Visit
BROOKINGS
SOUTH DAKOTA

Overview

Visit Brookings serves as the marketing and event recruitment arm for the City of Brookings; working to provide an increasing number of events and visitors which contribute to the economic and cultural growth of Brookings. This work is accomplished through a variety of vehicles including the Tourism Enhancement Grant which exists to award funding to tourism—related businesses and organizations that meet and exceed the criteria outlined below. Please review and complete the application thoroughly. Completed applications should be submitted to:

> Visit Brookings
> Attn: **Visit Brookings Grant Committee**
> 1321 6th Street · Brookings SD 57006 605.692.7444
> grantprogram@visitbrookingssd.com

Purpose

The purpose of the Tourism Enhancement Grant is to create and improve Brookings tourism-related facilities to strengthen Brookings appeal as a visitor destination and provide a quality visitor experience. Visit Brookings has allocated $10,000 to the Tourism Enhancement Grant and awards funds to applicants for projects that enhance the visitor experience, specifi-cally capital improvements on items such as new construction, infrastructure, beautification, renovations, repairs, etc. The overall goal of the grant is to improve the community in ways that will enhance the experience of both our visitors and our citizens.

Grant Funding Criteria

In awarding Visit Brookings funds, greatest consideration will be given to organizations/projects that closely match the goals and mission of Visit Brookings. Funding decisions are based on the following criteria:

- Support Brookings tourism-related infrastructure development and improvement

- Encourage visitors to stay in Brookings longer

- Enhance the visitor experience

- Improve the quality of life for Brookings residents

- Demonstrate a need for funding

- Address a community need that supports the Visit Brookings mission

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Grant Application Deadlines

Applications are accepted on a quarterly basis. Applications may be submitted on or before the deadline for each of the following quarterly review periods: Jan. 1, April 1, July 1 and Oct. 1.

Grant Requirements and Guidelines

Organizations that receive funding from Visit Brookings are expected to meet the following requirements and guidelines:

- The application must be completed with as accurate information as possible

- Only one application per project will be considered

- All projects must take place within city limits

- Projects must focus on improvements such as infrastructure, beautification, renovations, repairs, etc.

Application Review and Funding Process

All funding decisions will be made by the Visit Brookings Executive Director and/or the Visit Brookings Grant Committee. A representative of the applying organization may be requested to meet with the Director or the Committee to clarify or provide additional project information. The following funding policies apply to grant applicants and recipients:

- Funding is contingent upon the project reasonably occurring as proposed and within the proposed timelines. The applicant must notify Visit Brookings if significant changes are expected that would impact the project as pre-sented on the application.

- The full amount of the funding will be dispersed following the completion of the project.

- Visit Brookings may withdraw funding or request the return of funds for projects which are substantially reduced, inac-curately portrayed in the application or which do not reasonably occur within the proposed dates or times.

- Favorable consideration will be given to those projects with contributions from their own organization or from other funding sources.

- Funding will be awarded on a competitive basis and is not guaranteed. Applicants should be aware that they may not receive the full amount of the grant requested.

- Progress reports may be requested by the Visit Brookings Executive Director throughout the project.

Ineligible Projects

The following projects do not meet the Visit Brookings grant program criteria and thus not eligible or funding:

- Projects that apply for funds after the project has been completed

- Applications that seek funding to host events. These requests will be handled through the Visit Brookings Event Grant Application.

- Projects that seek funding for the organization's ongoing operating expenses.

- Organizations that discriminate because of race, color, creed, gender or national origin

- Fraternal organizations, churches or church-related groups whose purpose is to promote religion or an individual doctrine.