



OFCC oversees capital improvement funds appropriated by the General Assembly and governor for construction projects at Ohio's cultural and sports facilities.

GETTING STARTED

Once your organization has received a capital appropriation, the next step is to apply for OFCC approval by completing a submittal form, available on the OFCC website, and submitting it with the required documentation.

RESOURCES

Resources are available on the OFCC Cultural Facilities Grants web page, to assist your organization with its pursuit of grant funding.

HOW PROJECTS SECURE FUNDING

The State of Ohio's biennial capital budget, enacted in each even-numbered year, may provide appropriations for community projects of local or regional interest. Appropriations for the acquisition, construction, improvement, and related equipping and furnishing of cultural and sports facilities are assigned to the OFCC for oversight.

To be considered for funding, your organization is responsible for approaching its local elected officials. The OFCC does not have a pool of discretionary funds from which it can provide grants.

ELIGIBILITY

Ohio nonprofits and governmental agencies are eligible for project funding. State funding must only be used for construction, and the project—once it's complete—must support culture over a 10-year term. Previously funded facilities include:

- Visual and performing arts centers
- Museums

- Science and technology centers
- Arts education facilities
- Local historical facilities
- State-owned historical facilities
- Publicly owned professional sports facilities

If your organization or project is ineligible for OFCC funding, state funds may be available from other agencies including the Ohio Department of Natural Resources or the Ohio Development Services Agency.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

OFCC-funded projects require a local match. For cultural facilities, the local match must be \$1 of non-state resources for every \$2 funded by the state. For sports facilities, the local match must be at least 85 percent of the initial estimated construction cost.

In addition to the match requirement, the OFCC will not approve a grant unless all necessary funding for the project has been raised.

TYPICAL GRANT PROCESS: STEP BY STEP

Follow these steps for a successful grant application process:

1. An Ohio nonprofit or governmental agency (Project Sponsor) decides it needs to expand or improve its facilities or build a new facility
2. Project Sponsor approaches its legislators to request funding for a project in the biennial capital improvements bill
3. Project receives appropriation in the capital bill and it is assigned to the OFCC
4. Commission staff reaches out to Project Sponsor or Project Sponsor may contact Commission staff to outline requirements for project approval
5. Project Sponsor completes and submits Submittal Form a available on the OFCC website
6. Commission staff may schedule a site visit to tour the facility and discuss key aspects of the project
7. Commission staff analyzes and reviews documentation to ensure project meets grant requirements
8. Once all the requirements are met and Commission approvals have been obtained, the legal agreements are executed
9. Commission staff mails an approval letter to the grantee and includes a fully executed legal agreement
10. Grantee submits eligible expense invoices for reimbursement



ABOUT OFCC

OFCC is responsible for guiding capital projects for state agencies, state-supported universities and community colleges, including Ohio's comprehensive public K-12 school construction and renovation program. The Commission also manages the State's cultural facilities, school security, and community school classroom facilities grants programs.

*Photographs: Front: Incline Theater, Cincinnati (Hamilton Co.).
Above: Lorain Lighthouse "Jewel of the Port®" (Lorain Co.)*