



YORK COUNTY TOURISM GRANT PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the York County Tourism Grant Program?

The York County Tourism Grant program was established by Explore York and the York County Commissioners. It is a competitive matching grant program aimed at boosting tourism (visitation from beyond a 50-mile radius) in York County. The program, which is funded through a room tax enacted by the York County Commissioners, will provide financial support to initiatives deemed capable of generating broad and substantial benefit to York County tourism. Grant recipients are selected by a committee comprised of appointed representatives outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding between York County and Explore York.

What grants are available?

2022 Round 2: Will be announced late fall 2022.

Maximum request: \$50,000. No minimum request.

2023 Round 1: Opens January 2023. Closes February 15, 2023. Recipients announced early spring 2023.

No maximum request; \$2,500 minimum request.

Timely Opportunity Grant: Open all year round.

Contact Elizabeth Waite at elizabeth@yorkpa.org for more information.

How do you apply for a tourism grant?

The Tourism Grant program is located online, <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=yorkvisitors>, providing one-window access for users to draft and submit grant applications, check application status, and manage reports. First-time applicants will need to create an account prior to applying.

Who is eligible to apply for a tourism grant?

The Tourism Grant program is open to for-profit organizations, non-profit organizations, and government agencies with innovative projects aimed at expanding and/or improving tourism promotion and development in York County. An individual applicant must apply under a fiscal sponsor or form an LLC.

Is a match required?

All grant recipients must provide at least a 25 percent match, cash or in-kind, of the requested grant amount. A match can be derived from applicant dollars, sponsorships, donated dollars, and/or leveraging another grant. An in-kind match could include a donated physical item or professional service. Volunteer hours and staff time will NOT be accepted as an in-kind match.

What kinds of expenses does the grant cover?

Grant funds can be utilized for events, research, development, or marketing.

Is there anything that the grant does NOT cover?

A grant initiative cannot unduly compete with a private sector organization.

Can applicants submit multiple applications to the York County Tourism Grant Program?

Yes, there is no set number of grant awards to be made in any fiscal year.

Can applicants use grant funding from another grant program as the match for this grant?

Yes, the grant committee encourages grant recipients to leverage grant dollars by attracting additional funding sources and collaborating with other partners.

How will my organization know if it has been awarded any money?

All applicants will receive email notification.

Once I have been awarded a grant, what is the next step?

Log onto <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=yorkvisitors> to review and submit the grant contract.

What are the requirements for each grant recipient?

Grant recipients will be required to sign a grant contract, provide a certificate of insurance in the amount of \$1 million naming Explore York as additional insured, and provide interim reports and post grant reports with receipts. In addition, grant recipients will be required to place the Explore York logo and website on any marketing material, print or digital, funded by the grant program. Any marketing material containing the Explore York logo must be submitted for approval by Explore York before publishing. Digital material must contain a link to www.yorkpa.org. Grant recipients must provide a link on their website to www.yorkpa.org and make available copies of the official York County Travel Guide at their place of business and/or at the grant funded event. Travel guides can be obtained by emailing Explore York at mary@yorkpa.org.

How do I get the Explore York logo?

Logos are located on the Explore York website: <https://www.yorkpa.org/about-us/york-county-tourism-grant-program/explore-york-logos/>

Does the current fiscal year grant award have to be closed before we can apply for the upcoming fiscal year grant?

No, but all necessary paperwork and reports that are due must be submitted.

When submitting expenditures for the post grant report, what is proof of payment?

Grant recipients will need to submit receipts for program expenditures of \$500 or more totaling the grant amount and the 25 percent match. The following can be used for proof of payment: receipts, copies of bank issued cancelled checks, credit card receipts with credit card statement showing matching dollar of expenses, copy of your bank statement (for debit card statement) showing the vendor's name, and dollar amount matching the invoiced amount.

Where can I locate additional information?

Additional information on the grant program is located on the Explore York website: <https://www.yorkpa.org/about-us/york-county-tourism-grant-program/>

Who do I contact for additional information?

Elizabeth Waite, Grant Program Manager

Email: elizabeth@yorkpa.org

Phone: 717-852-9675 ext. 113