

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Civic & Community Center Financing Fund (CCCCFF)

Community Development Funding Opportunity Overview

NEBRASKA

Revised April 9, 2024

opportunity.nebraska.gov

DISCLAIMER & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- This document is supplemental to the CCCFF Application and Program Guidelines.
- Readers can find this slide deck and other program materials, including the Application and Program Guidelines on the [CCCFF webpage](#).
- Pursuant to state statute, DED reports CCCFF information annually. DED Annual Reports are available on its [Reports webpage](#).

HISTORY & AUTHORITY

- **Civic and Community Center Financing Act**, Nebraska Revised Statutes §§ [13-2701](#) – 13-2710.
- Originally adopted in 1999 as the Local, Civic, Cultural, and Convention Center Financing Act, in 2011 the name changed to the Civic and Community Center Financing Act and provisions clarified, including review criteria of applications.
- In 2013, the State Legislature amended the Act to allow for recreation centers and planning/technical studies directly related to eligible projects.

HISTORY & AUTHORITY, CON'T.

- In 2018, the Act was amended again to allow for municipalities to collaborate with nonprofits where benefiting facility is a historic building and increased the grant maximums.
- A 2019 amendment subsequently removed this provision, and such an arrangement is no longer applicable nor allowable for applications and awards made after the 2019 application cycle.
- During the 2022 Legislative Session, Nebraska statute was amended to include tribal governments as eligible applicants under the CCCFF program.

HISTORY & AUTHORITY, CON'T.

- In April 2022 and June 2023, respectively, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB927 and LB727 imposing additional requirements on municipality eligibility under the CCCFF program from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024; this aligns with the program's 2024 Application Cycle.
 - Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-2706, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, a municipality must partner with a Certified Creative District to be eligible for a grant of assistance under the CCCFF program.

Recent Legislative Updates

- **2022:** LB800 – Expanded eligibility to include tribal governments.
- **2022 and 2023:** LB927 and LB727 – Special provisions for awards made in FY23-24 for municipalities applying in partnership with a certified creative district.
 - See *Appendix | 2024 Application Cycle, Legislative Changes: Nebraska Arts Council Creative Districts*
 - *This supplemental details the changes to the grant availability for the 2024 Application Cycle (e.g., grant amounts, eligibility)*
 - NAC certifies Creative Districts

DED reviews legislative changes and incorporates any updates into its CCCFF Application and Program Guidelines following the end of the session. The Overview and Record of Changes sections of that document are a good resource to potential applicants.

PURPOSE

- Support the development of public spaces and civic, community, and recreation centers, as well as historic buildings or districts, throughout Nebraska.
- Support projects that **encourage and foster quality of life in our communities.**

CCCFF grants are awarded to municipalities and tribal organizations and are administered by DED.

FUNDING SOURCE

State Aid

Funded through legislative appropriation with “turn-back” taxes transferred from political subdivisions participating in:

- **Convention Center Facility Financing Assistance Act** (*Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ [13-2601](#) – 13-2613*)
 - Omaha
 - Lincoln
- **Sports Arena Facility Financing Assistance Act** (*Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ [13-3101](#) – 13-3109*)
 - Ralston Arena
 - Kearney Indoor Sports Complex

CCCFF ELIGIBLE FACILITIES

State aid for 1:1 cost-share of construction or planning projects to develop:

- Public Spaces
 - Outdoor plaza/Gathering space,
 - Town square, etc.
- Civic Centers
 - Libraries,
 - Community centers,
 - Meeting and convention spaces,
 - Cultural event spaces,
 - Museums, etc.
- Recreation Centers
 - Wellness centers,
 - Gymnasiums/indoor recreation centers,
 - Parks, etc.
- Conversion and/or rehabilitation of Historic Buildings

CCCFF ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Only Municipalities and Tribal Governments may apply.
- Other eligibility thresholds:
 - **Ownership** must conform to one of two options:
 - Applicant must own the facility; or
 - Municipality may jointly own an eligible facility with a political subdivision if the applicant's ownership interest is at least 50%.
 - Political subdivision means a county, school district, community college area, or natural resources district.
 - **Located** with Municipality: either within the boundaries of the municipality applying for the grant or in the municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction.
 - Not applicable to tribal governments.
 - **Operated** by applicant (directly or under contract).

