

Montana Office of Tourism

TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Resource information is arranged by State, Federal, Local and Private sector. Links listed below provide sources for funding and technical assistance for projects related to tourism, recreation, business development, economic and community development, transportation, conservation and historic/cultural programs. For information about each of the programs, contact the organization listed.

STATE RESOURCES

Montana Finance Information Center

- The [Montana Finance Information Center](#) provides summary information for the most significant financing resources available from state, federal, and local institutions.

Contact: MT Department of Commerce, Finance Information Center, 301 S Park Ave, Helena MT 59620, 406-841-2732

Montana Department of Commerce, Montana Office of Tourism

- Grant programs are available for [non-profit tourism facilities and annual "hallmark" Montana events](#). Information is available for [low or no cost marketing assistance](#), [Montana Superhost employee/manager customer service training](#) and [Film-TV-Commercial shooting location assistance](#).

Contact: Montana Department of Commerce, Montana Office of Tourism, 301 S Park Ave, Helena MT 59620, 406-841-2870, 1-800-548-3390

Montana Arts Council

- The Montana Arts Council is charged with promoting and expanding the significant role of arts and culture in our lives through a variety of [grant and technical assistance programs](#).

Contact: MT Arts Council, 316 North Park Ave., Suite 252, Helena MT 59620, 406-444-6430

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

- Several [grant programs](#) are available for funding a diversified range of projects.

Contact: MT Fish Wildlife & Parks, 1420 East 6th Ave, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-3750

Montana Historical Society

- [Montana Historical Society](#) provides a listing of "Dollars for Preservation" which includes state, tribal, federal, private and foundation funds available for heritage preservation and tourism projects and well as other community and regional development projects.

Contact: Montana Historical Society, 225 North Roberts, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-2694

- The [State Historic Preservation Office \(SHPO\)](#) mission is to work together with all Montanans to preserve significant historic, archaeological and cultural places.
- The [Certified Local Government \(CLG\) Program](#) is a partnership with the National Park Service that certifies local governments with historic preservation programs, provides technical preservation assistance, and annually dedicates federal funding to cities, towns, and counties that commit to preserving their heritage.
Contact: MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, 225 North Roberts, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-7715
- [Montana Preserve America Program](#), when available, the Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) offers Preserve America subgrants to Montana communities that have Preserve America status and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices to support preservation and heritage tourism.
Contact: MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, 225 North Roberts, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-7715

Montana Department of Transportation

- [Community Transportation Enhancement Program \(CTEP\)](#) funds transportation-related projects designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of Montana's intermodal transportation system.
Contact: MT Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Ave, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-9209
- [The Sign Catalog](#) is intended for use as a supplement to and in conjunction with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) published by the Federal Highway Administration.
Contact: MDT Maintenance Division, 406-444-6414

MONTANA UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

The University of Montana

- [Institute for Tourism & Recreation Research \(ITRR\)](#) serves as the research arm for Montana's tourism and recreation industry. Its overall mission is to provide information that will help the industry make informed decisions about planning, promotion and management.
Contact: ITRR, 32 Campus Drive #1234, Missoula, MT 59812-1234, 406-243-5686

The School of Business Administration maintains partnerships with:

- [American Indian Business Leaders \(AIBL\)](#)
- [Business Bureau of Economic Research \(BBER\)](#)
- [Montana Business Connections \(MBC\)](#)
- [Montana World Trade Center \(MWTC\)](#)

Contact: University of Montana, School of Business Administration, Missoula, MT, Toll free: 1-800-252-3581 or 406-243-2064

Montana State University

- The [Montana State University Extension Service](#) is an educational resource dedicated to improving the quality of people's lives by providing research-based knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of families, communities and agriculture enterprises.
Contact: MSU Extension, Montana State University, 203 Culbertson, Bozeman, MT 59717-2230, 406-994-1750

FEDERAL

[Toolbox 4 the Great Outdoors](#) offers "tools" for adding resources and partners to recreation and visitor services programs. Toolbox "drawers" include valuable information for projects dealing with Transportation; Wildlife, Fisheries & Conservation; Volunteers & Partnerships; Youth Programs, Contests, Competitions & Internships; Health and Education; Economic Development & Effective Program Management; and Technical Assistance & Design Programs.

