

2023 Sustainable Agriculture – Conservation Easement and Acquisition Grants

Chaffee County Grants Portal

Organization Information

Organization Information. If the applicant is a program within a governmental agency such as US Forest Service, BLM, Colorado State Forest Service, a Department of Chaffee County Government, etc. then questions such as Year Founded, Mission Statement, Financial Information should not be completed.

Year Founded

Character Limit: 4

Mission Statement

Character Limit: 1500

Geographic Area Served (specific to this proposal)

Choices

All of Chaffee County

A part of Chaffee County (Describe below)

Chaffee County and surrounding region (Describe below)

Other (Describe below)

Tax Exemption Status: (Check all that apply)

Tax Exempt Status.

Choices

501(c)(3) nonprofit-public charity

Government agency

Using a fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor, identify below

Tax exempt entity or nonprofit other than 501(c)(3), describe below

Geographic Area - Description

Description of Geographic Area Served (specific to this proposal)

Character Limit: 1500

Tax exempt entity or nonprofit other than 501(c)(3)

Describe your nonprofit and tax exempt status since not 501(c)(3).

Character Limit: 750

Grant Request Information

Project Name*

Character Limit: 100

Amount of Request

Request minimum: \$1,000 per year

Request maximum: \$500,000 per year

Character Limit: 20

What amount of the requested funds are for:

- a) direct payments to landowners, for example for conservation easement or program funds
- b) direct project costs (materials, contractors, project staff)
- c) overhead or administrative costs.

Character Limit: 1000

If the full amount requested is not available fill in a minimum amount you believe would allow a scaled-back version of this program to be viable.*

Character Limit: 20

Eligible funding organization types: (Check all that apply)*

Choices

- Federal Agency
- State Agency
- Nonprofit organization
- For Profit organization
- Other

Type of Grant Requested (select all that apply):*

Choices

- Funding to augment existing programming
- New Program or Project
- Replacement funding for lost funding source
- Other

Grant Type Requested (other)

Type of Grant Requested: Other

If you selected Other, please describe.

Character Limit: 750

Replacement Funding

Replacement Funding Information

Replacement funding for lost funding source

- *What was the previous source?*
- *What was the amount of funding?*
- *Why was funding lost?*

Character Limit: 1000

Proposal

One-page Summary*

Provide a one-page summary of the programs, proposed activities and measurable results that will result from this proposed grant.

Character Limit: 3000

Narrative

NARRATIVE. The six areas in the narrative section describe the specific factors that will be scored in ranking grant applications. The questions under each heading are to guide you in providing information concerning your proposed grant.

I. IMPACT TO COMMON GROUND PROGRAM GOALS AND THE COMMUNITY VISION – Maximum 55 points

It is understood that many proposals will not cover all areas.

A. Agricultural Sustainability*

Describe how many acres of agricultural land will be supported or protected by the proposal and how many acres of ag land will be indirectly supported by the proposal. How does the proposal promote the economic viability and longevity of the agricultural operations? Are the

proposal outcomes demonstrated or assumed? If demonstrated, describe how (e.g. written evidence from agricultural operators).

Character Limit: 1500

B. Forest Health and Fire Resilience*

Describe if and how the proposal addresses forest health and fire resilience. Describe how it is related to the Chaffee County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) – currently in progress, a local CWPP, or another community-based assessment of wildfire risk (provide a reference). Describe how the proposal is related to the CWPP Treatment Priority Area Map. How many acres are impacted in Highest, Higher, High, and Moderate priority areas?

Character Limit: 3000

C. Recreation Impact Management*

Describe if and how the proposal helps manage or mitigate the environmental impacts of recreation. Describe whether it protects or improves water quality, reduces conflicts between agricultural operations and recreation users, and/or reduces the impacts of recreation to wildlife.

Character Limit: 1500

D. Wildlife and Habitat*

Describe if and how the proposal will:

- Support Threatened and Endangered species or Colorado State Species of Special Concern;
- support areas of high biodiversity as identified by the County Biodiversity Map;
- support and protect significant wetlands and/or riparian areas;
- have positive impacts on wildlife, for example elk/mule deer/bighorn sheep migration corridors and winter range, fall black bear concentration areas, lynx habitat and/or aquatic habitats as summarized in the Composite Habitat Map. How is the proposal area rated on the Composite Habitat Map.

Character Limit: 1500

E. Water*

Describe if and how the proposal includes protection and continued use of water rights. Describe the water right(s) protected including location, priority date, quantity of water diverted, how the water is delivered and used. Please provide the adjudication date. What is the typical water use in an average year, a dry year and a wet year? Describe whether the proposal will enhance water quality or include or protect flood irrigation areas.

Character Limit: 1500

F. Scenic Views*

Explain if and how the proposal directly impacts scenic views in the following areas. Describe how the proposal impacts:

- Areas with high visual exposure on scenic byways (US285, 291, 50 or 24), the Arkansas River corridor and/or unique scenic quality of regional importance and scale;
- areas with significant visual exposure from secondary travel routes and/or areas of high visual quality that identify community sense of place;
- exploratory routes off of scenic byways or high-use areas such as Chalk Creek;
- areas with low visual interest or views from less traveled roads;
- areas that cannot be seen by the public or of low scenic interest.

Character Limit: 1500

G. Scale/Connectivity of impact*

Describe how many acres the proposal will directly affect. Does the proposal include connectivity to other protected lands, public lands, conservation priority areas, stream corridors and other habitats or wildlife migration corridors? If it is connected, what are the total acres associated with the action anticipated in the proposal?

