

Overview:

Tourism is one of the largest industries and most important economic drivers in Tennessee. The purpose of this grant is to support Tourism Development projects by eligible grantees to allow for the creation or expansion of physical attractions, facilities, or events that are available and open to the public, that improve the appeal of the destinations to tourists, and that enhance tourist experiences that are primarily promoted to or used by tourists.

Grant at a Glance:

- Eligible grantees include a non-profit entity, e.g. non-profit unincorporated community such as a historic village, or a Tennessee local or a quasi-governmental entity.
 - Historic Village means a settlement or collection of buildings that are preserved to represent a specific period in history.
- Up to \$100,000 grant with a grantee participation commitment based upon the grantee's economic status.
- Approximately 25-30 grants will be awarded, depending on available funds
- Project must be completed on applicant-owned property, or property leased by the applicant from TVA or the US Army Corps of Engineers that has a remaining term of at least the useful life of the project
- Prior Tourism Enhancement grantees (Rounds 6 & 7) with completely, officially CLOSED grants will be eligible to submit an application. Tourism Enhancement grantees with OPEN grant projects are automatically ineligible.
- More than one application within a county may be submitted

Timeline:

Jul 14, 2025	Applications open
Aug 22, 2025	Applications due
Aug 25 – 27, 2025	Application review/score period
Aug 28, 2025	Group application review/discussion/finalize awards
Sep 5, 2025	Award notifications and contracts
Oct 31, 2025	Signed contracts due
Jun 30, 2026	Reimbursement request paperwork due for work completed within fiscal year 2026
Sep 30, 2026	Annual reports due
May 29, 2027	Projects must be completed, reimbursement request paperwork and final reports due

Grant Review Board Members:

TN Dept. of Tourist Development, TN Dept. of Economic and Community Development, TN Dept. of Agriculture, TN Dept. of Environment and Conservation, TN Dept. of Transportation and TVA and/or the US Army Corps of Engineers (where applicable).