

The Monmouth County Historical Commission

Hall of Records Annex • One East Main Street • Freehold, NJ 07728

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HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in the Monmouth County Historical Commission's Historic Preservation Grant program. The Commission is the official County body created by the Board of County Commissioners for the promotion of preservation of Monmouth County history. Our principal program is the Historic Preservation Grants, an undertaking that recognizes the acute need for funding to preserve Monmouth County's rich and diverse built environment. This program provides enabling funds to serve as a model for other giving and to encourage municipal and organizational commitment.

The Commission plans to grant funds allocated by the Board of County Commissioners on a competitive basis to eligible applicants (i.e., municipalities and non-profit organizations), which need financial help in preserving or restoring historic structures. *(Due to a New Jersey Supreme Court ruling, houses of worship are no longer eligible for these grants.)* Funds are allocated in the form of a dollar for dollar matching basis. There is a \$500 minimum and a \$10,000 maximum grant per applicant, which has been increased this year to encourage participation.

The applicant must read the application carefully. The application and the submission process will be reviewed at a Grants Workshop, to be held in-person at the Planning Board Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Hall of Records Annex, 1 East Main Street, Freehold at 6:00 PM, Monday, September 18, 2023. Register for link by contacting Executive Director, Meg Sharp Walton by e-mail at Margaret.SharpWalton@co.monmouth.nj.us Start your preparations early, as many have found that obtaining two reliable bids can be the most difficult and time-consuming step.

The deadline for applying is Friday, November 3, 2023 postmarked or delivery to Monmouth County Historical Commission, Hall of Records Annex (2nd Floor), 1 East Main Street, Freehold, N.J. 07728. The format requires completion of the attached application and submission with other required documents. Please note that although the application was designed for simplicity and intended to be user-friendly, the instructions must be followed carefully.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kolarsick-Harrigan

Chair

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

The application must be complete, and the project must meet all the requirements as outlined herein. An incomplete or untimely submission will result in rejection of the application.

I APPLICANTS ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Non-profit organizations and municipalities in Monmouth County, without regard to the entity's size or budget, which do not have outstanding at year-end an incomplete Commission grant older than two years. In other words, when applying for a 2024 grant, an applicant will not be eligible for a grant if a Commission grant for years 2021 or earlier is still outstanding on December 31, 2023.

II TYPES OF PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Preservation, restoration, or rehabilitation of historic structures in Monmouth County, usually fifty years or older, which are accessible to the public are eligible. The program covers essentially structural work for projects commonly known as "bricks and mortar" undertakings.

III PROJECTS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

- Paving, infrastructure repairs or enhancements, including but not limited to HVAC (heating, ventilation, or air conditioning) plumbing, electrical work, access modifications or security changes
- Feasibility studies or applications that are for reimbursement of architectural, engineering, or other consulting fees are also not eligible
- Projects where work that has already begun are not eligible, although consideration may be given to the latter parts of multiple-phase projects, where larger undertakings have been divided into separate projects
- Submissions from federal or state agencies, although "friends' groups" or similar organizations of such agencies that have conservation responsibilities are eligible
- Operational expenses, including salaries of employees, general operating expenses and other costs attendant to an applicant's historic work, including exhibits, collection purchases, research and publications (These expenses may be eligible for our History Regrant Program funding.)
- Furniture, fixtures, appliances, carpeting, audio-visual, computer, or other equipment
- Houses of worship, including, but not limited to, churches, synagogues, temples, mosques, etc. or any other building or structure owned by a religious organization

IV ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

Cost of materials for "bricks and mortar" type construction and wages of skilled workers are allowable expenses.

V AMOUNTS AVAILABLE, MATCHING REQUIREMENT AND PAYMENT OF FUNDS

- a) Grants are made for a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$10,000 per applicant. Each dollar granted must be matched by one dollar cash by the applicant. In-kind matching is prohibited.
- b) Payment of any grant is contingent on the County Commissioners appropriating grant funds in the 2024 budget.

