



Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc.

2015 Partnership Program Grants

Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc. (BHC) offers cities and towns, non-profit organizations, and state agencies an opportunity to receive funding for projects that relate to the work of the organization:

Telling the Story of American Industrialization

Sharing the Blackstone Valley's nationally significant story with residents and visitors.

Preserving and Enhancing Valley Communities

Preserving the Blackstone Valley's historically and culturally significant buildings and landscapes, thereby maintaining community character and improving quality of life; enhancing economic development efforts for local communities.

Balancing Conservation and Growth

Conserving the Blackstone Valley's natural resources and historic land use patterns and encouraging appropriate development.

Promoting River Recovery

Improving the health of the river system, increasing public awareness and facilitating the use and enjoyment of the Blackstone River and its tributaries.

Grant Amounts: \$5,000 – \$15,000. BHC reserves the right to fund at a level less than requested.

Deadline: March 31, 2015, 12:00 p.m.

Match requirements: Projects should demonstrate the ability to provide non-federal matching funds at a ratio of at least 1:1 through cash or in-kind contributions. In-kind contributions include donated volunteers services, employee salaries, supplies, materials, etc. **Projects that provide a greater ratio of non-federal match will score higher in the selection process.**

Eligible Organizations: Municipal boards, commissions or committees, schools, and nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations are eligible to apply for projects located within the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. Informal citizen groups and private businesses may access grant funds by developing partnerships with an eligible entity. **Priority will be given to groups that have received no grant funding from BHC in recent rounds.**

Eligible projects include but are not limited to:

- Preservation, rehabilitation or restoration of historic buildings and landscapes,
- Habitat restoration, park development, trails, and/or river clean-up,
- Canoe/kayak access sites and/or recreational development,
- Educational programs, exhibits and/or interpretive signs, publications,
- Heritage and sustainable tourism projects or programs, and
- Projects or programs engaging youth and/or minority populations in awareness and stewardship of the Valley's heritage.

The Fine Print:

- A 1:1 match of cash or in-kind contributions (such as volunteer labor or donated supplies) must be demonstrated.
- Incomplete, e-mailed, or faxed applications will not be considered. Applications will be evaluated by a selection committee whose members will recommend their decision to BHC Board of Directors/Executive Committee for final approval of grant awards.
- Applicants that are awarded funding will be expected to meet with BHC and sign all necessary paperwork within 30 days of award. Projects cannot begin, and funds cannot be spent, until a contract has been fully executed. Additional documentation may be required to contract the grant award.
- For all grants, payment of expenses will be made **on a reimbursement basis**. Projects must be concluded by the completion date specified on the application.
- All final products (i.e. reports, photographs, slides, etc.) will become the property of BHC and will be in the public domain. If a digital product is created, BHC may post a copy on its website. Applicants will also retain separate ownership rights to project products.

For More information: If you have any questions about the grant program or would like to discuss your proposal prior to submission, please contact Charlene Cutler, Executive Director, at 401-762-0250, ext. 5101 or C_Cutler@blackstoneheritagecorridor.org.

Application Process and Checklist:

- ☐ Complete and sign the Application Cover Sheet and Budget. [Copy on next page or you may also go on-line to www.blackstoneheritagecorridor.org and print it out.] You may also create a cover sheet using your own computer, as long as you retain the same format and submit a hard copy.
- ☐ Answer the following questions **using no more than 3 separate pages**. Please provide complete and specific information to the questions asked, keeping the answers numbered and in order:
 1. What do you want to do? (1 sentence!)
 2. Project Summary (Describe the project – What is it? Where is it located? Why is it needed?)
 3. Briefly, what are the history, purpose and accomplishments of the sponsoring organization(s)?
 4. What are the goals and/or outcomes of the project?

5. What is the work schedule?
6. Who are the personnel involved, paid or unpaid, and what are their qualifications and tasks? Who are your partners?
7. What is the overall budget for the project? How will the 1:1 match requirement be met? Please list the wage rates and dollar value of any donated labor. Gifts of cash, goods, and services from contributors other than the sponsoring organization should be detailed specifically.
8. What are the plans for publicity, education and/or community outreach? How will you credit Blackstone Heritage Corridor as a funder?
9. How will your organization evaluate the project?
10. What are the project's tangible results and lasting benefits to the community?

- ☐ Complete the Project Budget (also available on-line) using the space provided on the bottom of the Application Cover Sheet and Budget. You may also create a budget sheet using your own computer, as long as you retain the same format and submit a hard copy.
- ☐ **Provide the following supporting documents:**

For all applications:

- Up to three letters of support are strongly recommended;

For municipalities:

- A written document, signed by the chief elected or appointed municipal official, approving submission of the grant application and confirming the availability of matching funds and/or in-kind contributions;

For schools:

- A written document, signed by the principal or superintendent, confirming the availability of matching funds and/or in-kind contributions;

For nonprofits:

- Copy of the 501(c)(3) or (6) letter from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service;
- A written document, signed by an officer of the Board of Directors, approving submission of the grant application and confirming the availability of matching funds and/or in-kind contributions.

Submission: Postmark or hand-deliver the application package of **no more than 10 pages, including supporting documents, by March 31, 2015, 12:00 p.m. to:**

**Charlene Cutler, Executive Director,
Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc.,
One Depot Square
Woonsocket, RI 02895**



Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc.
Application Cover Sheet and Budget

For office use only:

Grant No. _____

Amount funded: _____

Project Title: _____

Sponsoring Organization(s): _____

Start and Completion Dates: _____ Total Amount Requested _____ Total Match _____

Project Director (responsible for project completion and accounting): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: (days) _____ (evenings) _____ (fax) _____

E-mail: _____

Federal Employer Identification Number (required): _____

Signature of Project Director: _____ Date _____

Project Budget – Please list all expenses and revenues of the project. (The addition of the contributions from other sources, sponsor's cash, sponsor's in-kind contribution and grant funds requested should equal the cost, both by line item and totals.)

Item (describe)	Total Cost =	Contribution from other sources +	Sponsoring Organization's Cash +	Sponsoring Organization's In-kind Contribution +	BHC Grant Funds Requested
Totals					