

Military Enhancement Fund Grant Proposals

Effective 1 Jul 26

For fiscal year 1 Jul 26 – 30 Jun 27



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. 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 Charleston, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Beaufort Naval Hospital, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, Charleston Naval Weapons Station, 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
- 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.

Before submission, applicants must review their proposal with the Military Affairs Advisory Council representative for the applicant's military community. An email from the Council representative stating they have reviewed the proposal must accompany the grant application.

Carl Blackstone cbblackstone@columbiachamber.com – Richland County

Steve Creech screech@crwins.com – Sumter County

Mary Graham marygrahamconsultingllc@gmail.com – Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester, Georgetown, and Orangeburg Counties

Neal Pugliese nealpugliese@gmail.com – Beaufort County

Jennifer Napper jennapper82@gmail.com – Aiken and Edgefield Counties

Section Two – Application Requirements

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

- A. Cover letter on the letterhead of your county or municipality 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. Email from the Military Affairs Advisory Council community representative naming the person from the application team they spoke with for the proposal review
- C. Signed letter of support by the local installation commander(s) dated no earlier than 90 days prior to the date of application submission that states how the military installation will benefit from the proposal.
- D. 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.
- E. Detailed budget for the proposal, to include a spending timeline.
- F. List of specific project objectives and how they will be achieved.
- G. Timeline for completing the project to include start dates, milestones, and completion dates.
- H. 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.
- I. 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).
- J. Applicant's anti-discrimination policy.
- K. Applicant's most recent operating financial statement .

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

Primary point of contact

Alternate point of contact

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.