

## **Architectural Foundation of Nebraska**

### **Mission Statement:**

“To inform the people of Nebraska of the importance of their environment and the value of architecture. To raise awareness of the long term impact of architecture as a signature of culture.”

### **GRANT GUIDELINES**

The Foundation accepts applications only from organizations that have communicated with us prior to completing an application form. The initial communication may be in person or by phone, mail, facsimile, or E-mail. The Foundation staff is available to consult at any stage in the process.

Note that the numbers and letters below do not correspond to those on the application form.

#### **1. FOUNDATION OBJECTIVE:**

To support innovative ideas which promise substantial change in the public’s awareness of architecture and human settlement issues. Highest priority is give to proposals that support the mission statement of the Architectural Foundation of Nebraska. Proposals that have matching funds or show a potential for future matching grant are highly desirable.

#### **Grant-making Area:**

Most grants are made to organizations located in and impacting residents of Nebraska.

#### **Grant Amounts:**

Most grants are for amounts less than \$5000.00.

#### **We Do Not Fund:**

Non-501(c)3 organizations, individuals, endowments, private foundations, businesses, health or religious issues, travel, or organizations outside of Nebraska.

#### **2. FUNDING PRIORITY:**

Our highest priority is teaching and learning regarding the significance of Architecture in our lives. Proposed projects should relate directly or indirectly to this priority.

#### **3. GRANT APPLICATIONS GUIDELINES:**

**A. Problem Definition:** It is essential that a convincing case is presented for the proposed project, why it is needed, and how it will meet the needs identified. Brevity and clarity are important.

**B. Applicant Qualifications:** Evidence must be presented of the organization's experience, expertise, and qualifications to undertake the proposed project.

**C. Financial Qualifications:** Evidence must be presented of financial ability, stability, and planning of the applicant's organization. We are interested in the size and capacity of the organization's budget in relationship to the project budget, the development plan in relation to existing and proposed needs, reserve funds and their planned use, and the ability to sustain the proposed project after the grant period. Accuracy is important.

**D. Collaboration:** Collaboration, when appropriate, generally strengthens an application. The role of, commitment by, and benefit to each organization and to the objective must be identified.

**E. Evaluation:** An evaluation strategy must be presented defining a rational criteria and method of measuring the proposal's effectiveness during the grant period.

**F. Model Programs:** The in which a program will serve as a catalyst or blueprint for others, and how funding and management will be sustained beyond the grant period must be demonstrated. Simply stating that a program can be replicated is not enough.

**G. Schedule:** Provide a schedule for the proposed project noting significant milestones.

### **3. GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS:**

**A. Submission Schedule:** Inquiries about our priorities, the application process, and the review schedule should be made well before the beginning of the project. Applications are received by January 1 and July 1 each year and reviewed within two months of those dates.

**B. Challenge and Contingency Grants:** Grantees have one year to raise the challenge amount or meet the contingency unless otherwise noted.

**C. Payment Schedule:** It is our objective to issue grant checks at a reasonable time in advance of the need for the funds. Applications must indicate when funds will be needed.

**D. Re-application:** We do not accept applications from organizations, which have had proposals approved or declined in the preceding 12 months. This policy applies to the lead organization, but not the to the cooperating organizations, in a collaborative proposal.