

Brief Overview of the Historic Preservation Restoration Grant Program

Option 1 – Grants up to \$10,000 to fund renovation and restoration projects that make properties eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. 1) These grants are available to non-profit, local government, and private property owners. 2) Eligible properties must be listed on the Arkansas Register of Historic Places or identified as non-contributing structures in a National Register District. 3) The project must restore architectural features that will make the property eligible for the National Register. 4) Grant recipients may apply for *Option 2* funding in subsequent years.

Option 2 – Grants of \$10,000 *or more* are available to fund approved restoration projects for properties currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. 1) These grants are available to non-profit and local government. *Private property owners are not eligible for Option 2 grant funding.* 2) Any owner receiving Option 2 grant funds must sign and file an easement agreement before grant funds are released (see page 12). 3) Option 2 recipients may also re-apply for additional funding in subsequent years.

- There is no stated maximum grant amount but most awards are between \$20,000 – \$60,000.
- Priorities for funding include correcting any structural deficiencies; keeping moisture out of the building; correcting conditions that may pose a safety hazard to the building occupants or to the building itself and; making any changes necessary to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Applicants should have a clear idea of how the building will be put into regular use after the project is completed, and should demonstrate that plans for the long-term maintenance of the property has been considered.
- Grant recipients are required to donate a conservation easement on the property to our agency as a way of providing for the long-term protection of this taxpayer-funded investment. Any future changes to the building that affect the exterior appearance of the building or the grounds will be reviewed by our agency to ensure the historic integrity of the property is not adversely impacted.

Options 1 and 2 require a 2 to 1 cash match. Every \$2 provided by the AHPP must be matched by the grantee with \$1 in cash.

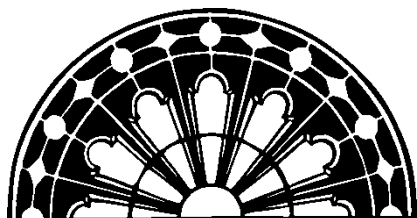
Option 3 – Grants of \$5,000 to \$9,999 are available to fund approved restoration projects for cemeteries listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Grant recipients must provide a 20% match, 50% of which may be in-kind materials, services, and/or labor. This is a 4 to 1 match. Every \$4 provided by the AHPP must be matched by the grantee with \$1.

These grants are available to non-profit organizations and units of local government. If the cemetery is owned by any other entity, the grant may be submitted and administered by an eligible non-profit or unit of local government on behalf of the cemetery. Examples of eligible organizations include cemetery preservation organizations, public and private schools, colleges and universities, libraries, museums, historical societies, local service organizations, churches, and city or county governments.

For all grants, work must be completed in a one-year timeframe (July 1st through May 31st – roughly the state fiscal year). Work on historic properties must follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The intent of these standards is to retain as much of the original historic fabric as is possible and practical. These standards are available from the National Park Service online at: <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation.htm>.

Historic Preservation Restoration Grant

Grant Manual &
Application Form



The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
An Agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage

The application online submissions are due by Friday, March 5, 2021

Revised July 2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. GENERAL INFORMATION 7

Purpose..... 7

Funding Source 7

State and Federal Regulations 7

II. GRANTS AND ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES 7

Option 1..... 7

Option 2..... 7

Option 3..... 7

Authorized Uses of Historic Preservation and Restoration Grants 8

Option 1..... 8

Option 2..... 8

Option 3..... 10

III. PREPARING THE GRANT APPLICATION..... 10

Planning the Project 10

IV. AHPP APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS..... 11

Selection Criteria 11

Eligibility vs. Fundability 11

Notification 12

V. ADMINISTERING THE GRANT 12

Cash Match..... 12

Grant Agreement 12

Conservation Easement..... 12

Project Technical Review/Approval..... 13

Project Time Limits 13

Allowable Expenses..... 14

Non-allowable Expenses	14
Grant Payments	14
Reporting	15
Financial Records.....	15
Reassignment of Funds.....	15
VI. PROJECT CONTRACTING PROCEDURES	15
Architects.....	15
VII. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND FORM	16

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) recognizes a lack of financial assistance as one of the largest obstacles to the preservation of historic resources in Arkansas. The purpose of the Historic Preservation and Restoration Grant program is to encourage and promote preservation of Arkansas's historic resources by providing financial assistance for restoration of historic properties.

Funding Source

Grants awarded by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) are funded through Special Revenues under the Real Estate Transfer Tax passed as Acts 729 and 818 of 1987, the Arkansas Conservation Tax established by Amendment 75, or by the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior. All grant recipients must follow the policies and procedures of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, as well as regulations governing the expenditure of all state and federal funds. The regulations set forth in this manual must be strictly adhered to by both the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program and by all grant recipients.

State and Federal Regulations

All grant recipients must agree to abide by and comply with applicable state and federal regulations and policies, including Fair Labor Standards, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 [42 USC 2000 (d)] and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 [29 USC Section 794], Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991, as well as all other applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and executive orders dealing with public works, professional services, and bidding procedures.