Character Limit: 1500

H. Duration*

State how many years the results will likely remain in effect.

Character Limit: 1500

II. URGENCY AND READINESS - Maximum 8 points

A. Urgency*

Describe the likelihood of development or sale of water rights from the property. How does the proposal address that impending action?

Character Limit: 1500

B. Readiness

Describe negotiations with the landowner and the ability to initiate the proposal immediately. Provide copies of an option agreement or letter of intent. Describe what would happen if this proposal is not funded now.

Character Limit: 1500

Upload documentation confirming the project's readiness

File Size Limit: 5 MB

III. REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING - Maximum 8 points

Describe how the proposal is part of a County strategy or strategic planning effort and where it is prioritized in that plan. Refer to the Envision Chaffee County program prioritization with the ranching community.*

Character Limit: 1500

IV. PROBABILITY OF PROGRAM SUCCESS – Maximum 13 points

Describe the applicant’s record of success in local projects of similar scope and scale, including a plan to address any experience gap. Describe public involvement to date, including planned future involvement. List project partners and describe their level of commitment. List clearly the proposal’s projected outcomes/deliverables and how they will be measured, reported, and monitored. Explain whether long-term stewardship is required to maintain benefits and how that will be funded. Describe the level of planning and preparedness to-date. Describe how the outcomes will be sustained to remain relevant. Provide a complete project budget and timeline (link to templates).*

Character Limit: 1500

V. FUNDING LEVERAGE - Maximum 12 points

List both confirmed and potential cash and in-kind matching funds from other sources. List the percentage of program administration cost requested from the Chaffee Common Ground Fund. Describe the proposal’s cost-to-benefit ratio.*

Character Limit: 1500

VI. LOCAL RESOURCES - Maximum 4 points

List the percentage of work to be completed by Chaffee County-based contractors, non-profits and staff.*

Character Limit: 1500

Attachment 1. Organizational and Program/Project Budget Template

Organizational Budget - (Do not complete if a government agency.)

Please provide a complete budget for the organization's current fiscal year that is making the application using the link to the Organizational Budget Template provided only if you do NOT have a full 990 or 990EZ form to submit. If you are submitting a 990 as part of your application, you do not need to complete the organization budget template.

Program or project budget - Please provide a proposed program or project budget using the link to the Program/Project Budget template. If the request is for multi-year funding, include all years applicable to this application.

For budgeting in-kind equipment rates please use the link to the FEMA Schedule of Equipment Rates.

Once the template has been downloaded, save it to your computer, complete the information on both tabs and upload below.

Budgets*

Upload the completed project budget template here.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Upload the completed organization budget here

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Attachment 2. Program or Project Timeline/Schedule

Proposed Timeline/Schedule. Include a timeline of activities anticipated in this project or program. Use the link to access and download the Timeline Template and Timeline Example with Milestones. The comments/milestones column can be used to make helpful notations or provide key milestones in the project or program.

Please download the spreadsheet, save it to your computer, complete the form and upload it through the prompt below.

Timeline*

Upload your Project Timeline here.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Attachment 3. Board of Directors List

Not needed for governmental agencies

Include the following information for each board member:

- Position(s) on the board (officer and committee positions)
- Term date for each board member

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Attachment 4. Proof of IRS Federal Tax Exempt Status

Not needed for governmental agencies

IRS Federal Tax Exempt Status

Upload proof of IRS federal tax exempt status, also called a Letter of Determination and/or most recent 990 series return.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Attachment 4a. Additional Information for Fiscal Agents/Fiscal Sponsors

Fiscal Sponsor Name*

Character Limit: 100

Fiscal Sponsor Address*

Character Limit: 500

Fiscal Sponsor Website

Character Limit: 100

Describe the relationship with the Fiscal Sponsor*

How long has the applicant organization used this Fiscal Sponsor? How long to you intend to continue using this fiscal sponsor? Other details of the relationship.

Character Limit: 500

Fiscal Sponsor Contact Person*

Character Limit: 100

Memorandum of Understanding*

Upload **THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** or the contract between the organization and the fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor. This must include a clear description of the duties of the fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor accepting fiscal responsibility. What funds are committed by the fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor in support of the proposal. Will the fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor charge a fee? If so, how is the fee calculated?

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Fiscal Sponsor Tax Exempt Status*

Choices

501(c)(3) nonprofit-public charity

Tax exempt entity or nonprofit other than 501(c)(3), describe below

Tax exempt entity or nonprofit other than 501(c)(3), please describe

Character Limit: 1000

Budget Attachment*

Attachment 1 - Budget for the fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor. This should be budget and financial information related to programs that are part of this grant.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Proof of IRS Federal Tax Exempt Status*

Proof of IRS Federal Tax Exempt Status and/or latest 990 series return for the fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Board of Directors List*

Upload a Board of Directors List for the fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Attachment 5. Anti-Discrimination Statement

Not needed for governmental agencies

Anti-Discrimination Statement

Upload your organization's current anti-discrimination policy or statement that has been adopted by the board of directors.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Attachment 6. List of Names and Qualifications of Key Staff

Names and Qualifications of Key Staff*

Upload a list of Names and Qualifications of Key Staff. Provide the names and a two line summary of the qualifications of each key staff member who will be providing services or working on the proposed project including length of services with the organization. Do not provide job descriptions or resumes.

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Other Attachments

Other Attachments

You can attach other documents, such as land owner or agency approvals, agreement from partners, a map of the project area if applicable, or other documents that will help support elements of this grant application.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

File Size Limit: 2 MB

File Size Limit: 5 MB

File Size Limit: 5 MB

File Size Limit: 5 MB