CCCFF GRANT AMOUNTS

- Grants amounts can be no more than 50% of total project costs and incurred within the CCCFF contract effective dates.
- Planning Grant:
 - Maximum: \$15,000
 - Minimum: \$3,000
- Construction Grants:
 - Maximum depends on the balance of the Fund (see table on the following slide)
 - Minimum: \$15,000

CCCFF GRANT AMOUNTS – CONSTRUCTION

Population of Municipality	Grant Maximum Schedule A	Grant Maximum Schedule B
	Maximum Grant Amount	Maximum Grant Amount
100,000 to 299,999 persons	\$2,250,000	\$3,375,000
40,000 to 99,999	\$1,125,000	\$1,687,000
20,000 to 39,999	\$750,000	\$1,125,000
10,000 to 19,999	\$600,000	\$900,000
less than 10,000	\$375,000	\$562,000
All Tribal Governments	Maximum Grant Amount	Maximum Grant Amount
	\$2,250,000	\$3,375,000

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WHY PLANNING?

“This award made it possible for the City of Wisner to secure funding in the amount of \$375,000 for the actual remodel project. It also helped us focus on identifying repairs and upgrades that needed to be done to the auditorium in order to extend the life and efficiency of the structure.

--Al Vacanti, City Administrator, Wisner

Wisner Auditorium

2016 Planning Grant: \$10,000

2018 Construction Grant: \$375,000

Project also leveraged CDAA tax credits.

TIMING

- All projects should be completed within **two years** of award.
- A recipient may only receive one grant of each type (planning or construction) in **any two-year period**.
 - Planning grant
 - Construction grant
- Applicants not receiving CCCFF aid **within the last ten years** receive priority.
- CCCFF recipient may **not** sell or transfer ownership interest in any facility receiving a CCCFF grant for **at least five years**.

CCCFF ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

- Construction
 - New construction; or
 - Renovation and/or expansion of existing facilities, including the conversion, rehabilitation, or reuse of historic buildings.
- Planning
 - Preliminary planning related to the development or rehabilitation of eligible projects.

CCCFF INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

- Costs incurred **outside** of the contract effective dates.
 - *Inclusive of local matching funds*
- The fund may not be used for
 - programming,
 - marketing,
 - advertising, or
 - facility-staffing activities.

CCCFF REVIEW CRITERIA – PLANNING

Threshold criteria:

- Location
- Ownership*
- Operation (directly or under contract)
- 1:1 match
- Two-year rule
- Historic property

Review criteria:

- Financial Support

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CCCFF REVIEW CRITERIA – CONSTRUCTION

Threshold criteria:

- Location
- Ownership*
- Operation (directly or under contract)
- 1:1 match
- Two-year rule
- Historic property

Review criteria:

- Project impact:
 - Retention Impact
 - New Resident Impact
 - Visitor Impact
- Project Readiness and Local Public Support
- Project Planning

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CCCFF SCORING & SELECTION

- Competitive, annual program
- Routinely oversubscribed
- Applications are reviewed by committee
- Projects are scored based on **applicant's potential to create attractions and amenities** that could benefit a community's financial and civic vitality.
- High-scoring applications demonstrate:
 - Innovation,
 - Creativity,
 - Sustainability,
 - Partnering, and
 - Progressive Local Leadership.

CCCFF POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

- Award Notification
- CCCFF Contract
- First 'Advance' Payment
- Progress Reporting
- Compliance
- Final Payment
- Closeout

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ANNUAL CCCFF GRANT SCHEDULE

- **Letter of Intent to Apply/Pre-App:** January 15
- **Full Applications:** February 15
- **Awards:** March 30
- **Contract Term:** 2 years

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/community/cccff/>

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