VI DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Entries must be postmarked or delivered to the Monmouth County Historical Commission, Hall of Records Annex, 1 East Main St., Freehold, N.J. 07728 by November 3, 2023, a deadline that is absolute and final. Successful applicants will be notified shortly after the Commission's meeting scheduled for January 22, 2024. The grant will be presented at an awards ceremony during the February 26, 2024 Commission meeting.

VII INSURANCE AND HOLD HARMLESS

The applicant must execute a hold harmless agreement (using the language set forth below) and submit a Certificate of Insurance for General Liability in an amount not less than \$500,000 Combined Personal Injury and Property Damage and add the County of Monmouth as an additional insured. Said certificate, which shall not be a copy of your policy's declarations, shall include Contractual Liability to insure this required hold harmless agreement.

The applicant shall execute on its own letterhead, signed by a representative authorized to make contracts on behalf of the applicant, a hold harmless agreement using the following sample text:

The (insert here either the name of your organization, or municipality) will defend, hold and save the County of Monmouth, its officers, agents and employees, and any appointed body or commission and its members harmless from any and all suits, claims and demands of any nature or kind, including costs and expenses for or on account thereof, for injury to persons or damage to property sustained by any person or persons resulting in whole or in part from the performance or omission of any employee, agent or representative or contractor or sub-contractor of the (organization/municipality).

VIII FINANCIAL SECURITY

The Commission may require proof of availability of matching funds and/or the successful applicant to open a separate bank account specifically designated for the project and to deposit their entire grant and matching funds in said account.

Municipal grantees are required to submit a resolution by its governing body authorizing the dedication of matching funds, which may be done after a grant is designated.

The Commission reserves the right to audit the grantees accounts relating to grant funds and payments to contractors. The Commission reserves the right to demand and receive the return of any funds not spent in accordance with the program's Rules and Regulations or other stipulations and, by submission of the application, the applicant agrees to this provision.

IX. REPORTS

Each grantee is required to submit Interim and Final Reports, one-page documents to be accompanied by three photographs each that depict project progress, preferably taken from the same perspective as the pre-work images. The Interim Report is due August 1st or when 50% of the work is completed, if earlier. The Final Report due at completion is to be evidence of completion and shall be accompanied by a cancelled check and/or receipt from the contractor acknowledging payment in full. Copies of the report forms are included in this application. The grantee is not permitted to reduce the scope of the granted project without the concurrence and approval of the Commission.

HOW TO APPLY

Each applicant must submit an original and three (3) copies:

1. Completed Application signed in ink by an authorized representative of the non-profit organization or by the authorized agent for the municipality.
2. Project Narrative – This is a description of the applicant’s mission or purpose; its meaning to history; the project’s significance and purpose; the audience the applicant serves and any other important facts or reasons that the Commission should consider in evaluating the application. Write in a convincing manner with the intention of helping the Commission believe that in a competitive environment that your submission is worthy. As an option, applicants may also include brochures, newsletters, or other supporting documentation to assist the MCHC.
3. At least three color photographs depicting different views of the project. The photographs should relate to the narrative and enable the Commission to perceive the proposed project and evaluate the work after its completion. All copies of photographs must be in color to permit proper evaluation of your project. Keep copies of submitted photographs and send images with Interim and Final reports from the same perspectives. If we are unable to evaluate your Final Report from the submitted material, an on-site inspection may be necessary, which could delay payment.
4. A detailed budget for the project and source of funding available for the applicant’s 1:1 match contribution.
5. If the application is for a structure for which grants have been previously given, especially for work of a similar character, the distinction of the new application must be explicit.
6. Two quotations for the proposed work, sufficiently detailed to describe the scope of work and materials to be used. Replacement with like or same material may be a requirement.
7. A timeframe for the work, which should be scheduled for completion by December 31, 2024. No funds will be paid for work completed after that date without the expressed written consent of the Commission. Requests for extensions shall be submitted no later than November 15, 2024 and approvals for extensions will be considered by MCHC on a project by project basis.
8. A Certificate of Insurance and Hold Harmless Agreement as specified herein.
9. Two letters of recommendation, using either the sample form enclosed with the application or a separately written letter, by persons capable to evaluate your project and your ability to complete it. Such recommenders must not be members, office holders or employees of your organization, or their families, or be directly connected with the project, or be an elected official or employee of the County of Monmouth. Enter the title of the project on your recommendation forms or advise those submitting the recommendations to reference that title in their letters.
10. PLEASE DO NOT PLACE THE MATERIAL IN BINDERS OR OTHER ENCLOSURES THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO USE AND STORE.

