



PRESERVATION GRANT GUIDE

Funding can often be the most difficult part of a historic preservation project. As a service to those needing an extra dose of motivation to get their projects off the ground, the Texas Historical Commission (THC) offers this guide with easy-to-find information about applying for agency grants.

For additional assistance, consider attending one of the Friends of the THC's Development Workshops. For more information about the workshops, visit www.thcfriends.org or call 512-936-2189.

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Certified Local Government (CLG) grants enable communities to develop quality preservation programs. Eligible projects include: training for local preservation commissions, completing or updating surveys of historic resources, producing historical walking or driving tour materials, and preparing preservation plans and National Register of Historic Places nominations. CLG grants require a cash or in-kind service match from the community.

WHO MAY APPLY? Cities or counties officially designated as CLGs are eligible.

DEADLINE: Applications are due in the fall of each year.

REVIEW PROCESS: An interdisciplinary panel of agency staff reviews the applications and the agency's commissioners approve all grants.

PROJECT EXAMPLE: With its CLG grant, Abilene developed a comprehensive strategic plan to direct preservation activities. One of the city's historic highlights is the Grace Cultural Center, a renovation project located in the 1909 Grace Hotel.

FUNDING INFORMATION: CLG grants are funded with money appropriated by the federal government for preservation efforts through the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund (HPF). By law, the THC must set aside at least 10 percent of its HPF appropriation for CLG grants each year. Grants typically range from \$2,000 to \$30,000.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call 512-463-7812 or email thc@thc.texas.gov.

TEXAS HISTORIC COURTHOUSE PRESERVATION PROGRAM

The THC announced in June 1999 that the Texas Legislature and Gov. George W. Bush had established the Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. The program provides partial matching grants to Texas counties for the restoration of their historic county courthouses.

WHO MAY APPLY? Texas counties or municipalities seeking to restore their historic county courthouses (over 50 years old) are eligible. To participate, the applicant must have an approved courthouse preservation master plan. For more information about developing a preservation master plan and for grant application scoring and timelines, visit thc.texas.gov.

DEADLINE: For each funding round, a call for applications is usually announced in the summer/fall following the legislative session. County judges are notified of the timeline for submittal of applications and awards by letter.

REVIEW PROCESS: An interdisciplinary panel of agency staff review the applications and score on the basis of 22 criteria and the agency's commissioners approve all grants.

PROJECT EXAMPLE: Marion County received a \$4,682,610 grant award to fully restore the exterior and interior public spaces of the building to its original appearance and configuration, and to improve functionality by bringing the building into compliance with life safety code and accessibility standards, and updating the mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems. Regrading will improve site drainage, and severely deteriorated masonry and cast stone will be repaired and repointed. The removal of dropped ceilings, wood paneling, and gypsum board will reveal original decorative finishes.

FUNDING INFORMATION: Most recently, the 88th Legislature appropriated \$25 million to fund Round XI of the program for fiscal years 2019-20. Grants require a minimum 15% local match and cannot exceed \$6 million per county. To date, the program has assisted in the full restoration of 99 county courthouses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call 512-463-6094 or email architecture@thc.texas.gov.

TEXAS PRESERVATION TRUST FUND

The Texas Legislature established the Texas Preservation Trust Fund (TPTF) in 1989. The fund is managed by the Texas Treasury Safekeeping Trust Company. The TPTF investment earnings are administered as matching grants to qualified applicants for the acquisition, survey, restoration, preservation or for the planning and heritage educational activities leading to the preservation of historic architectural and archeological properties and associated collections of the State of Texas. Competitive grants are awarded on a one-to-one match basis and are paid as reimbursement of eligible expenses incurred.

DEADLINE: Grant cycles are typically held yearly and are announced on the THC website.

FUNDING INFORMATION: Grants typically range from \$10,000 to \$30,000.

TYPES OF PRESERVATION GRANTS:

Development, acquisition, planning, and heritage education.

WHO MAY APPLY? Preservation grants can be made to any public or private entity that is the owner, manager, lessee, maintainer, potential purchaser of an eligible property, or any public or private entity whose purpose includes historic preservation.

PROJECT/PROPERTY ELIGIBILITY: To be considered eligible for grant assistance projects including building/structures, landscapes or archeological sites must have a required historic designation or be eligible to receive one.

APPLICATION PROCESS: There are two steps in the grant application process. First, all applicants are required to submit brief application forms for the THC to review prior to each year's deadline. The THC will select the highest priority projects from the initial applications and invite those applicants to move forward to the second step. Successful applicants will continue the process by submitting detailed project proposals and budgets. Full project proposals will be considered by the THC as per the grant cycle calendar.

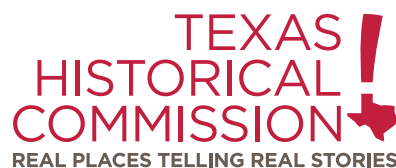
REVIEW PROCESS: An interdisciplinary panel of agency staff reviews the applications and project proposals and the THC commissioners approve the grant awards as recommended by the TPTF Advisory Board.

PROJECT EXAMPLE: The THC awarded Humanities Texas a \$25,144 matching grant that assisted with planning work for the Byrne-Reed House located in Austin. Even though the THC grant represented a small percentage of the \$2 million restoration project, it served a critical role in assisting the organization with project design, including schematic design, design development, and a portion of the construction documents.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call 512-463-6094 or email architecture@thc.texas.gov.

HOW TO REACH US

Staff members are available to answer questions and provide preservation assistance. Please contact us at:
Architecture Division: 512-463-6094
Community Heritage Division: 512-463-7812



thc.texas.gov