

NRHS RAILWAY HERITAGE GRANTS

2026 NRHS Heritage Grant Application

General Information:

Legal Name of Applying Organization _____

Mailing Address: _____

Working Name and Physical Location of Project:

Website Link _____

Employer Identification Number (EIN) _____

Name of Application Preparer _____ Title _____

Responsible Party Telephone Number _____
Accepts Text Messages? _____
(Must be a monitored telephone number, not a general answering machine)

Email Address _____

Grant Amount Requested \$ _____

(Up to \$5,000, higher amount may be considered on a case by case basis not to exceed \$15,000)

The applicant organization must be a Non-Profit Organization and have Federal Tax Exemption Status under Section 501(c)(3) in order to be eligible to submit an application for an NRHS Heritage Grant.

Instructions:

- I. Applications for grants may be submitted by NRHS chapters and by entities which are not chapters. An entity may receive grants in two (2) consecutive years, but then may not apply again until a year has passed.
- II. The NRHS Heritage Grants Committee's primary concern is the quality and historical significance of the preservation projects proposed in the application and the ability of the applicant organization to carry out the project, including the historical importance of the preservation project, the applicant's ability to raise matching funds and/or to provide volunteer labor, plus such matters as the portion that the NRHS-funded segment will constitute of a larger project and the acknowledgment which NRHS will receive for its contribution. Because of limited funding available NRHS disfavors participation in large projects.
- III. Entities applying must be qualified as 501(c)(3) organizations. Projects having revenue production as a major purpose are also disfavored.

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- IV. Entities which receive grants and successfully complete a project are encouraged to make a future donation to the NRHS Heritage Grants Program.
- V. An entity which has received a prior NRHS grant must present evidence as to what was accomplished with that prior grant. An application will be disqualified if the applying entity has failed to make significant progress, or to complete work, and failed to provide a report of completion to the NRHS Heritage Grants Committee on a prior grant.
- VI. Applications from an NRHS chapter or applications supported by an NRHS chapter are given special consideration, and, if two applications are of equal merit and one is from a chapter, the application from the chapter will be given preference for an award.
- VII. Entities receiving a grant are expected to make annual reports on progress made on the project for which a grant was received.
- VIII. The Grant Acceptance Agreement and Grants Terms and Conditions are attached and made a part of this Application and must be signed by the authorized representative of the applicant prior to submission of the Application. **Please sign on Pages 9 and 13. If documents received are not properly signed, the Application will be disqualified for consideration by the Heritage Grants Committee.** Upon selection, the signed Grant Acceptance Agreement will be forwarded to Counsel for review and approval signature and to Treasurer for disbursement of funds.

Organization:

1. Applying organizations must file a Form 990, 990-EZ or 990-N Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax every year. The return (990 line i or 990-EZ line j) must show Tax-exempt status 501(c)(3). Be certain that the Legal Name and Employee Identification Number you entered on Page 1 of the application MATCH EXACTLY with the information on your tax return. If we cannot match this information with the IRS Exempt Organizations database and confirm your Tax-exempt status is 501(c)(3), your application will NOT be considered.
2. Is the Applicant an NRHS Chapter? YES _____ NO _____
Chapter Name: _____
3. If the Applicant is not an NRHS Chapter, does the project have the support of an NRHS Chapter? YES _____ NO _____ (If “Yes” for support, attach a letter of endorsement from that Chapter on the Chapter's letterhead signed by an officer of the Chapter.)
4. How many members are in the applying organization? _____
5. How many of these members are active? _____

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Project Description:

5. Describe the project, or component thereof, which will be completed within two years with the assistance of an NRHS grant.
6. Give a **concise** history of the item(s) or artifact(s) which is (or are) the subject of your Application and explain the historical importance. Please attach relevant photos with captions (limit of three photos, sized not larger than an 8 x 10 print), diagrams and documents (maximum of 5 attachment pages). Consolidate to standard letter sized documents of 8 ½" x 11".

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Project Costs and Budget:

9. Provide cost estimates and budget projections of the project, or component thereof, which are the subject of this application.
10. State the specific use of NRHS grant funds totaling the amount of the grant being sought. (The grant fund shall not be used for reimbursement of the labor expense of salaried employees.)

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11. If the project, or component thereof, for which a grant is requested is part of a larger project, separately show the projected cost, budget and execution schedule for the larger project.
12. List the amount of funds raised to date for the applicant project and the amount the applicant plans to raise through fundraising and/or donated labor.

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13. Provide a breakdown of matching contributions. For in-kind match purposes, materials donated to a grant recipient shall be valued at retail price. For in-kind match purposes, volunteer labor, directly and specifically devoted to work on the project, or component thereof, for which a grant is requested, shall be valued at \$15 per hour.

The cash portion of the match shall equal at least one half of the NRHS grant request. The cash portion of the match may include contract labor paid by the grant recipient (excluding the grant funds) and materials purchased by the grant recipient (excluding grant funds).

Volunteer Labor: _____ hours x \$15.00 per hour = \$ _____

Purchased Materials Total (retail cost): \$ _____

Donated Materials Total (retail cost): \$ _____

Equipment Rental Total (retail cost): \$ _____

Contract Labor Total (actual cost): \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL: \$ _____

14. How will the ongoing maintenance be funded?

15. Is this project expected to generate revenue for future maintenance of the subject of the requested grant? If so, approximately how much?

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16. What will be done with the excess funds generated?

17. Will NRHS funding result in the project receiving additional funding or support that it would not otherwise have available to it? YES _____ NO _____

If “Yes”, what is the nature of that support, from what source and how much?

18. Is your organization pursuing other grant funding? YES _____ NO _____

If “Yes”, please list any other requested grants and the status of the applications.

