

TOURISM ENHANCEMENT GRANT: ROUND 7 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How many grants will be awarded?

A: The total number is contingent upon the number of qualifying applications received and how many apply for the full amount of funding.

Q: What is the source of the funding?

A: These are state funds.

Q: Will you accept more than one application from a county?

A: Yes, more than one community within a county can apply as long as prior grants (Round 6) are closed.

Q: Can you apply for more than one project?

A: Yes. As long as you do not request more than \$100,000, you can propose multiple projects in multiple parts of the county. To get the best score, they should be related and “tell a good story.”

Q: Can you give us examples of what you have funded in the past?

A: This is the seventh round of this grant. A few examples of projects funded prior rounds include: stage and boat ramp improvements, seating, electrical, lighting and sound system upgrades for tourism venues and attractions, wayfinding signage, enhancements to sports facilities that host large tournaments.

Q: What is the definition of an “Official Tourism Organization”?

A: “Official Tourism Organization” is an organization designated by a county or municipality as the entity that promotes the region as a tourist destination. “Official Destination Marketing Organization” is an organization whose task it is to represent that community to potential travelers and generate economic benefits to that county or region of Tennessee through visitor expenditures. Official Destination Marketing Organizations act as Convention & Visitors Bureaus, Chambers of Commerce, and community development-related organizations that are not-for-profit and considered that county or region’s “Official Tourism Organization.” Tourism partners that are **not** considered as an ODMO or OTO are attractions, festivals, museums, or Tennessee Main Street organizations, for example.

Q: Can I use a consultant to develop a plan for my community?

A: No, community plans do not qualify.

Q: Can I mail in my application?

A: No. It must be submitted via email to Andi.Grindley@tn.gov.

Q: Do I need to number the answers to align with the question numbers?

A: Yes, all answers must be numbered to correspond with the question.