[Grants.gov](#) is your source to FIND and APPLY for Federal government grants. There are over 1,000 grant programs offered by all Federal grant making agencies.

Multi-Agency

- Challenge Cost Share Program: [National Park Service](#), USDA Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management

The Challenge Cost Share Program (CCS) provides matching funds to non-federal organizations' contributions for projects that provide new or enhanced opportunity for protection of natural/cultural/historic assets, interpretation and recreation sites management.

Contact: USDA Forest Service, 406-329-3347; BLM, 406 896-5000; NPS, 505-988-6809

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

[Rural Development](#) - The overall mission of USDA Rural Development is to improve the quality of life for rural Americans.

- [Business Cooperative Programs](#)
- [Community Facilities Program](#)
- [Rural Community Development Initiative](#)
- [Resource Conservation & Development](#)
- [Value Added Producer Grant](#)

Contact: USDA Rural Development Office, 900 Technology Blvd, Suite B, Bozeman MT, 59717, 406-585-2580

[Forest Service](#) - The State and Private Forestry (S&PF) organization reaches across the boundaries of National Forests to States, Tribes, communities and non-industrial private landowners. S&PF is the federal leader in providing technical and financial assistance to landowners and resource managers.

Contact: Forest Service Region 1, 200 East Broadway, Missoula, MT 59807, 406-329-3511

U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)

- [National Park Service \(NPS\)](#) grants help protect the nation's significant historic and cultural sites and preserve the diverse cultural heritage. More than \$1 billion has been awarded to Federal, State, and local governments, Native American Tribes, nonprofit organizations and educational institutions for preservation projects in all 50 states and the U.S. Territories.

Contact: For a complete list of program contacts, visit the [website](#).

- The [Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program](#), also known as the Rivers & Trails Program or RTCA, is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, State, and federal government agencies so they can conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways.

Contact: Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance, National Park Service, 4030 Sourdough Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715, 406-587-1667

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

- The mission of DOT is to ensure a fast, safe, efficient, accessible and convenient transportation system that meets vital national interests and enhances quality of life, today and into the future. For information on DOT - Federal Highway Administration programs and grants, visit their [website](#).

- [National Scenic Byways Program](#) - The National Scenic Byways Program is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. The program is a grass-roots collaborative effort established to help recognize, preserve and enhance selected roads throughout the United States.

Contact: National Scenic Byways Program, 1-800-4BYWAYS (1-800-429-9297), option 3. For information on Montana's Byway Program, contact Montana Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Ave, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-3423

Nonprofit / Local

- [Humanities Montana](#) offers a variety of grants for a variety of projects – conferences, seminars and workshops, book festivals, planning for humanities programming and more.

Contact: Humanities Montana, 311 Brantly, Missoula, MT 59812, 406-243-6022, info@humanitiesmontana.org

- The [Montana Community Foundation](#) provides grant funds to Montana community organizations for projects related to the arts, economic and community development, education, the environment, natural resources and human resources.

Contact: Montana Community Foundation, 101 N. Last Chance Gulch, Suite 211, Helena, MT 59601, 406-443-8313

- [Montana Community Development Corporation's](#) goal is to improve the economy of Montana by providing assistance to new and expanding businesses, sustain communities and create income opportunities for low and moderate income residents. Services are offered primarily in western Montana counties -- Missoula County, Ravalli County, Sanders County, Mineral County and South Lake County – but they are willing to work with entrepreneurs throughout the state. MCDC's trained commercial loan officers are available to assist in obtaining the financing needed.

Contact: Montana Community Development Corporation, 110 E. Broadway, 2nd Floor, Missoula, MT 59802, 406-728-9234.