ABOUT THE PROCESS

When applications are reviewed the Commission's judgments are based on a number of factors including, but not limited to: historic significance; urgency of need, both of the applicant and the surrounding area; adherence of the project to historic authenticity; public accessibility; geographic distribution throughout the County; quality of application and financial ability of the applicant to realistically complete the project. Prior grantees may be judged by their past performance in complying with and documenting their earlier grant(s). Not every eligible project is guaranteed to receive a grant as requests regularly exceed available funds and the program is competitive. Completed applications are due November 3, 2023. Successful applicants are notified shortly after the January 22, 2024 Commission meeting, while the grant awards are presented at the subsequent Commission meeting on February 26, 2024.

COMPLIANCE

The grantee agrees to permit the inspection of such preservation work on an ongoing basis by members of the Commission and staff.

The applicant agrees that it has complied and will comply with the applicable Federal and State laws relating to nonprofit corporations and has filed appropriate Federal Income Tax reports and made timely payments of Withholding and FICA as required by law.

The applicant will comply with all the requirements of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 and all other applicable Federal, State and local laws. Services will be rendered without regard to race, religion, color, natural origin, disability, or sex.

No rights or obligations under this contract may be assigned by any party without the written consent of the Commission.

The Commission and/or Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to a refund, on demand, of all funds that were expended in a manner not consistent with the terms of this contract, not expended in a timely manner, or as a consequence of administrative or financial non-compliance of the grant program.

The Commission's failure to enforce any requirement or obligation of the grantee, either in a current or prior grant, shall not constitute a waiver of such requirement or obligation.

COMMISSION'S PREROGATIVE

The judgments and decisions of the Commission with respect to any interpretation of the program's Rules and Requirements, possible ambiguity in the program's Rules and Requirements, or questions of eligibility of any applicant, or the suitability of any proposed project, or the relative merits of any applications, or decision to waive or refuse to waive any Rule or Requirement, shall be conclusive. In addition, the Commission cannot and does not guarantee that all applicants will be awarded a grant, and there is also no guarantee that awarded grants will be for the amount requested. The Commission's determination to award grants shall be final and subject to any conditions established by the Commission.

**MONMOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
APPLICATION COVER AND SIGNATURE PAGE**

(Type or print clearly)

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **Federal ID#:** _____

E-mail: _____ **Fax:** _____

Project Director & Position: _____

Person Completing Application: _____

Organization's Annual Budget: _____

Estimated Time Frame: Starting Date _____ Ending Date _____

Title and Brief Description of Project (GIVE THE PROJECT A TITLE AND SPECIFY IT HERE):

N.B. Submit Project Narrative (see second item on "How to Apply" page) on a separate sheet of paper. This narrative should depict the significance of the project and serve to convince the Commission to award a grant.

Summary of Proposed Budget

ITEM	MCHC GRANT	OTHER GRANT (If Applicable)	CASH MATCH	
			On Hand	To Be Raised
Construction Materials				
Covered Labor Costs				

Source of Matching Funding: _____

Amount Requested: _____

(cannot exceed the lesser of 50% of the eligible budgeted (lowest bid) costs or \$10,000)

The applicant's submission consists of this Cover and Signature Page, the Project Narrative, the Detailed Budget and two Bids, two Recommendations, three Photographs, a Certificate of Insurance and Hold Harmless Agreement. The undersigned:

