



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- LCHIP is an independent state authority created by the Legislature in 2000 for the purpose of making matching grants to NH communities and non-profits to assist in protecting NH's natural, cultural, and historic resources.
- LCHIP has no impact on NH's "General Fund." A \$25 surcharge on certain documents recorded at county registries of deeds accrues in the LCHIP Trust Fund. These dedicated funds are awarded annually through the competitive LCHIP grant program. Most administrative expenses are supported by the Conservation License Plate program.

In the past NH's Legislature has "reallocated" part or the entire LCHIP dedicated fund to the State's General Fund. In the most recent biennium (2014/15) 100% of the funds were used in keeping with the intent of the 2008 legislation establishing the surcharge.

LCHIP HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Awarded 341 grants in 13 competitive grant rounds
- ✓ Benefitted 152 different towns and cities across New Hampshire
- ✓ Protected 180 historic buildings, from the 1701 Colonel Paul Rollins House in Rollinsford to the 1950 Zimmerman House in Manchester
- ✓ Conserved 278,000 acres for forestry, agriculture, and recreation, from the 171,000-acre Connecticut Lakes Headwaters, to a 9-acre Hinsdale project providing key access to other conserved lands
- ✓ Invested \$36 million in our states natural, historic, and cultural resources, leveraging total project investments of \$268 million

| 2015 GRANT ROUND SCHEDULE | |
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| Grant Round Opens <i>Application materials posted at LCHIP.org</i> | Monday, May 18, 2015 |
| Grant Workshops at <i>Dept. of Resources and Economic Development, Concord. Preregistration required by May 28, 2015. Attendance required if applicant has not attended previously.</i> | Wednesday, June 3, 2015 <i>Natural Resources 9:30-11:30</i> <i>Historic Resources 1:30 – 3:30</i> |
| Intent to Apply Forms Due | 4:00 p.m. Monday, June 8, 2015 |
| Grant Application Packages Due | 12:00 p.m. Friday, June 26, 2015 |
| Project Site Visits | September – October, 2015 |
| Grant Awards Decision and Announcement | Late November, 2015 |

ELIGIBILITY

Applicant Must

1. Be a municipality or other political subdivision of the state of NH; or be a publicly-supported nonprofit corporation exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. Other interested parties must partner with an eligible entity,
2. adopt the relevant sections of the Land Trust Alliance *Standards and Practices*
3. attend the 2015 grant workshop, or have attended in the past
4. Submit completed Intent to Apply form and Application Package

Natural Resource Projects Must

1. Permanently protect
 - a. ecologically significant land;
 - b. farmland, forestland, habitat for rare species or important wildlife;
 - c. existing and potential public water supply lands;
 - d. riverine, lake, estuarine, or ocean shorelands;
 - e. wetlands and associated uplands,
 - f. recreational land;
 - g. scenic areas or view sheds
2. Have a willing property owner who has agreed to conserve the land as described in the application and who has accepted LCHIP's public access requirements. *Note: the '15 application will require the landowner sign an acknowledgement of this requirement. Applicants should discuss this requirement with landowners prior to submitting the Intent to Apply.*
3. Have a viable funding plan that meets LCHIP's financial and match requirements:
 - a. Grant request may not be greater than 50% of the Total Project Cost or Value "TPC/V" , the total of all LCHIP-eligible expenses.
 - b. Grant requests must be matched \$1 for \$1 by other funding sources (the "match"). At least 50% of the match must be cash. Sources of non-cash match include the gifts-in-kind, volunteer labor, donated land or easement value, donated professional services i.e. legal, survey, title work.
 - c. The project budget must show revenue equal to or exceeding TPC / V (budget must balance)
 - d. LCHIP will NOT fund:
 - i. More than 50% of the appraised market value of the resource being acquired
 - ii. More than 50% of any eligible expense
 - iii. Administrative expenses exceeding 5% of the grant award
 - iv. Expenses not directly related to the acquisition and permanent protection of the resource

Questions?

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