- The [Montana Economic Developers Association \(MEDA\)](#) is a certified community of “lead” economic developers, business specialists, government employees, and staff members of affiliated non-profit organizations that promote or foster economic development activities in Montana.
Contact: Montana Economic Developers Association, 118 E. 7th St.; Suite 2A, Anaconda, MT 59711, 406-563-5259
- [Montana Economic Development Directory](#) lists economic development organizations working in communities across Montana.
- [Montana Rural Development Partners \(MRDP\)](#) supports locally conceived strategies to sustain, improve, and develop vital and prosperous rural Montana communities by encouraging communication, coordination, and collaboration among private, public and tribal groups.
Contact: Montana Rural Development Partners, Inc, 118 E. 7th St.; Suite 2A, Anaconda, MT 59711, 406-563-5259
- The [National Forest Foundation \(NFF\)](#) is a conservation organization focused on addressing the challenges that face America’s National Forests. It stands apart from similar organizations through its commitment to facilitating local involvement and encouraging grassroots participation in forest stewardship.
Contact: National Forest Foundation, Building 27 Suite #3, Fort Missoula Road, Missoula, MT 59804, 406-542-2805
- [Tourism Cares](#) is a national tourism non-profit organization chartered to preserve the travel experience for future generations through awarding grants to natural, cultural and historic sites worldwide; by presenting academic and service-focused scholarships to hospitality and tourism students; and by organizing volunteer efforts to restore tourism-related sites in need of care and rejuvenation.
Contact: Tourism Cares, 275 Turnpike Street, Suite 307, Canton, MA 02021, 781-821-5990, Fax: 781-821-8949, info@tourismcares.org
- [U.S. Travel Association](#) is an authoritative source of research, analysis, and forecasting for the domestic and international travel industry.
Contact: U.S. Travel Association, 1100 New York Avenue, NW, Ste. 450, Washington, DC 20005, 202-408-8422

Private Funds and Foundations

- [Burlington Northern Sante Fe Foundation \(BNSF\)](#) offers grants for communities along their Montana service routes in the areas of civic services including the environment and community development, cultural organizations, educational institutions, health and human services, youth and federated organizations.
Contact: Manager Corporate Contributions, BNSF Foundation, 2650 Lou Menk Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76131-2830, BNSFFoundation@bnsf.com, 817-867-6458, Fax: 817-352-7925
- [Jerry Metcalf Foundation](#) awards grants to individuals and organizations for visual, performing, and literary arts; historical research and preservation; environmental research and conservation; and education and community health for single or multi-year time periods.
Contact: Jerry Metcalf Foundation, Box 823, Helena, MT 59624, smokey@mcn.net.

- [NorthWestern Energy](#) realizes the importance of maintaining, developing, and creating economic prosperity in Montana communities. Its Economic Development team helps retain existing jobs, promotes business expansion, and recruits new businesses in the communities it serve.

Contact: NorthWestern Energy, 406-497-3621 or 406-655-2550

- [Northwest Area Foundation](#) focuses on long-term poverty reduction in an eight-state region (MN, IA, ND, SD, MT, ID, WA, OR). NWFA's grant programs fund activities that 1) increase assets and wealth among people with low incomes; 2) increase capacity and leadership to reduce poverty; 3) improve public policy solutions to reduce poverty.

Contact: Northwest Area Foundation, 60 Plato Boulevard East, Suite 400, St. Paul, MN 55107, 651-224-9635

- [PPL Montana Community Fund](#) is a philanthropic community funding source that awards grants to Montana organizations in three major "quality of life" areas: education, environment and economic development.

Contact: PPL Montana, 303 North Broadway, Suite 400, Billings, MT 59101-1255, 406-237-6900

- [Travelers for Open Lands](#) is a voluntary partnership between the traveling public, the Montana hospitality industry, private land owners and land trust organizations to conserve Montana's scenic vistas, wildlife habitat, working farms and ranches and recreational lands, which comprise Montana's irreplaceable landscape for present and future generations. Grants are available for Montana public land trusts to protect Montana's open space.

Contact: Montana Association of Land Trusts, Box 675, Whitehall, MT 59759, 406-490-1659, conserve@travelersforopenland.org

- The [Trust for Public Land](#) works to protect/conservate land to improve the quality of life for people and communities, and to protect natural and historic resources for future generations. TPL offers assistance to source financing for parks and open space, helps generate federal, state, and local conservation funding, and promotes the importance of public lands.

Contact: Northern Rockies Field Office, 432 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite A, Helena, MT 59601, 406-443-4017