



African American Civil Rights (AACR) – Preservation



McDonogh 19 Elementary School, one of two sites where school desegregation took place in New Orleans in 1960, now the Tate, Etienne, and Prevost (TEP) Interpretive Center
TEP INTERPRETIVE CENTER

The goal of the African American Civil Rights grant program is to preserve and protect sites associated with the struggle for equality from the transatlantic slave trade forward. Additional funding will also be available for AACR History Grants to preserve and document the stories associated with the struggle for equality under a separate notice of funding opportunity for fiscal year 2024.

Who May Apply

- States and Territories
- Federally-recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Villages/Corporations, and Native Hawaiian Organizations, as defined by 54 USC 300309, 54 USC 300313 and 54 USC 300314
- Local Governments, including Certified Local Governments (list provided at [go.nps.gov/clglist](https://www.nps.gov/clglist))
- Nonprofit organizations

What Is Funded

Pre-preservation and Preservation Projects

- Grants fund physical preservation of historic sites to include historic districts, buildings, sites, structures, and objects. Projects must comply with Section 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), NEPA, and execute a preservation covenant/easement.
- Pre-preservation projects fund studies, architectural plans and specifications, historic structure reports, and the repair and rehabilitation of historic properties.
- All projects must meet the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards & Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*.
- Properties must be listed in or determined eligible by the applicable SHPO or THPO for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or designated a National Historic Landmark, either individually or as contributing to a district, whose significance is associated with African American civil rights and the struggle for equality.
- Projects not listed in the National Register or not listed in association with African American civil rights **must** prepare or amend a nomination as part of the grant project.

What Is Not Funded

- Construction of new buildings
- Acquisition of collections or historic sites
- Long-term maintenance or work outside the grant period
- Reconstructing historic properties (recreating all or a significant portion that no longer exists)
- Moving or work on moved historic properties that are no longer eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places
- Cash reserves, endowments, revolving funds, or fund-raising costs
- Work performed prior to receipt of grant funding
- Sites or collections owned or leased by the NPS, or in which the NPS holds a property interest
- Lobbying or advocacy activities
- Costs for work already completed or funded through other programs
- Costs to manage the grant may not exceed 25% of the total budget per statute
- Miscellaneous costs, contingencies, reserves, and overhead

Grant Amounts

- **Pre-preservation projects** – Minimum of \$15,000 and maximum \$75,000 federal share.
- **Preservation projects** – Minimum of \$75,000 and maximum \$750,000 federal share.
 - 20% of preservation projects may go towards pre-preservation costs such as architectural or engineering services.
- Matching funds are not required but may be considered as part of the evaluation process.

Selection Process

NPS personnel and qualified Federal employees will review all complete proposals using the criteria outlined below. Reviewers' evaluations are based solely on the material provided in the application. Additional materials not specifically required by the application, and materials sent separately from the application, will not be considered. A summary of the review panel comments may be provided to the applicant if requested after the grant process is complete. All funded grantees will undergo a risk assessment as part of the award process.

Evaluation and Selection Criteria

Project descriptions must address, and applications will be rated on, each of the criteria listed below. NPS will evaluate and consider only complete applications that separately address each of the four criteria. All criteria are rated equally. You are required to provide a detailed narrative of these elements using the project description and budget justification worksheets. These items along with other required application documents are only available through Grants.gov.

1. **Significance:** Describe the historic resource(s), site, event or person in the proposed project that played a role in the African American struggle for civil rights. Describe any historic resources affected by this project including significance and listing in the National Register of Historic Places and/or designated at the State, Tribal, or local level. Discuss the current integrity of the resource to include major changes that have been made since the time associated with civil rights.
2. **Need/Urgency/Threat:** Describe the threat to the site including the source, nature, extent, and severity. Discuss how the project will directly mitigate the threat. Discuss how the project is the next logical step toward long-term preservation of the resource(s).
3. **Feasibility:** List and describe all tasks and their expected results. If you have a previous or active NPS grant, explain your progress to date and its relationship to the project proposed in this application. Justify the timeline as provided in the Timeline section of the Project Description Worksheet, keeping in mind that award announcements are not expected until approximately 6 months following the application due date. Demonstrate that the costs identified in the Budget Justification Worksheet are necessary, reasonable, and allowable. Demonstrate how you will successfully complete the project within the given timeframe (3 years) and with the given resources while meeting all federal requirements and guidelines. Briefly describe who or what type of expertise will be involved in carrying out the project and their qualifications, attach resumes/CVs as applicable.
4. **Sustainability:** Describe the potential impact of the project after completion, including long-term effects. Describe the maintenance plan for the site after grant work is completed. Describe how the preservation of this site will support the community and continue to tell the story of the struggle for African American civil rights from the transatlantic slave trade forward.

Process and Deadlines

Applications are anticipated to open in summer of 2024 and are due in fall of 2024. Congress has appropriated \$24 million for AACR Preservation, History, and AACRN grant programs for fiscal year 2024. All applications must be made through Grants.gov. No paper applications will be accepted. Registration in Grants.gov, SAM.gov, and other federal systems can take up to four weeks, so please start early. Extensions will not be granted due to incomplete registrations in these systems. To be notified when the grant opportunity opens, please visit Grants.gov and subscribe to a saved search for CFDA number 15.966. You can create a saved search on Grants.gov under the "Connect" menu "Manage Subscriptions."

Additional Information

Visit [go.nps.gov/civilrightsgrant](https://www.nps.gov/civilrightsgrant) for more information about this grant program.

For more information on our other programs, please visit [go.nps.gov/grants](https://www.nps.gov/grants).

For application assistance:
National Park Service
STLPG@nps.gov
202-354-2020

For Grants.gov assistance:
support@grants.gov
1-800-518-4726