II. GRANTS AND ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES

The Historic Preservation Restoration Grant (HPRG) is awarded in three Option categories.

Option 1

Grants up to \$10,000 are available to fund renovation and restoration projects that make properties eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Eligibility: Option 1 grants are available to non-profit, local government, and private property owners. Eligible properties must be 1) listed on the Arkansas Register of Historic Places, and/or 2) identified as non-contributing structures in a National Register District. *All owners receiving Option 1 grant funds must agree to submit a completed National Register nomination with their final invoice.*

Option 2

Grants of \$10,000 or more are available to fund approved restoration projects for properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Eligibility: Option 2 grants are available to non-profit and local government property owners. *Private property owners are not eligible for Option 2 grant funding.* Examples of eligible

organizations include public and private schools, colleges and universities, libraries, museums, historical societies, local service organizations, churches, and city or county governments. Preference will be given to projects that are not eligible for other AHPP grants, such as County Courthouse Restoration Grants, Model Business Grants, Preservation Education Grants, Main Street Arkansas Downtown Revitalization Grants, or Certified Local Government Grants. *Any owner receiving Option 2 grant funds must sign and file an easement agreement with the local circuit or county clerk before grant funds are released (see page 12).*

Option 3

Grants of \$5,000 to \$9,999 are available to fund approved restoration projects for cemeteries listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Eligibility: Option 3 grants are available to non-profit organizations (501 (c) 3) and units of local government. If the cemetery is owned by any other entity, the grant may be submitted and administered by an eligible non-profit or unit of local government on behalf of the cemetery. Examples of eligible organizations include cemetery preservation organizations, public and private schools, colleges and universities, libraries, museums, historical societies, local service organizations, churches, and city or county governments. Preference will be given to projects that are not eligible for other AHPP grants, such as County Courthouse Restoration Grants, Model Business Grants, Preservation Education Grants, Main Street Arkansas Downtown Revitalization Grants, or Certified Local Government Grants.

Authorized Uses of Historic Preservation and Restoration Grants

Grants cannot be used for property acquisition costs or for reimbursement expenses for work done outside the grant period specified in the grant agreement. Additionally, acquisition costs cannot be used to satisfy cash match requirements. Grants funds may be used for, but are not limited to, the following types of projects:

Option 1

- Removal of artificial exterior siding and replacement with or repair of original exterior siding.
- Removal of non-historic windows and replacement with original or replications of original windows.
- Removal of historically incorrect or inappropriate additions or modifications to the original structure, including porches, room additions, ornamentation, inappropriate roofing materials and replacements of same with historically correct materials.
- Replacement and/or reconstruction of missing historic features, including columns, porches, exterior ornamentation, chimneys, and exterior architectural details.

Option 2

- Repair or replacement of failed roofs with historically correct materials and appropriate design.
- Repair of failed foundations.
- Repair of failed structural components, i.e. joists, rafters, floors, load-bearing walls, trusses, columns, beams, etc.
- Projects to bring property into compliance with the ADA.
- Repair or replacement of failed masonry.
- Repair or replacement of failed windows with historically correct windows.

- Repair or replacement of failed mechanical, plumbing, and/or electrical system(s) if the existing system(s) jeopardizes the integrity of the property.
- Removal of asbestos or lead paint.
- Repair and/or installation of seismic reinforcement.
- Repair, evaluation and/or protection of archeological resources.

In general, for Option 2 grant applications, highest priority is assigned to projects mitigating a threat to a structure's integrity and survival. Additionally, it should be stressed that these grants are **not** intended for general maintenance projects.

Option 3

– Preservation Activities

Preservation refers to activities that help perpetuate and care for historic burial sites, including planning, maintenance, documentation, and education. Examples:

- Perform an individual stone survey for entire site
- Develop a preservation plan with a conservator
- Initial site clean-up
- Reset markers in bases
- Archeological consultant to assess boundaries
- Projects to aid in the security of the site
- Perform a vegetation survey
- Comply with ADA minimum standards

– Conservation Activities

Conservation refers to mechanical and chemical process used to treat damaged markers. Examples:

- Clean markers using proper materials and methods
- Repair of broken, chipped, cracked markers by conservator
- Clean and/or repair enclosures such as plot coping, gates, and cast iron fencing

– Stabilization Activities

Stabilization refers to treatments executed to retain the greatest cultural and structural integrity of the artifact and the site overall, with a minimum of intervention into the historic fabric. Examples:

- Projects to arrest erosion
- Projects to control standing water or flooding of property
- Projects to document and stabilize markers until services of conservator can be acquired
- Repair retaining walls
- Repair roads and or walkways

– Restoration Activities

This option may only be used in conjunction with historic building/fencing that may be found on site, such as chapels, mausoleums, vaults, and gatehouses, that can be found in many of the state's historic cemeteries. Restoration implies significant intervention, which should be avoided whenever possible. When a mausoleum, for example, has deteriorated to the point where partial rebuilding is required, restoration is appropriate. True restoration includes documentation and research to determine the original appearance of the artifact, its structure and the treatment required.

