



History of Equal Rights (HER)



Women picketing at the White House, February, 1917
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The goal of the History of Equal Rights grant program is to preserve and protect sites associated with efforts to achieve equal rights. The History of Equal Rights grants are not limited to any specific group and are intended to include the broadest possible interpretation of equal rights for any American.

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)
- Nonprofit organizations

What Is Funded

Pre-preservation and Preservation Projects

- Preservation projects fund physical preservation of a historic site to include historic districts, buildings, sites, structures, and objects. Projects must comply with relevant laws, such as Section 106 and 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 according to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards & Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*.
- Properties must be **listed in or eligible for** listing in the National Register of Historic Places or designated a National Historic Landmark either individually or as part of a district. Significance must be associated with equal rights. Projects that propose work for properties that are not yet listed on the National Register or are not listed in association with equal rights must include a nomination or amendment to an existing nomination as part of their 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 announcement of award
- Lobbying or advocacy activities
- Costs for work already completed or funded through other federal programs
- Costs to manage the grant may not exceed 25% of the total budget per statute
- Miscellaneous costs, contingencies, reserves, or overhead
- Sites or collections owned or leased by the NPS, or in which the NPS holds a property interest

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) in the proposed project that played a role in the struggle for equal rights. Describe the community and the historic resources affected by this project including its significance and whether they are listed in the National Register of Historic Places and/or designated at the state, tribal, or local level. Discuss how your project will help identify and preserve places seminal to the story of equal rights.
2. **Need/Urgency/Threat:** Describe the need, urgency, and threat the project addresses and how the activities are necessary and will mitigate that threat. Discuss how the project is the next logical step toward the resource's preservation.
3. **Feasibility:** Describe all tasks and their results. Discuss your timeline (located below) and budget justification (separate document) to show that costs are necessary, reasonable, and allowable. Demonstrate how you will successfully complete the project within the given time frame (2-3 years) and with the given resources while meeting all federal requirements and guidelines. Briefly describe who will be involved in carrying out the project and their qualifications, attach resumes/CVs as applicable.
4. **Sustainability:** Describe the impacts of the project after completion, including long lasting effects. Describe the public-private partnerships and community engagement involved in the project and how these partnerships will sustain and continue to support the resources after the grant project is complete. For Preservation projects, describe the plan for continued maintenance. If previously funded, please describe the progress made to date.

Process and Deadlines

Applications are anticipated to open in fall of 2024 and are due in winter of 2024. Congress has appropriated \$5 million for this program in 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/her](https://www.nps.gov/her) 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