



Historic Preservation Grants

Preservation Austin exists to empower Austinites to shape a more inclusive, resilient, and meaningful community culture through preservation. This document outlines the various grants available to assist historic property owners with the stewardship of their property. For more information about Preservation Austin's grant program and other preservation resources, visit preservationaustin.org

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

National Trust Preservation Funds

- Eligibility: Applicants must be either a public agency, 501(c)(3), or other nonprofit organization to be considered eligible.
- Qualifying projects: Planning activities and education efforts focused on preservation. Grant funds can be used to launch new initiatives or to provide additional support to ongoing efforts.
- \$2,500-\$5,000; Applicants must be capable of matching the grant amount on a one-to-one basis.
- Awarded annually.

African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund

- Eligibility: Grant-funded projects must focus on African American cultural heritage.
- Applicants must be either a public agency, 501(c)(3), or other non-profit organization to be considered eligible.
- Qualifying projects: Capital projects, organizational capacity building, project planning, and programming and interpretation.
- \$50,000-\$150,000.
- Awarded annually.

HBCU Cultural Heritage Stewardship Initiative

- Eligibility: Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).
- Qualifying projects: Technical assistance and new Cultural Heritage Stewardship Plans. Services of qualified consultants with expertise in areas of preservation architecture, planning and reuse, landscape design, engineering, and environmental sustainability to complete campus preservation plans or individual-building plans.
- \$60,000 for individual building preservation planning activities, \$150,000 for campus-wide preservation plans.
- Awarded annually.

National Fund for Sacred Spaces

- Program of Partners for Sacred Places in collaboration with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.
- Eligibility: Property must have been originally built to be a house of worship and must be owned by an active community of faith, in addition to several other criteria.
- Qualifying projects: Capital projects, training, technical assistance, and planning support.
- \$50,000-\$100,000 requires 1:1 match, \$100,001-\$250,000 requires 2:1 match.
- Awarded annually.

Special Grant Programs

The National Trust offers a host of other grants that are geographically and thematically specific. Visit savingplaces.org for more details on the range of grants offered.

Preservation Austin is indebted to staff from the Texas Historical Commission and the City of Austin for assistance in compiling this information.



Historic Designation Categories

Preservation Austin exists to empower Austinites to shape a more inclusive, resilient, and meaningful community culture through preservation. This document outlines the types of historic designation a building in Austin can have, as well as the protections and benefits associated with each. To learn more about historic designation and other preservation topics, visit preservationaustin.org

STATE LEVEL

Texas Preservation Trust Fund Grant Program

- Property/project eligibility: Projects including buildings/structures, landscapes or archaeological sites must have a required historic designation or be eligible to receive one.
- Eligibility: Any public or private entity that is the owner, manager, lessee, maintainer, potential purchaser of an eligible property, or any public or private entity whose purpose includes historic preservation.
- Qualifying architecture and archeology projects: Development, planning, acquisition, and heritage education. Typically \$10,000-\$30,000. Requires 1:1 match.
- One grant cycle per fiscal year. Grant round typically begins in December with grant awards in October.
- Scoring criteria: Endangerment, significance, project viability, and special considerations.

Texas Historical Foundation

- Eligibility: Must have 501(c)(3) status. Texas-based organizations, strong record of community support, ability to obtain resources to finance the project's completion, project sustainability/longevity, and ownership of the property.
- Qualifying projects: In general, the Foundation supports bricks-and-mortar type restoration projects, efforts that promote Texas history education, such as providing classroom or online resources, educational DVDS or documentaries that will be distributed or broadcast statewide or nationwide, and archaeological projects. However, this does not mean that groups with other projects should not apply.
- \$1,000-\$5,000.
- Quarterly (March, June, September, December).

CITY LEVEL

Preservation Austin Grants Program

- Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations, neighborhood organizations, public entities, and owners of individual or proposed landmarks.
- Qualifying projects: Education, bricks and mortar, and planning/historic resource survey/local historic designation.
- Up to \$10,000.
- Grant cycle: bi-annual, with two cycles in the summer and winter and an award amount of up to \$10,000.
- Rolling grants program up to \$1,500 in conjunction with the matched grant program to provide small, non-matched grants to individuals.

City of Austin Heritage Preservation Grants

- Eligibility: Use of hotel occupancy taxes must directly enhance and promote tourism and the convention and hotel industry. Preservation projects or activities must be at, or in the immediate vicinity of, convention center facilities, or located in the areas that are likely to be frequented by tourists. Capital and planning projects must be historically designated.
- Qualifying projects: capital, planning, educational, and marketing projects.