

**COUNTY OF BLAIR
PARKS AND RECREATION
GRANT PROGRAM
APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

Commissioners Office
423 Allegheny Street, Suite 441A
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-2022
Phone: (814) 693-3030
www.blairco.org

Mission Statement:

The Blair County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, working in concert with the Blair County Commissioners, is dedicated to the enhancement and development of public recreational activities throughout Blair County. This program provides financial support to established and newly developed community groups, non-profit, or government organizations whose facilities are generally open to the public on a regular basis, thereby enriching the quality of life for citizens of Blair County.

The focus of the grant program is to assist Blair County organizations in meeting a wide range of recreational needs and to fund recreational opportunities **open to the general public.**

Grant funds may be used to:

- * Construct new recreational areas
- * Add improvements to existing facilities
- * Restore or replace obsolete equipment and stand-alone components of larger-projects.

Note: The intent of this program is to provide permanent improvements. Therefore, the replacement of general consumable items, including uniforms, medical supplies, grass seed, diamond dust, maintenance equipment, and other such items are **NOT** fundable.

Grants are **NOT** for land purchases.

The **MAXIMUM** amount that a grant can be awarded is up to **\$3,000.00** and the grant funds **MUST** be expended within six (6) months of the date of award. Any monies not expended within that time will be forfeited.

Facilities improved with grant funds must be sponsored by a governmental or non-profit organization, must be open to the general public, and must be in compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the US Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines.

“Open to the general public” means that the recreation area and/or facility is available for use by the general public free of charge when not in use by leagues, if any, or those who have reserved the location in advance in accordance with the organization’s reservation policy (the organization may charge a fee for a reservation made by the general public). However, the recreation area and/or facility may not be always used by leagues and/or always reserved for private use. The organization may maintain operating hours and secure the premises during non-operating hours; however, a significant portion of the operating hours must be for general public use free of charge.

Once awarded, no changes to a project will be permitted without prior written approval by the Blair County Commissioners.

Grants will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Project Merit
- Organizational Need
- Community Commitment

Organizations and Projects receiving previous Parks & Recreation grant(s) will be eligible for further funding, but will receive a lower priority.

- Evaluation is by review of written applications **ONLY**.
- No verbal presentations will be permitted.
- No submissions will be accepted by **FAX**.

All grant applications will be evaluated by the Advisory Board, and will be ranked based on the merit of each application. The Advisory Board may request additional written information prior to the grant award. The final decision on all grant awards is made by the Blair County Commissioners, who reserve the right to reject any and all applications or parts thereof, and to waive any formalities.

Blair County Commissioners:

Bruce R. Erb, Laura O. Burke and Amy E. Webster

Advisory Board Members:

Joe Keller, President
Tim Hite, Vice President
Galen Bickel, Secretary
Fred Miller
Phil Riccio
Chuck Gojmerac
Sue Kovensky

Any questions concerning grant applications should be directed to the Blair County Commissioners Office: (814) 693-3030.

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If additional space is needed, please attach further information to application.

I. IDENTIFICATION

Organization Name _____

Is this a governmental organization? _____

Is this a non-profit organization? _____

Contact Person _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____ - _____

Has your organization received a previous Blair County Parks and Recreation Grant(s)? YES NO If yes, When? _____ \$ _____
Year Amount

List Organizational Officers and Phone Numbers:

_____ () _____ - _____
_____ () _____ - _____
_____ () _____ - _____
_____ () _____ - _____
_____ () _____ - _____
_____ () _____ - _____

Property Owner: _____

Note: A **Letter of Support** from Property Owner **MUST** be attached to this application. The letter must contain a project maintenance plan and a declaration of intent for the future of the property/project.

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Describe the overall project:

What community/organizational needs will this project meet?

Who will use the facility/project?

Describe how the recreation area and/or facility is open to the general public.

Is this a seasonal or year-round activity? _____

Are reduced rates/scholarships provided for low-income residents? _____

Provide project schedule:

(Must be completed within six (6) months of grant award, or funds will be forfeited).

III. PROJECT BUDGET

Total Cost of Project: \$ _____

Grant Funds Requested: \$ _____

List specific items/services to be purchased and price:
(Estimates and/or quotes may be provided via attachment)

| | |
|-------|----------|
| _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ |

Total _____ \$ _____

List sources and value of matching funds, including cash contributions, donated materials, volunteer time, etc.

| | |
|-------|----------|
| _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ |
| _____ | \$ _____ |

Total _____ \$ _____

V. CERTIFICATIONS

The governing body of the applicant certifies the following:

1. That it shall not discriminate against any user of the project because of race, Religion, color, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, or disability.
2. That, to the best of its knowledge, the property to be developed has not been used for storage/disposal of toxic chemical/waste, nor is it affected by such site.
3. That, to the best of its knowledge, any wetland and/or endangered species areas located on the property to be developed have been identified and will be protected in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.
4. Once a grant is awarded, no changes to the project will be made without prior written approval from the Blair County Commissioners.
5. A recognition plaque provided by the Blair County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board will be displayed at the project site.

Signature of Applicant's Representative

Date Signed