



PCEDA PUBLIC SPACES GRANT PROGRAM

The Public Spaces Grant Program is designed to support the enhancement, revitalization, and development of publicly accessible recreation spaces throughout the community. The program aims to improve quality of life, encourage community engagement, promote outdoor recreation, and enhance the safety and accessibility of public gathering spaces.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and reviewed for approval once per month by a subcommittee of the PCEDA board of directors. Grantees have **six months** or until May 31, 2027 (whichever is sooner) to complete the work and submit paperwork for reimbursement/approval. Work must be initiated after a signed grant agreement is completed. The grant will not cover prior work.

This reimbursement grant covers up to 75% of eligible project costs for approved projects, with a maximum grant award of \$5,000. Grantees are responsible for contributing at least 25% of the total project costs and ensuring compliance with all applicable prevailing wage requirements, if applicable.

Applications will be accepted from September 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027 or until available funds are depleted, whichever occurs first.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Any county borough or township, public park or athletic recreation facility may apply. Funding may be used for projects involving parks, playgrounds, trails, recreational facilities, and other publicly used outdoor spaces.

What types of improvements are eligible for funding?

Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to:

Parks & Recreation Areas

- Park improvements and renovations
- Trailhead or green space enhancements
- Picnic pavilion improvements
- Benches, tables, bike racks, and site furnishings
- Landscaping and beautification
- Lighting improvements
- Wayfinding and signage

Playgrounds

- Playground equipment purchase and installation
- Safety surfacing improvements
- Shade structures
- Inclusive or ADA-accessible play equipment
- Fencing related to playground safety

Athletic & Recreation Facilities

- Ballfield improvements
- Court resurfacing or upgrades
- Bleachers or spectator amenities
- Dugouts and player facilities
- Walking trails or fitness stations
- Skate parks or splash pads

Accessibility & Safety Improvements

- ADA accessibility upgrades
- Sidewalks and pathways within recreation areas
- Drainage improvements related to recreational use
- Security or safety enhancements



HOW ARE GRANTS AWARDED?

Work undertaken prior to a signed grant agreement being issued is not eligible for funding. Grant funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis and cannot be issued until the proposed project has been completed. Before payment is made, applicants will need to submit proof of payment for completed work, and the PCEDA committee must review the completed project to determine that the actual work performed was the work approved.

HOW DOES THE APPLICATION PROCESS WORK?

- (1) Applicant completes an application for review by the PCEDA, including photos, applicable permitting request/approval and cost estimates (three bids or documented attempts are required).
- (2) PCEDA staff and grants committee will review the application for compliance with all necessary regulations.
- (3) The PCEDA will review the application, approve/deny and notify the applicant.
- (4) Once the applicant has received and returns the completed grant agreement, they can begin work.
- (5) Upon work completion, applicants must notify PCEDA, request a project review and submit receipts for reimbursement. PCEDA cannot reimburse without proper documentation and project inspection.

HOW ARE PROJECTS SELECTED?

Applications will be reviewed and selected based on their compatibility with the vision and goals of the Perry County Economic Vitality plan and their impact on moving towards that vision. Applicants should utilize the Community Guide document (which can be found at perrycountyeda.com/resources.) The approval committee will use this Guide to make approval determinations.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A PROJECT IS SELECTED?

Projects selected for a grant must be completed within **6 months** or by May 31, 2027 (whichever is sooner) of approval of the application. The applicant is responsible for obtaining all permits and any other required permits for the work to be done, as well as any other final inspections that may be required. The applicant is responsible for the conformance with all applicable safety standards and conditions. The applicant also agrees to maintain the improvement. PCEDA may promote an approved project including, but not limited to, displaying a sign at the site, during and after construction, and using photographs and descriptions of the project in the organization's materials.

WHEN IS THE PROGRAM AVAILABLE?

The Public Spaces Grant Program opens September 1, 2026. Applications will be accepted through May 31, 2027, or until available funds are depleted, whichever occurs first.