Military Enhancement Fund Grant Proposals
Effective 1 Nov 26
For March 2027 grant cycle

The South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs (SCDVA) administers the Military Enhancement Plan as directed in Budget Provisos which state, "Funds appropriated to the department for the Military Enhancement Plan may be allocated to items including, but not limited to, land acquisition, recreational purposes, educational purposes, and facilities for military personnel. Eligible recipients are counties and municipalities with federal military installations, as well as nonprofit organizations who meet the grant and transparency qualifications of the program, are registered and in good standing with the Secretary of State, and operating in said counties and municipalities." In accordance with the purposes listed in the proviso, including education and recreation, eligible governments include county administrations, municipal administrations, school districts within such counties or municipalities, and local subdivisions providing a local government service germane to the grant's purposes within such counties or municipalities.

Federal military installations, as defined in South Carolina Code 6-29-1625 (A), include Fort Jackson, Shaw Air Force Base, McEntire Joint National Guard Base, Joint Base Lindsey Graham, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Beaufort Naval Hospital, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, Naval Nuclear Power Training Command, and Fort Gordon, GA. For the purposes of this program, US Coast Guard installations in South Carolina are also considered federal military installations, as are any subordinate federal installations of those named above.

Section One - Eligibility Criteria

The grant applicant must be one of the following within **Richland, Sumter, Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester, Georgetown, Orangeburg, Beaufort, Aiken, or Edgefield** counties:

- County or municipality with a federal military installation
- Nonprofit organization who meets the grant and transparency qualifications of the program, are registered and in good standing with the Secretary of State, and operating in said counties and municipalities
- County administrations, municipal administrations, or school districts within such counties or municipalities
- Local subdivisions providing a local government service germane to the grant's purposes within such counties or municipalities

The maximum grant amount is $2,000,000.

Deadlines for proposals to be accepted for review are 1 March and 1 September.

Section Two – Application Requirements

To be considered for a grant under this program, your proposal must include the following documents and information <u>in the order it is listed below</u>. A proposal which does not meet any of the requirements below will not be considered.

A. Cover letter on the letterhead of the applicant with a reference line including the project name and amount requested. The letter should give a brief description of the scope of the proposal, the military installation(s) it will benefit, and whether there will be a financial match from the applicant.

B. Detailed explanation of the proposal, and how it will enhance military value, installation resilience, or military family quality of life at the supported military installation(s) or community.

C. Detailed budget for the proposal, to include a spending timeline.

D. List of specific project objectives and how they will be achieved.

E. Timeline for completing the project to include start dates, milestones, and completion dates.

F. Independent, third-party estimate of the cost of the proposal, prepared by a qualified entity. If property is being purchased, a fair market appraisal must be included in the proposal.

G. Detailed account of any other funding source you intend to apply for in conjunction with this grant, to include source and dollar amount (if, for example, your grant proposal covers only a sub-project as part of a larger project).

H. Applicant's anti-discrimination policy.

I. Applicant's most recent operating financial statement .

List the **name, email and phone** contact information for the primary and alternate personnel overseeing the project.

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Primary point of contact

_____

Alternate point of contact

Proposals that meet the eligibility criteria will be forwarded to the appropriate military installation for their review. If the installation commander provides a letter of support, the proposal will be reviewed by the Military Affairs Advisory Council Executive Committee, who will make recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Section Three - Evaluation Criteria

Eligible grant proposals will be evaluated based on 1) its effect on mission readiness; 2) its effect on military quality of life, 3) its effect on the surrounding community; 4) its timeliness; and 5) the degree to which the costs of the project(s) are shared with other funding sources. The score sheet used for evaluating proposals, as well as this document can be found on our website at https://scdva.sc.gov/military-enhancement-fund-grants-proposals.

The Department makes every effort to fund grants at the amount requested. However, the Secretary may adjust award amounts based on the availability of funds and other considerations. **Final decision authority for awarding grants under this program rests with the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs**.

Section Four - Agreement Statement

If awarded a grant, I agree to provide to the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs quarterly reports, detailing how all grant funds were spent to date and the progress on achieving the objectives defined in the grant proposal. I am aware the information provided in my report will be reviewed by the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee and is subject to audit by the State Auditor. Additionally, I agree to provide the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs additional reports and supporting documents as may be required, and to allow the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs or its designee to conduct inspections of the project.

_____	_____
Signature of Applicant	Date
_____	_____
Name of Applicant	Amount of Proposal Request
_____	_____
Title of Applicant	Email Address

Section Five - Administrative Instructions

Send completed proposals to **MEF@scdva.sc.gov** no later than the application closing date. If you have not received a confirmation of receipt of your application within 3 business days, contact Sandy Claypoole at 803-683-1361 or Jason Fowler at 803-683-0242.