



2011 Community Betterment Grant Program Guidelines and Applicant Information

PRAIRIE MEADOWS MISSION AND VISION

Mission: We will value our guests, employees, and community through outstanding racing, gaming, and entertainment that exceeds expectations.

Vision: To be the best entertainment experience in the Midwest.

COMMUNITY BETTERMENT GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Through the Community Betterment Grant Program, Prairie Meadows seeks to benefit as many qualified organizations as possible with the funds available. Community Betterment Grant requests can be in the range of \$100 - \$99,999.

Because funds are limited, Prairie Meadows is unable to act favorably on all applications received. Each application is carefully evaluated on overall community impact, compliance with Prairie Meadows guidelines, and availability of funds.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be non-profit, tax-exempt organizations that have received a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) designation from the Internal Revenue Service or must be a unit of political subdivisions or other such non-profit organizations organized exclusively for the promotion of social welfare as determined by Prairie Meadows at its sole discretion.

Organizations whose IRS tax exempt status is pending approval are not eligible to apply for funding from Prairie Meadows.

Organizations requesting funding for more than one project must complete a separate grant application for each project.

Community Betterment Grant requests can be in the range of \$100 - \$99,999.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline to submit a Prairie Meadows 2011 Community Betterment Grant is August 15, 2011 at 5:00pm. All applications must be submitted via the Prairie Meadows Online Application Server. No exceptions will be made. Any application received after 5:00pm on August 15, 2011 will not be accepted.

GRANT REVIEW TIMELINE

The Prairie Meadows Grant Advisory Committee will review all eligible 2011 Community Betterment Grant Applications. After thorough evaluation by the Grant Advisory Committee, the recommended applications will be forwarded to the Prairie Meadows Board of Directors for approval. All 2011 Community Betterment applicants will receive notice of the committee and board's decision in January 2012. Funding will be distributed in the first quarter of 2012.

FUNDING PRIORITIES

Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grants are awarded in one of the following four categories:

1. Arts & Culture
 - Projects that enhance the quality of life and opportunities for Central lowans
 - Projects that provide unique opportunities and educational experiences
 - Projects that provide access to the arts for new and/or underserved audiences
2. Economic Development
 - Projects that provide a significant impact on a community and its residents
 - Projects that emphasize environmental, beautification, or restoration efforts
 - Parks and trails programs and enhancements
3. Education
 - Projects that provide core curriculum enhancements or necessities for students
 - Projects that reach a broad range of students or a specific demographic in need
 - Technology and other enhancements to the classrooms and building
 - Advanced educational opportunities, learning beyond the classroom
4. Health & Human Services
 - Patient education or direct services
 - Fire, Police or Emergency Management Services
 - Projects that provide services for low-income, at-risk or underserved clients

Prairie Meadows looks favorably upon applications from organizations that:

- Administer effective programs or projects
- Provide measurable and meaningful results
- Demonstrate financial stability and accountability

Prairie Meadows looks favorably upon applications for projects that:

- Will allow the organization to introduce new services or expand existing services to central lowans
- Have identified multiple funding sources, most of which are already secured
- Will have an impact on a measurable number of central lowans

SCHOOL DISTRICTS, CITIES and COUNTIES

All organizations associated with a school district, city or county must submit their 2011 Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant Application to their governing board of directors for approval of application to Prairie Meadows prior to August 15, 2011.

The governing organization (school board, county board of supervisors or city council) is required to pass a Board Resolution ranking in order their funding priorities for the grant applications that will be submitted. A copy of the signed and dated Board Resolution must accompany each grant application.

Any application from an organization associated with a school district, city or county that is not accompanied by a signed and dated Board Resolution will not be considered for funding.

Examples of associated organizations include:

School Districts: Booster Clubs, PTO/PTA, Schools, Classes, Alumni Associations, Sports Teams, Clubs, Foundations, etc.

Cities: All City Departments and Divisions, Civic groups providing community enhancement projects

Counties: All County Departments and Divisions, Civic groups providing community enhancement projects

LIMITATIONS

Prairie Meadows will not accept Community Betterment Grant Applications for the following:

- Organizations, projects or programs outside of the State of Iowa
- Political parties, campaigns, candidates or partisan organizations
- Private foundations
- Individuals
- Conference, seminar, convention or competition attendance or expenses
- Courtesy or goodwill advertising
- Organizations that would redistribute the funds received to other groups (with the exception of a fiscal agent)
- Scholarships or scholarship programs
- Endowments
- Memorials
- Fellowships
- Operational expenses
- Personnel expenses including salaries, bonuses and/or benefits
- Expenses for grant writers or grant application preparers
- Repayments on loans
- Funding for projects that have already been completed and/or will be completed prior to December 31, 2011
- Projects or events that will take place prior to August 15, 2011 and/or between August 15, 2011 – January 1, 2012
- Incomplete grant applications
- Applications from organizations associated with school districts, cities or counties who have not included a signed and dated Board Resolution
- Any organization that has a requirement overdue
- Applications without documentation of bids or prices

Community Betterment Grant funding received through the 2011 process must be expended by December 31, 2012.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

Those organizations selected to receive a 2011 Community Betterment Grant will be required to:

1. Sign a Grant Award Agreement that outlines requirements and expectations for superior performance
2. Complete an Explanation and Recognition of Award outlining how the award will be spent and how Prairie Meadows will be recognized for the grant award
3. Provide formal acknowledgement of the grant award for tax purposes
4. Complete a Grant Evaluation Report once the project has been successfully completed

HOW TO APPLY FOR A PRAIRIE MEADOWS 2011 COMMUNITY BETTERMENT GRANT

1. Review all of the information above.
2. Determine if your organization is eligible to apply for a Prairie Meadows 2011 Community Betterment Grant.
3. If your organization is eligible to apply for a Prairie Meadows 2011 Community Betterment Grant, go to http://www.prairiemeadows.com/community_betterment.cfm and select "Apply for a Prairie Meadows 2011 Community Betterment Grant" near the bottom of the page. A new webpage will open up.
4. Create a username and password. Write down this information as you will need it again.
5. Enter your organization's IRS Tax Identification Number.
6. Complete the Community Betterment Eligibility Quiz.
7. If you do not pass the Community Betterment Eligibility Quiz, your organization or the project for which you were seeking funding for do not meet Prairie Meadows guidelines. If you need assistance, please contact Prairie Meadows at (515) 967-8630 or cbettermentgrants@prairiemeadows.com.
8. If you successfully completed the Community Betterment Eligibility Quiz you will now see the Prairie Meadows 2011 Community Betterment Grant Application.
9. Scroll through the entire application (pages 1-6) before starting the application. There are two required external documents on page 6; three required external documents for school districts, cities and counties. You can download these documents at any time. You will need to complete these documents as well as pages 1-5 of the application.
10. You can start your application, save your work and come back to your application at anytime. Use the "Save and Finish Later" option at the bottom of each application page.
11. You can go back to your saved application by going to http://www.prairiemeadows.com/community_betterment.cfm and selecting "Continue your previous Community Betterment Grant Application."
12. When you have completed your application and are ready to submit it to Prairie Meadows, select "Review and Submit."

Please note, there is not a spell check feature for the application. Once the application is received by Prairie Meadows, an automatic spell check will be performed.

Completing the online Prairie Meadows 2011 Community Betterment Grant Application is the only way to submit an application for funding. If you need assistance, please contact (515) 967-8630 or cbettermentgrants@prairiemeadows.com.