



## New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

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### Certified Local Government (CLG) Program Grants Selection Criteria for Federal Fiscal Year 2009

The following project categories have been identified as qualifying for funding in federal fiscal year October 2007-September 2008. All categories are of equal weight. Projects that satisfy more than one category will receive additional rating points.

Grant applications will be competitively ranked based on the following:

- A. Commission Training: Projects designed to augment commission members' knowledge and expertise concerning historic preservation. Within this category, the **highest** funding priority is sponsorship of a statewide or regional conference for CLG commissions. Other commission training projects will be ranked according to the numbers of commission members served and the degree to which the training satisfies a demonstrated need or deficiency. Jointly sponsored projects, such as shared consultants, and projects that benefit multiple CLGs, such as generic design guidelines, are encouraged.
- B. Public Education: Public information/outreach projects where there is a **demonstrated need**. Examples are publications, workshops, and other such projects designed to raise public knowledge and acceptance of local historic preservation programs. Within this category, projects will be prioritized according to the degree of need demonstrated and the extent to which the project will address that need.
- C. Survey and Designation: Only projects showing evidence of a comprehensive long-range approach to survey and designation or projects that include the development of such an approach will be considered. Funding cannot be guaranteed for subsequent phases; however, Selection Criteria 2 and 3 strongly favor multi-phase projects showing long-term CLG commitment. Fundable projects include (in priority order):
  1. New reconnaissance level survey where none exists
  2. Comprehensive new intensive level survey or updating to bring existing survey within state standards
  3. Intensive level survey or designation, including National Register (NR) and other projects following a comprehensive plan
  4. Intensive level/local designation/NR projects taken out of sequence where an immediate threat or need can be demonstrated

- D. Demonstration projects on Critical Statewide Issues: Projects designed to provide model approaches to statewide preservation issues such as heritage tourism, economic revitalization, affordable housing, protection for historic landscapes and farmlands, identification of resources associated with minority populations, and comprehensive land use planning. Acquisition, pre-development (plans, specifications, historic structure reports) and development costs are eligible expenses where demonstration projects will preserve key historic resources in the community. Projects in this category will be prioritized according to their potential usefulness to communities statewide.
- E. Local Capacity-Building: Initiatives that will improve the municipality's ability to work with property owners throughout the review process, including support for the development of new administrative tools or application documents, training for municipal staff or seed money for new commission staff.

### Considerations:

1. Proposed project will have a beneficial impact on present and future preservation efforts of the CLG.
  - Project augments existing efforts by the CLG and will not duplicate the work of others.
  - Project will increase the capability and effectiveness of the CLG in addressing historic preservation issues.
  - Project demonstrates broad community support or endorsement, particularly the support of local planning agencies.
2. Project has been carefully planned.
  - Scope and objectives of the project are appropriate in the context of the resource base and planning needs.
  - Budget estimates and project schedules show evidence of careful consideration of project requirements, professional standards, and market rates.
3. Applicant has committed resources to the project and demonstrated an ability to successfully carry the project to completion.
  - Applicant will contribute cash or in-kind services to the project. For FY2009, applicants are encouraged to contribute at least 40% of the project cost.
  - Applicant has sufficient resources (personnel, financial, administrative) to successfully complete this project.
  - Applicant has demonstrated performance ability through completion of another project of similar scope or through established record of administrative excellence.
4. The SHPO will make every reasonable effort to distribute the annual CLG share among the maximum number of CLGs within the constraints imposed by the need to produce tangible results and in keeping with the established priorities and standards. The SHPO will also make every effort to balance the distribution among urban and rural areas and to ensure that no CLG receives a disproportionate share of the allocation. The SHPO is not required to award funds to every CLG in New York State.