- a) Acknowledges having read all the specified material
- b) Understands and agrees that acceptance of a grant constitutes a contract with the County of Monmouth
- c) Agrees to comply with all provisions to complete the project as specified, either in the application or those terms and conditions of a grant, if an award is made
- d) Agrees to affix to the submission letters of recommendation as specified in HOW TO APPLY, Item 9
- e) Agrees to submit Interim and Final Reports to the MCHC, as required herein
- f) Agrees to appropriately reference the MCHC in any publicity related to the funded project

**Printed Name and Signature
of Authorized Representative:** _____ **Date:** _____

MONMOUTH COUNTY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

RECOMMENDATION FORM

**APPLICANT AND
TITLE OF PROJECT:** _____

ORGANIZATION'S ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ **TELEPHONE:** _____

PERSON COMPLETING RECOMMENDATION: _____

YOUR ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

HOW DID YOU BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE WORK OF THIS ORGANIZATION? _____

PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY YOU RECOMMEND THIS PROJECT FOR GRANT FUNDING. _____

OTHER COMMENTS, IF ANY: _____

Signature

Date

**MONMOUTH COUNTY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

**CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANT
(Do not return)**

Please review your application, ensuring that the following materials are included. Proper completion of the application will aid the Commission in its review of your project and maintain its eligibility. Do not return this checklist. The Commission maintains a separate list for reviewing your submission.

NUMBER OF COPIES (Original plus three copies)	_____
APPLICATION PAGE, INCLUDING TIMEFRAME	_____
PROJECT NARRATIVE, INCLUDING AUDIENCE	_____
DETAILED PROJECT BUDGET	_____
TWO (2) SEPARATE BIDS	_____
THREE (3) PHOTOGRAPHS	_____
CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE	_____
HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT	_____

REPORTS

Pursuant to Rules and Requirement (IX), grantees are required to submit Interim and Final Reports. These are simple, one-page forms, each to be accompanied by three photographs. The Interim Report, due August 1st or completion of 50% of the work, if earlier, tells us how you are progressing. The Final Report due on completion, but no later than December 31st, documents completion and payment to the contractor. Both these Reporting Forms follow this page.

**MONMOUTH COUNTY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
INTERIM REPORT**

**To be submitted when half of the work is completed or by August 1, whichever occurs first
IF THERE IS ANY DOUBT ABOUT YOUR ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT, THE COMMISSION MUST BE
ADVISED AT ONCE.**

Project Number: _____

Grantee and

Project Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

HAS PROJECT WORK STARTED? _____

IF YES:

DATE WORK COMMENCED _____

PERCENTAGE OF WORK COMPLETED _____

ANTICIPATED DATE OF COMPLETION _____

PLEASE SUBMIT THREE (3) PHOTOS OF WORK COMPLETED TO DATE. RECALL YOUR "BEFORE"
PICTURES AND TRY TO SEND SIMILAR VIEWS THAT WILL ILLUSTRATE PROGRESS OF WORK.

IF NO:

ANTICIPATED DATE WORK IS TO COMMENCE _____

PLEASE UTILIZE THE SPACE BELOW TO EXPLAIN WHY PROJECT HAS NOT
BEGUN. _____

Authorized Signature

Date

PLEASE RETURN TO: Monmouth County Historical Commission
Hall of Records Annex, 2nd Floor
1 E. Main Street
Freehold, NJ 07728

MONMOUTH COUNTY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

FINAL REPORT

Project Number: _____

Grantee and

Project Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

WHEN WAS THE PROJECT COMPLETED? _____

HOW DOES THE COMPLETED WORK CONFORM WITH THE PROJECT NARRATIVE AND ANY POSSIBLE COMMISSION STIPULATION? WHAT DEVIANCES EXIST? PLEASE EXPLAIN.

PLEASE SUBMIT:

- THREE (3) PHOTOS OF COMPLETED WORK. Recall your “before” pictures and try to send similar views that will readily illustrate the work done
- RECEIPTS AS PROOF OF PAYMENT. Prior payment for the work is a grant requirement as the grant is reimbursement for payment to the contractor and not to be used to pay the contractor
- ANY OTHER DOCUMENTATION AS PROOF THAT PROJECT WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED

Authorized Signature

Date

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