will be awarded based upon a fully illustrated campaign according to the following criteria: ability to attract visitors from outside Washington County; potential to attract overnight stays; ability to generate cross-spending; ability to attract return visits; and previous success where applicable (i.e. attendance figures, public acknowledgement). Consideration will be given to start-up organizations or inaugural events which demonstrate a well-developed plan of action. A budget worksheet and copy of quotes/bids for all project activities are required.
3. Grants will not be awarded for staff costs, standard operational or travel expenses.
4. A 25 percent match from other funding sources and/or in-kind support is required specifically toward this project. Volunteer work is valued at \$10/hour and must be documented, including names, dates, duties and hours of service.
5. Grants are awarded once per year and must be appropriately spent in total no later than December 31, 2017. Extensions will be considered if notified in writing by December 1, 2017. A contract will be developed by the WCTPA and will be required to be executed between the WCTPA and all grantees upon receipt.
6. Grant awards will require proof of payment or copy of invoice if needed in advance prior to the release of funds.
7. Applicants should not assume that they will be awarded a grant on an annual basis, nor should a tourism grant be considered a permanent budget line item.
8. If, at the deadline for submission of the current year's application, any recipient of a prior grant who has not submitted the required receipts and supporting documentation within the prescribed deadline shall be ineligible to apply for a future grant until such required receipts and supporting documentation are submitted and accepted.
9. In the event that a member of the Tourism Grant Review Committee serves on the Board of the applicant, or is affiliated in another manner, it is mandatory that said member remove him or herself from the review and/or decision making process of that specific application.
10. The Tourism Grant Review Committee will review all grant applications and announce the awards by April 2017.



WASHINGTON COUNTY 2017 TOURISM GRANT APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Applications and accompanying information should be forwarded to the Washington County Tourism Promotion Agency (WCTPA) in electronic format to dana@washcochamber.com. If applicants are unable to provide an electronic copy, applications will be accepted by mail or personal delivery to the WCTPA at 375 Southpointe Blvd, Suite 240, Canonsburg, PA 15317. Transmission of applications by any other method, including fax, will not be accepted.
2. Applications must be received by the WCTPA no later than 3:00 p.m. on February 21, 2017. Applicants are responsible for verification that on-time submission was made with the WCTPA.
3. Applicants should use only this application(s) and required documents for submission. Please use additional space and provide attachments whenever necessary. Photographs may also be included. Pages that are not applicable to the grant request(s) do not need returned. Additional information may, however, be requested. Please do not place application(s) in folders or binders. Only one copy is required.
4. Hand-written or incomplete applications will be rejected without consideration.
5. Questions may be directed to Dana Bucci at 724.225.3010 or dana@washcochamber.com.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. A budget worksheet and copy of quotes/bids related to the grant request
2. W-9 of sponsor's entity
3. IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter
4. Lists of Board of Directors, professional staff and advisory committees
5. Audited financial reports or complete financial summaries using generally accepted accounting principles from your most recently completed fiscal year

GENERAL INFORMATION

Legal Name of Grant Applicant Entity: _____

Contact Name/Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone(s): _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____ Website: _____

Federal EIN: _____ Entity for which Federal EIN is Assigned to: _____

AGREEMENT

I affirm that all information in this application and all hereby attachments are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further understand that if selected to receive a 2017 Tourism Grant, the grant check will be made payable to the entity whose name appears in the legal name section above.

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CAPITAL PROJECT GRANT REQUEST

1. Name of Capital Project: _____
2. Capital Project Grant Request \$ _____
3. Total Capital Project Budget \$ _____
(including Tourism Grant request)
4. Cash Match \$ _____
5. In-Kind Match \$ _____
6. List the dollar amount and/or description of other funding sources for this Capital Project: _____

7. If this grant request is a cooperative project involving more than one entity, please provide a list additional participants including organization name and contact information: _____

8. Purpose of Capital Project *(in two to three sentences, describe the current need, problem, or opportunity):*

9. Specific Intention for use of Tourism Grant, if awarded: _____

10. Anticipated Timeline of Capital Project: _____
11. How will this Capital Project enhance or increase tourism in Washington County? _____

12. Target Audience (location, gender, age, and number of individuals): _____

13. How will your organization judge the effectiveness of this project to attract business or leisure travelers from outside the county? How will results be measured? _____

14. Have you promoted/attempted a similar Capital Project in the past? _____

15. If so, what was the result? (please list dates and methods of promotion if applicable): _____

16. What were your annual visitation figures for the past two years (if applicable)? 2015 _____ 2016 _____

17. How were the visitation numbers provided above determined? _____

18. Detail your Marketing Plan for attracting business or leisure travelers from outside of Washington County:

19. Brief Description of Grant Applicant Entity (i.e. history, description of programs, activities and services provided):

20. If proceeds of this Capital Project will benefit an entity other than the applicant, please list the organization and it's primary mission: _____

MARKETING PROGRAM GRANT REQUEST

1. Name of Marketing Program: _____

2. Marketing Program Grant Request \$ _____ 3. Total Marketing Program Budget \$ _____
(including Tourism Grant request)

4. Cash Match \$ _____ 5. In-Kind Match \$ _____

6. List the dollar amount and/or description of other funding sources for this Marketing Program: _____

7. If this grant request is a cooperative program involving more than one entity, please provide a list additional participants including organization name and contact information: _____

8. Purpose of Marketing Program (*in two to three sentences, describe the current need, problem, or opportunity*):

9. Specific Intention for use of Tourism Grant, if awarded: _____

10. Anticipated Timeline of Marketing Program: _____

11. How will this Marketing Program enhance or increase tourism in Washington County? _____

12. Target Audience (location, gender, age, and number of individuals): _____

13. How will your organization judge the effectiveness of this program to attract business or leisure travelers from outside the county? How will results be measured? _____

14. Have you promoted/attempted a similar Marketing Program in the past? _____

15. If so, what was the result? (please list dates and methods of promotion if applicable): _____

16. What were your annual visitation figures for the past two years (if applicable)? 2015 _____ 2016 _____

17. How were the visitation numbers provided above determined? _____

18. Detail your Marketing Plan for attracting business or leisure travelers from outside of Washington County:

19. Brief Description of Grant Applicant Entity (i.e. history, description of programs, activities and services provided):

20. If proceeds of this Marketing Program will benefit an entity other than the applicant, please list the organization and its primary mission: _____
