



## RURAL DEVELOPMENT

# COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP GRANTS

### PURPOSE

These grants sponsor programs that **grow business and economic development leadership skills** for formal and informal community leaders. The Wyoming Business Council supports training, activities, or other programs that foster the development of leadership skills.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS	ADULT LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS *
<p><b>Purpose:</b> support Wyoming's future leaders by promoting business and economic development education and provide opportunities for state and national leadership training, competition, and career exploration.</p>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> equip community leaders with practical economic development tools, enhance their knowledge and build local capacity to drive strategic, community-centered economic development approaches.</p>
<p><b>Maximum Grant Amount:</b> \$2000</p>	<p><b>Maximum Grant Amount:</b> \$1500</p>
<p><b>Required Match:</b> 10%</p>	<p><b>Required Match:</b> 10%</p>

**\* The Adult Leadership Training Grant:** ensure community leaders have a foundational understanding of how economic growth both works and impacts their quality of life today and in the future. We are building an educated, active pipeline for smart, innovative economic growth decision-making on the local level.

Training should address the following:

1. Economic growth is about community resilience, not just jobs.
2. Understanding the Root Problem and Barriers to Growth
3. Start with honest assessment of what you actually have
4. Focus on "Tradeable Income" - money from outside the community
5. Growth requires intentional, collaborative action
6. Build the foundation before chasing opportunities

Contact your Regional Director to facilitate the training. To find your regional director, [select this link](#).

## TO APPLY

**Application Link:** [select HERE to apply](#)

**Application Deadline:** Rolling Applications

**Reimbursement Deadline:** Reimbursement requests must be received within 30 days of the project, activity, or event.

## GRANT DETAILS

The Wyoming Business Council will reimburse both adult and youth organization programs that focus on growing skill sets and local leadership, especially in the business, industry, and economic development sectors. Applicants must obtain grant approval before initiating any activities. Grantees are responsible for covering the costs associated with the event or project and assume sole responsibility for any debts or liabilities incurred

during this process. Grant funds will be disbursed after the activity has occurred and the reimbursement request has been submitted.

Grant recipients are limited to **one (1) project grant per fiscal year** (July 1-June 30).

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Meets eligibility criteria.
- Increases leadership capacity and/or capabilities
- **Adult Programming** directly relates to business and/or economic growth leadership skills.

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Local or regional leadership development programs
- State leadership development organizations
- Economic and/or business development organizations
- Community development organizations
- Cities, towns, joint powers boards, or Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes

## ELIGIBLE PROJECTS AND EXPENSES

Eligible projects include leadership development programming, conferences, or competitions and economic development training or programming.

Adult Programming must include an economic growth or business leadership component.

### Examples of Eligible Expenses

- Speaker fees
- Facility fees
- Event materials
- Travel, room and board (youth organizations only.)

## Examples of Successful Grant Awards

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS	ADULT LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sponsors speaker and facility fees at a state competition for high school students competing in leadership and business events.</li> <li>● Contributes to travel and lodging expenses for high school students to attend a national conference, refine leadership skills, and meet national leaders in DC.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sponsors an economic growth training day for a city or county leadership organization.</li> <li>● Contributes to economic growth training for local ED board members during their annual retreat.</li> </ul>

## INELIGIBLE PROJECTS OR EXPENSES

- Awards for individuals
- Awards for individual businesses
- Scholarships
- Debt retirement, operating deficits or after-the-fact support
- Direct or grassroots lobbying
- Routine operating/administrative expenses for organizations
- Wages of any kind including, but not limited to, stipends and services fees. One-time fundraising events or fundraising campaigns
- Organizations or projects that unlawfully discriminate against anybody for any reason.
- Organizations that received a leadership grant within the last year.

## REIMBURSEMENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must obtain grant approval before initiating any activities. Grant funds will be disbursed after the activity has occurred. Reimbursement requests and supplemental paperwork must be submitted **within 30 days** of the event or project.

Applicants must **provide evidence** that the grant was key in **growing business and economic development leadership skills**.

**Adult Leadership Training Grant Survey:** groups will be asked to participate in a short 5-10 minute post-survey as part of the reimbursement process. While the scores will be used as feedback on the training's effectiveness, they will not be used in determining reimbursement. We do **require an 80% participation** of all training participants, e.g. if 10 people attend the training, 8 people must complete the post-survey.

### **Reimbursement Paperwork**

- Reimbursement Request/Final Report: [Link to Final Report](#)
- Invoice for expenditures and copies of receipts: [Invoice Template](#)
- Applicable receipts matching invoice line items
- Proof of 10% Match
- Copies of any publicity reflecting WBC sponsorship and event or project pictures
- **Adult Leadership EG Training ONLY:** You will receive a link to the survey a day prior to the training. Survey results will be sent directly to WBC, and are available by request.

## **CONTACT US**

For help or questions regarding the grant process or application, please contact:

Amber Power  
Community Leadership and Engagement Manager  
Wyoming Business Council  
[amber.power@wyo.gov](mailto:amber.power@wyo.gov)  
307.287.9886