

Title 15. Natural Resources and Economic Development

Chapter XXV. State Parks Division, Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism

Subchapter A. Generally

Part 350. Outdoor Recreation FUN Park Grant

Subpart 1. Generally

15 CAR § 350-101. Overview.

(a) The Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism's FUN Park Grant Program administers grants for the development of public outdoor recreation facilities.

(b) These grants, which do not require a cash match by the grantee, are available to:

(1) Incorporated municipalities with populations of two thousand five hundred (2,500) or less; and

(2) Unincorporated communities sponsored by the county.

(c) The program was created for these smaller communities that are often unable to take advantage of the department's Matching Grant Program due to a required fifty percent (50%) match by the grantee.

(d) FUN Park grants are funded through a portion of the Arkansas real property transfer tax.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

Codification Notes. "FUN" means facilities for underdeveloped neighborhoods.

15 CAR § 350-102. Application cycle.

Application submittal deadlines are published annually in the application guide.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-103. Notification.

Information relating to the grant program will be:

- (1) Provided to all eligible municipalities and counties annually; and
- (2) Posted on the Outdoor Recreation Grants Program website at

www.outdoorgrants.com.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-104. Eligibility.

(a) Only incorporated municipalities with populations of two thousand five hundred (2,500) or less and unincorporated communities sponsored by the county are eligible for a FUN Park grant.

(b) Grantees will not be eligible to apply for future FUN Park grants within five (5) years after they have received an award.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

Codification Notes. "FUN" means facilities for underdeveloped neighborhoods.

15 CAR § 350-105. Grant amount.

Grant amounts and number of grants that may be awarded annually are published in the FUN Park grant application guide.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

Codification Notes. "FUN" means facilities for underdeveloped neighborhoods.

15 CAR § 350-106. Site visits.

Applicants must schedule a site visit with the Outdoor Recreation Grants Program to:

- (1) Provide applicant technical assistance on facility layout;
- (2) Verify site is appropriate for park development; and
- (3) Verify applicant's eligibility for a FUN Park grant.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-107. Site requirements.

(a) Applicant must own or have at least a twenty-five-year lease on the real estate proposed for outdoor recreation development.

(b) The site must be:

- (1) Suitable for the proposed development; and
- (2) Available to all citizens at all reasonable times.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-108. Eligible facilities.

(a) Any fixed outdoor recreation facility may be funded with FUN Park grants.

(b) FUN Park grant funding may not be used for:

- (1) Land acquisition;
- (2) Movable equipment; or
- (3) Recreation programming.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

Codification Notes. "FUN" means facilities for underdeveloped neighborhoods.

15 CAR § 350-109. Cost estimates.

Applicant must provide cost estimates for all facilities included in their application.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-110. Accessibility.

All facilities funded by through the FUN Park Grant Program must conform with accessibility guidelines established by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

Codification Notes. "FUN" means facilities for underdeveloped neighborhoods.

15 CAR § 350-111. Playground safety.

All playground facilities funded by the FUN Park Grant Program must conform with playground safety guidelines established by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

Codification Notes. "FUN" means facilities for underdeveloped neighborhoods.

15 CAR § 350-112. Architectural and engineering services — Grant administration.

The professional services of a licensed architect or engineer are required to oversee design, bidding, and construction of the grant project.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-113. Selection process.

(a) Applications are considered by a Grants Advisory Committee whose members are appointed by the Governor.

(b) Committee recommendations are forwarded to the Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism for review.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-114. Contract.

(a) The Outdoor Recreation Grants Program will prepare a contract identifying facilities that may be developed with grant funding once a grant is awarded.

(b) The grantee may begin development only after the contract is signed by:

- (1) The mayor or county judge; and
- (2) The Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-115. Release of funds.

(a) Grant funds will be released to the grantee only after a contract is signed by:

- (1) The mayor or county judge; and
- (2) The Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism.

(b) The grantee may be required to return funds to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism if development has not begun within one (1) year of contract.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-116. Procurement.

The grantee is responsible for following procurement laws applicable to their jurisdiction.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.

15 CAR § 350-117. Financial records.

The grantee is responsible for:

- (1) Maintaining all financial records pertaining to the grant project; and
- (2) Providing the Outdoor Recreation Grant Program copies of invoices and cancelled checks or other proof of payment verifying that all grant funds have been spent on eligible costs.

Authority. Arkansas Code § 15-12-103.