



**Franklin County Tourist Development Council  
Museum Grant Program Application  
2026-27**

The Franklin County Tourist Development Council will accept applications from any 501c non-profit corporations and governmental organizations for participation in the TDC's **Museum Grant Program**. This grant program is designed to provide financial assistance to local museums for operational costs. The TDC has identified \$150,000 for this grant program subject to the availability of funds. Annual awards are for up to \$25,000, paid in quarterly allotments of up to \$6,250.

**Eligibility:**

Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Organization must be a 501c3 non-profit corporation or governmental organization located and doing business in Franklin County
- Organizations requesting funding under this program must be identified as an entity, as its primary mission in its corporate documents or, in the case of a governmental entity must be identified that its primary purpose is to operate as a museum by an ordinance or resolution.
- Organizations requesting funding should demonstrate that their museum operation is recognized by one or more state or federal museum organizations.
- Applicants must complete an application requesting funds and provide all documents and information requested by the TDC and submit it to the TDC by the posted deadline.
- Applicant organization must have been in operation for a minimum of two (2) years.
- Grants are designed to insure ongoing operation of the museum facility.

**Grant Amount: Match Required** - The grant award amount is based on the Grantee's previous year's budget for operations as verified by an accountant's report or a standard accounting report including a P&L and Balance sheet up to a total of \$25,000. There is a 50/50 match required for this program being that Grantees must submit an operational budget that reflects an equal amount of organizational funds to the grant amount being requested. Also, the grant awarded under this program is based on hours of operation. *The pro rata number of hours per week* are as follows: \$25,000 - 30 hours; \$16,000 - 20 hours; \$8,000 - 10 hours. These funds may not be used for capital projects.

**Application Deadlines:**

Applicants must submit the required application and supporting documents to the Franklin County TDC Office located at 731 Highway 98, Eastpoint, Florida, 32328 no later than **4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 5, 2026**. Applications can also be transmitted via email to [grants@floridasforgottencoast.com](mailto:grants@floridasforgottencoast.com).

**Review and Ranking:**

Grant applications will be reviewed by the TDC Grants Committee at their meeting beginning at 5:00 pm on August 12, 2026, at a location to be announced. Applications will be reviewed and ranked by Committee members in accordance with the following ranking methodology:

- Application Submission Requirements: 10%
- Documentation of Previous Year's Budget 15%
- Discussion of existing Museum Programs 25%
- Discussion of plans for increasing programs 15%
- Experience in fundraising efforts to support programs 20%
- Documentation of involvement with Statewide or National 15%
- Museum funding or accrediting organizations

Applicants are encouraged to attend the Grants Committee meeting and be prepared to answer questions if requested by the Committee. Applicants are not required or requested to make a

06/12 - 08/5	Grant Application Period
08/05 4:00 pm	Grant Application Period Closes
08/12 5:00 pm	Grant Meeting
08/12 5:30 pm	TDC Board Meeting

**Payment Schedule:**

Recipients of the Museum Grants will receive one quarter (1/4) of their awarded amount in four (4) installments at the beginning of January, April, July and October 2027 upon submission of a request for payment and required accounting of expenses and email lists to the TDC office. Please see the Expense Payment Request Form at the end of this packet. Delinquent payment requests made after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month prior to the scheduled payment period will risk not receiving funding in a timely manner.

**Web Site Linkage:**

TDC funded grant recipients must participate in an exchange of web links as a condition of funding. All funded programs will be promoted by the TDC during its annual promotional activities. In addition, grant recipients must locate, in a prominent location on the grant recipient's web site home page, a copy of the TDC logo which links directly to the TDC web site. In addition, grantees will include the words "Funded in part by the Franklin County TDC" underneath the TDC logo. High resolution copies of the TDC logo can be obtained by contacting the TDC office at the previously stated email address. All Promotional Print, Television Commercials and social media advertisements and solicitations must include the TDC logo. All radio advertisements must include the phrase "Funded in part by the Franklin County TDC".

**Marketing Coordination:**

It is the intention that funded museums will be included as an integral part of the TDC's annual marketing strategy. Successful applicants should plan a meeting with TDC Marketing Vendors to help coordinate the marketing efforts for museum activities. TDC utilizes qualified email

address leads as a major component of its marketing efforts. Applicants should identify a mechanism that will successfully capture email addresses and commit to sharing those email addresses. In addition, recipients should provide for the distribution of tourism information about local events and activities at a designated location in their facility.

**Application Questions:**

Applicants may request clarification regarding any provision of this application by emailing Deborah Davis at [deb@floridasforgottencoast.com](mailto:deb@floridasforgottencoast.com)



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**Section 1. Organizational Information:**

Organization Corporate or Government Name:

Address:

Contact Person:

Name:

Phone Number

Email Address

FEIN #:

W-9 Form

Have you previously received TDC funding for this program? Y N

**Section 2. Museum Information:**

Name:

Location:

Hours of Operation:

Manager:

Manager email:

Web Site:

**Section 3. Support Information to be Provided:**

- One High Resolution Promotional Photo
- Brief Description of Program and Facility
- Most Recent 990
- Most recent full year financial statement including P&L and Balance Sheet
- Facility Budget for most recent full fiscal year (Budget must reflect an amount equal to twice the requested grant amount for promotional activities)
- Corporate filing or Government Resolution
- Documentation of Participation with Accrediting or Funding organization
- Agreement to meet the Marketing Coordination requirements for this grant.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date