

Purpose:

Community Development Grants can be used for projects that enhance a community's quality of life through economic development projects.

Award:

Maximum Grant Amount: \$10,000 Required Match: 10%

Application: Link to Grant Application

NEW Application Deadlines: March 1st and September 1st

Grant Details:

The Wyoming Business Council will reimburse up to \$10,000 to assist rural communities to make improvements adding to the quality of life through economic development projects.

Applicants must obtain grant approval before initiating any activities. Grantees are responsible for covering the costs associated with the solution 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.

Eligible Applicants:

- Rural Communities with a population less than 50,000 (as defined by the USDA)
- Applicants must be cities, towns, joint powers boards, or Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes.
 - Community development organizations sponsored by City or County.
 - Economic development organizations sponsored by City or County.
- Grant recipients are limited to one (1) project at a time and one (1) project per year.



Eligible Projects:

Grants may include, *but are not limited to*, projects, infrastructure, consulting fees, studies, educational or training program expenses, and grant matches.

Projects should:

- Focus on economic development.
- Improve the business environment.
- Impact the community at large.
- Increase the community capacity and/or capabilities in economic development.
- Encourage partnerships and/or community engagement.

Project Examples (examples only, <u>not</u> a comprehensive list):

- Grant Match for larger economic development projects
- Locally sponsored Economic Development programming, conferences, and training
- Economic Development assessments or other research
- Projects that increase sales tax (signage may bring in/keep travelers)
- Website, marketing programming
- Business amenities or projects that enhance the business community in general

Ineligible Projects or Expenses:

- Individuals or businesses, including 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.
- Communities over 50,000



Selection Criteria:

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Meets eligibility criteria.
- Well-defined problem statement. Use the <u>Five Whys Technique</u> to help define your problem statement.
- Proposed solution impacts economic development for the community at large.
- Logical plan of action.
- Community capacity and/or capabilities increases.
- Includes collaborative partnerships or community engagement.

Reporting Requirements for Reimbursement:

Applicants must obtain grant approval before initiating any activities. Grant funds will be disbursed after the activity has occurred and the final report and supplemental documentation has been submitted.

- Final Report: Link to Final Report
- Itemized Expenditures
 - Invoice: Link to Invoice Template
 - Copies of Receipts
- Proof of 10% Match
- Updated W-9: Link to W-9
- Copies of any publicity reflecting WBC sponsorship (as applicable)

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 307.287.9886