

Port of Pittsburgh Commission (PPC) Grant Review Criteria 2024

Mission:

Our rivers contribute to the quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania, and we promote the commercial use and development of the inland waterway system to support the economic, recreational, environmental and intermodal interests of our region.

Our Region:

The Pittsburgh Port District encompasses a 13-county area including Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Clarion, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties.

Grant Criteria:

1. **Applicants** may be from commercial, non-profit entities, including municipalities and counties, community or volunteer-based organizations, as well as educational and academic entities which will use this grant to augment their existing resources to help further the Port of Pittsburgh's mission of assistance to our waterways and communities.
2. **Eligibility** projects will seek to enhance the utilization of our waterways for the betterment of our communities. This will include: water stewardship, advocacy, outreach and education, safety and/or environmental measures, and increase awareness of our rivers and their impacts, and the use of new concepts and ideas. Projects that enhance the role of the Port of Pittsburgh Commission and/or the inland waterway transportation system in our communities will be a priority.

Additionally, projects which can demonstrate additional resources, such as match funding from other sources will receive additional consideration. Individuals who apply without a sponsoring agency will not be accepted. Additionally, this funding cannot be used for organizational operation costs or benefits.

3. **Evaluation** of projects will consider, but not be limited to, the purpose of the project, how it contributes to the purpose and mission of the PPC. Educational, promotional, safety, environmental and scientific efforts on behalf of the rivers, will receive priority. Additionally, the commitment of matching funding sources to support the project, the overall impact of the project to the region's waterways, and the ability of the sponsor to carry out the activity will be considered.

4. The **maximum award given to a project will be \$10,000** and will be for a 2-year term. Projects must be approved prior to start of construction. Approved costs will be reimbursed upon presentation of invoices. Once a project is approved, the sponsor will provide quarterly reports until the project is completed. If the project is not completed in two years, the Commission, at its discretion, may terminate the grant.
5. The **review** of applications will be completed by the PPC Small Grants Committee, and their recommendations will be forwarded to the Commission. The Commission, at its sole discretion, will approve and award grants.
6. Once a **grant agreement** has been executed, work may commence on the project. **Progress reports** will be required by the Commission with each request for reimbursement. Properly documented invoices for incurred costs should accompany the report. Upon review of the report and approval of the submitted costs, the grantee will receive a check from the Port of Pittsburgh Commission in approximately 45 days.