

# Preserving Oregon Grant 2026 Information

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, OREGON HERITAGE

*Oregon Parks and Recreation Department values and serves everyone and is committed to providing safe and equitable access to state parks and agency programs. The department will not tolerate racism, harassment, discrimination, or intimidation in any form.*

Preserving Oregon Grant Programs funds are to be used for:

- rehabilitation work on properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, or
- significant work contributing to identifying, preserving and/or interpreting archaeological sites.

Grants must be submitted through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Grants Online program. There will be two grant cycles in the 2025-2027 biennium. A Letter of Intent to apply and a project review or site visit is required to apply for the Preserving Oregon Grant.

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## Grant Timeline:

- Letter of Intent Deadline: April 7, 2026 (11:59 pm)
- Deadline: May 5, 2026 (11:59 pm)
- Notification: End of June, 2026
- Project Start: July 1, 2026 with agreements fully executed and workplan approved.
- Project Completion and Reporting Deadline: April 30, 2027

## Financial Information:

### AWARD AMOUNT:

Grant funds may be awarded for amounts up to \$20,000. The State Historic Preservation Office attempts to fully fund grant requests. The funding is by reimbursement for work completed.

### MATCH:

Grants must be matched 1:1 by the grantee.

- Match can be in the form of cash, in-kind donations and volunteer time.
- Rates for volunteer services may not exceed Oregon minimum wage, except in those instances in which the volunteer is using their professional skills for the grant assisted work. Then, documentation of their rate is required.
- Indirect costs (general operations costs associated with the grant funded project) or grant administration costs (staff time managing grant reporting and reimbursement) can be applied to the grant for funding or match, only one can be used in the same grant. Both indirect costs and grant administrations costs are limited to 6% of the award amount.

### BUDGET INFORMATION:

Bids and estimates strengthen the grant request when applicable. If awarded the grant requires at least three estimates for work over \$25,000.



## **GRANT REPORTING AND PAYMENT:**

Awarded projects will be the subject of binding agreements between the State and the grantee. Grant funds are dispersed on a reimbursable basis. Details of payment arrangements and grant reporting are included in the grant guidelines.

## **Eligibility, Standards, Criteria, and Priorities:**

### **HISTORIC PROPERTY ORGANIZATION AND PROJECT ELIGIBILITY:**

- Properties must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, either individually or as a "contributing" property in a Historic District, to qualify for funding.
- Commercial or depreciable properties that are taking advantage of the federal investment tax credit cannot include these grant dollars in the expenses for the tax credit.
- Interior work will be considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the significance of the interior and its public value.
- Remodeling, new additions, or solely cosmetic efforts are not eligible for funding.
- Applications are open to all property owners, however priority is given to public and nonprofit owned properties.

### **ARCHEALOGY ORGANIZATION AND PROJECT ELIBILITY:**

Field-based research projects concerning the documentation of archaeological sites, structures, and artifacts are eligible, including:

- conservation and stabilization of specific archaeological sites and monuments;
- field or experimental testing of new or developing methods and materials for identification or conservation;
- development, testing or implementation of heritage management plans;
- programs promoting public awareness of and education about the value and fragility of cultural resources;
- developing and/or implementing innovative techniques in dating, monitoring, analysis, remote sensing of and predicting locations for archeological sites and artifacts;
- projects that discover or study previously untold perspectives and histories of people frequently excluded from historic interpretation;
- conducting surveys and preparing contexts of archaeological sites
- documenting archaeological resources at risk; and
- preparing National Register of Historic Places nominations of archaeological sites.

### **PRESERVATION STANDARDS:**

The application must convey that all work will be completed using appropriate preservation practices, for example, the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties, SHPO regulations for archaeological work, etc.

### **CRITERIA FOR PRESERVATION PROJECTS:**

- How significant the work is to the structure's integrity.
- The level of preservation of character-defining features.
- How well the work plan and cost estimates are developed and described.
- How well the project is shown to meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.
- Historic significance of the property.



### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PRESERVATION PROJECTS:**

- Higher priority will be given to publicly owned resources and private nonprofit resources, and properties that offer the greatest public benefit through visual access and interpretive/educational value.
- Properties that are not publicly owned or nonprofit-owned must have exceptional significance and/or extraordinary public benefit to compete.
- Properties associated with untold perspectives and histories of people frequently excluded from historic interpretation are more competitive.
- Geographic distribution.
- Additional evaluation will be based on demonstrated project readiness and the matching dollar share in-hand commitment.

### **CRITERIA FOR ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECTS:**

- The significance of the contribution to the field of archaeology.
- The demonstration of technically sound methodology.
- Includes a principal investigator who is a professional archaeologist.
- Disseminate project results effectively
- Historic significance of the property.
- Is cost effective given the scope of work and the audience.
- The capability of the applicant to carry out the proposed project.

### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECTS:**

- Projects that discover or study previously untold perspectives and histories of people frequently excluded from historic interpretation are more competitive.
- Projects with a well-prioritized, clearly explained work plan with an appropriate level of detail and realistic cost estimates are stronger.
- Geographic diversity.
- Project readiness, including matching dollar share in-hand is a higher priority.
- Projects that are part of a larger project or have far reaching results and uses beyond the submission of the product to SHPO are stronger.

### **ASSISTANCE:**

Please read the Preserving Oregon grant guidelines for details on application questions, award process, and grant requirements. For grant questions, translation assistance, and OPRD: Grants Online support, contact: Kuri Gill, [kuri.gill@opr.d.oregon.gov](mailto:kuri.gill@opr.d.oregon.gov), 503-986-0685.