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19. Has your organization received grants from the NRHS within the last five years?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, what year was it awarded and how much was awarded?

If yes, was the project completed and completion reports submitted to the NRHS Heritage Grants committee?

Yes _____ No _____

If awarded an NRHS Heritage Grant, Applicant agrees to produce and send NRHS Heritage Grants a copy of press releases concerning the project and receipt of NRHS Heritage Grants funding. Applicant agrees to also provide acknowledgement on website or publications of the Applicant and on Applicant social media platforms.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS IN PDF FORMAT MUST BE ELECTRONICALLY RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 5 PM PST (8 PM EST) on Saturday, January 31, 2026.

Print name of President or Executive Director _____

Print title of President or Executive Director _____

Signature of President or Executive Director _____

Print name of Application Preparer _____

Signature of Application Preparer _____

Application Date _____

Sent electronically to grants@nrhs.com:

Date and time _____

By: _____

(End)

2026 NRHS Grants Terms and Conditions

Terms and Conditions

A number of awards will be made in amounts up to \$5,000; partial grants may be awarded. Decisions will be made by an appointed review board and approved by the National President of the NRHS, and shall be considered final.

Grant recipients shall sign a Grant Acceptance Agreement, which confirms recipient's agreement to the Terms and Conditions set forth below.

The proposed project timeline for completion of the project, or completion of a new component of an ongoing project, shall not be longer than two (2) years from receipt of an NRHS grant.

The grant funds request shall not cover reimbursement for the labor cost of salaried employees.

All grants require a 50/50 or 1:1 match with AT LEAST half of the required match being cash. Up to one-half of the required match may be in-kind expenditures of labor and materials directly and specifically benefitting the project.

The cash portion of the match may consist of any or all of:

- Contributions of the recipient's funds (excluding the grant funds) for contract labor or other expenses related to the grant project
- Other grants and contributions raised by the recipient
- Grants and contributions raised by other organizations with which the recipient has a formal cooperation agreement.

The in-kind portion of the match may consist of volunteer labor at \$15 per hour. Donated materials may be counted towards the in-kind portion of the match at a value equal to its retail price.

NRHS has no requirement that this Grant be repaid. However, recipients who receive revenue as a result of a project funded by an NRHS grant are expected to return to NRHS a significant portion of the grant received. Recipients who successfully complete a project, which results in monetary improvement to the Grantee's net worth, are expected to make a donation to the NRHS Grants Program so that NRHS can fund additional worthwhile projects.

On completion of the project, recipients must provide the NRHS with a Final Report within two (2) months thereafter including:

- Description of work completed;
- Photographs in PDF format of work completed, with before-and-after images to illustrate completion;
- Accounting of funds received and disbursed, including if requested, copies of receipts and evidence of expenditures; and
- Accounting of volunteer labor expended.

Failure to submit Final Report will disqualify a grant recipient from receiving further grants.

Recipients acknowledge the right of the NRHS to make on-site inspections of the work in progress and upon completion.

If the project is terminated for any reason, the unused grant funds shall be returned to the NRHS along with a full accounting of the funds spent.

Failure of the recipient to use the grant funds for the purpose requested, or to spend the grant fund within two years after receipt of the NRHS grant, without the written approval of the NRHS, shall constitute default. In the event of default, all unused grant funds shall be returned to the NRHS and the recipient shall be barred from consideration for future grants under this program.

Grantees agree to acknowledge and list NRHS financial support by conspicuously posting in exhibits, by mention in media and publications, by inclusion in promotional materials, and by other means.

Recipients further acknowledge the right of NRHS to publicize its support of the project and to use project photographs.

NRHS HERITAGE GRANTS PROGRAM
National Railway Historical Society
Grant Acceptance Agreement

THIS GRANT ACCEPTANCE AGREEMENT is entered into as of _____, 202__, by and between THE NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC., c/o John K. Fiorilla, Esq , 505 South Lenola Road, Ste. 226, Moorestown, NJ 08057 (herein “NRHS”); and

with an address at

(herein “Awardee” or “recipient”). All parties hereto are collectively referred to herein as the “Parties.”

WHEREAS, the Awardee has demonstrated financial need for a railway preservation project through an application for funding to NRHS;

WHEREAS, NRHS has approved funding in the amount and under the terms and conditions stated below;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises and the mutual covenants contained in this Agreement and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereto, intending to be legally bound, agree as follows:

AWARD INFORMATION:

Awardee/Recipient:

Award Amount:

Purpose:

COVENANT AND RESTRICTIONS:

1. **USE OF FUNDS.** Awarded funds shall be used only for the purpose stated above.
2. **AUTHENTICITY OF APPLICATION.** Awardee covenants and warrants that all statements of fact in Awardee’s grant application are true and complete. Awardee covenants and warrants that it will inform NRHS if any material fact stated in the Awardee’s grant application

changes during the course of the project for which NRHS funds were provided.

3. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS.** The terms and conditions set forth in the NRHS.com website which apply to and are part of the grant application submitted to the NRHS by the Awardee are hereby fully incorporated by reference and Awardee agrees to comply with such terms and conditions.
4. **PROJECT COMPLETION.** Upon completion of the project, Awardee will provide NRHS with a final report, within two (2) months thereafter, including:
 - a. Description of the work completed.
 - b. Photographs in PDF format of restoration work completed as well as condition before restoration.
5. **SIGNATURES.** The signatories to this agreement have been vested with the authority to sign on behalf of their respective parties.
6. **ADDRESS FOR PAYMENT.** Please indicate in this space the mailing address to which NRHS should send the Award payment if it differs from the address listed above.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first stated above.

AWARDEE:

By: _____
Printed Name: _____
Title: _____

NRHS:

By: _____
John K. Fiorilla Esq.
Counsel for the National Railway Historical
Society