

Dawes County Travel Board
IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION

PO Box 746 | Chadron, NE 69337 *revised 2023



About the Dawes County Improvement Fund

The Dawes County Visitors Committee, also known as the Travel Board, has the duty of advising the Dawes County Commission on the use of two separate funds, the Visitors Promotion Fund and the Visitors Improvement Fund. The proceeds of a sales tax on motel/hotel/campground lodging in Dawes County provide the money for both funds, which are authorized under the Nebraska Visitors Development Act.

Dawes County began collecting money for the Visitors Improvement Fund on July 1, 2014. Under Nebraska law, the fund is to be used generally to promote and attract visitors to come to the county and use the travel and tourism facilities located here. The fund can be used to improve visitor attractions and facilities, by making grants to expand and improve existing facilities, acquire or expand exhibits for existing attractions, construct visitor attractions, or for planning or developing expansion, improvements or construction.

The grants are available for any attraction in the county owned by the public or any non-profit organization which has a primary purpose of operating the attraction. Visitor attractions must be in a defined location, open to the public, and of educational, cultural, historical, artistic or recreational significance, or provide entertainment, or have exhibits, displays or performances of educational, cultural, historic artistic or entertainment value.

All grants awarded by the Dawes County Travel Board are subject to final approval by the Dawes County Board of Commissioners.

Improvement grant applications will be reviewed in July, October, January and April and funds are allocated based on substantial completion. Applications must be submitted seven days prior to the meeting to:

Dawes County Travel Board
PO Box 746 (mailing) or 706 W. Third Street (physical)
Chadron, NE 69337

Submissions by email: Director@DiscoverNWNebraska.com

DAWES COUNTY TRAVEL BOARD MISSION STATEMENT:

The Dawes County Travel Board promotes Northwest Nebraska and seeks to improve visitor experiences while advising the Board of Commissioner in the administration of proceeds from tax revenue provided by the Nebraska Visitors Development Act.

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1. Description	
Name of Project:	Date:
Organization Applying for Grant:	
Contact Name:	Phone:
Organization Address:	Email:
	Website:
Add my email to the monthly Northwest Nebraska newsletter to see my event's promotions.	
Describe the Project:	
Signature of applicant (I signify that, if awarded, grant funds will only be used for improvements to visitor attractions owned by the public or any nonprofit organization, as the Nebraska Visitors Development Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1245 through §81-1263, et seq. (as amended from time to time) provides, as outlined in this application).	
Signature:	Date:

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2. Timeline

Construction/Project Start:	Estimated Completion Date:
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3. Financial Value

Total Project Cost:	Amount of Request:
Other Funding Sources:	
How will the grant stimulate business for the Dawes County lodging industry?	
How will the project complement existing regional attractions to stimulate tourism?	
In what other ways will Dawes County see a financial return in its investment?	
If this project is not awarded the entire request amount, will the project continue?	
4. Social and Cultural Value	
How will the project improve the social and cultural landscape of Dawes County?	
What demographics of visitors will the project serve?	

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5. Marketing Plan/Media Potential

How do you plan to market the project?

What types of media will be interested in the project?

6. Additional Comments

Please feel free to attach any supporting documents to this application.

All grant recipients must give appropriate credit on all material for which the grant is used, i.e. Funded by the Dawes County Travel Board. Applications must be submitted to the Northwest Nebraska Tourism Director (706 W. Third Street or PO Box 746) and will be reviewed at the July, October, January and April Dawes County Travel Board meetings. The funding will be a reimbursement upon substantial completion of the project. A formal report is expected to be submitted 30 days after project completion.

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BUDGET WORKSHEET

(Include contractor bids if applicable & use separate sheet if necessary.)

Activity	Grant Amount Requested	Match (cash)	Match (In-Kind)	Source & Brief Description of Match	Total Funds to be Spent of this Grant Project Per Activity
Example: Construction of ABC	6,000	2,000	2,000	Organization budget, volunteer labor	10,000

Activity	Grant Amount Requested	Match (cash)	Match (In-Kind)	Source & Brief Description of Match	Total Funds to be Spent of this Grant Project Per Activity
Totals					

(Total of first three columns must equal the fifth column total.)

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Grant Submission Checklist (For office use only)

Completed Application: Yes No

Letters of Recommendation (if desired): Yes

Complete Budget: Yes No

Conceptual Design of Brochure or other advertising media: Yes No

Approval (For office use only)

Date of application received:

By:

On the DCTB agenda for:

Approved by DCTB: Yes No

Commissioners meeting date:

Approved by Commissioners: Yes No