NOTE: In general, the greater the threat a particular problem poses to an object, site or structure's integrity and survival, the higher the priority it will receive during the grant application evaluation process. Additionally, it should be stressed that these grants are not intended for general maintenance projects.

III. PREPARING THE GRANT APPLICATION

Planning the Project

An applicant for any Historic Preservation Restoration Grant must first determine the scope of the project to be funded. Historic preservation is an expensive endeavor, and most projects require careful prioritization. Five tips for developing a good project are:

- **Understanding your project.** Before you begin this project, you must determine the appropriate treatment. Three approaches to the treatment of historic properties - preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation that this grant will consider.

Preservation - focuses on the maintenance and repair of existing historic materials and retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time. (Protection and Stabilization have now been consolidated under this treatment.)

Restoration - depicts a property at a particular period of time in its history, while removing evidence of other periods.

Rehabilitation - acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character.

The previously mentioned definitions provided the National Park Service. You may learn more by visiting <https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation.htm> or by contacting the AHPP Technical Services Coordinator.

- **Ask an expert.** An architect can be invaluable in helping you to determine your needs and planning your project. In addition to giving an estimate of the project cost, an architect can also provide information on structural priorities and efficient scheduling. Also, feel free to contact the AHPP if you have questions regarding project funding priorities or guidelines for the appropriate treatment.
- **Phase it out.** Funds for HPRG are often limited, and few applicants receive the total amount requested in their application. Many applicants do not receive full funding, so we recommend you divide the project into phases. By dividing the project into phases, you provide an opportunity for the Selection Committee to use funds effectively *this* year and you an opportunity to reapply for additional funding during the next grant application cycle.
- **Know your limitations.** Administering a grant project requires time and attention to detail. Please don't commit yourself or your organization to a project if you are unwilling to invest the necessary resources to complete it. In the same vein, don't commit yourself to a cash match unless you can be sure it will be in place when you sign the grant agreement.
- **Paint a Picture.** Writing a grant application requires that you provide enough detail for the

reviewer to objectively consider your proposal. The reviewer may not be able to visit the property in person, so your description and photographs will be the only presentation they will have. However, note that a lengthy description may detract from your proposal, so please strive to be detailed yet concise. Photographs are essential! They should be clear and depict the serious deterioration, or proposed restoration and rehabilitation areas.

IV. AHPP APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

Grants are awarded annually. The technical staff of the AHPP reviews applications for completeness and project eligibility. The staff forwards the completed rating sheet and any additional recommendations to the Historic Preservation Grants Selection Committee, consisting of the following members: 1) Director of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program; 2) the Chair of the State Historic Preservation Review Board, or another Board member designated by the Chair; and 3) a Constituent at Large designated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Selection Criteria

The Grants Selection Committee uses the following primary criteria to evaluate proposals:

- Degree of urgency and level of threat.
- Historic significance of property.
- Proposed use and local impact the project will have to the community.
- Evidence that the objectives of the project can be achieved within the timeframe set forth by AHPP.
- Evidence that the budget is realistic and reasonable.
- Qualifications and experience of the applicant and contractors participating in the project.
- Past performance of applicant on previous grant projects. Applicant must be in good standing with the Department of Arkansas Heritage regarding all grants previously received from agencies of the Department.
- Evidenced support of fund source for matching funds.
- Completeness of application. *Incomplete applications will not be considered.*

Eligibility vs. Fundability

With limited funding and because AHPP is ultimately concerned with protecting and preserving the state's historic resources, grant funding recommendations largely favor those project activities which correct conditions that imminently threaten the structural viability of the property — sealing the envelope of the building (roof, window, masonry projects); and addressing failing foundations and other structural issues. Because of federal mandates placed on public buildings, projects involving ADA components also receive priority consideration. Also, conditions which present a hazard to the building's occupants (unvented gas heaters, fire safety issues, etc.) or to the building itself (hazardous electrical wiring) are also priorities for grant funding.

As a general rule, projects involving sidewalks, interior finishes, correcting inappropriate past “remodels,” etc. in a building that is accessible and structurally sound may be assigned a lower priority and receive no funding. The AHPP staff understands that these are worthy projects and would greatly enhance the public's use of these properties. Unfortunately, limited funding may mean that while these projects are eligible, they are not necessarily competitive or fundable.

Notification

A notification letter from the Governor of the State of Arkansas will be sent to all applicants who were approved for HPRG funding.

V. ADMINISTERING THE GRANT

If an applicant receives a notification letter that they have been awarded a grant they must attend a grant administration workshop in Little Rock at a time and location determined by AHPP. Attendance is mandatory for the grant recipient or project manager. Failure to attend the Grant Administration workshop will result in cancellation of the grant award and reallocations of the funds to other projects. The workshop will provide training on how to administer your grant, and answer any questions you may have. (Grant Recipients who have attended training in the past two years may be exempt from this training with written approval from the AHPP Grant Administrator.)

Cash Match

A 2:1 cash match is required for Option 1 and Option 2 Historic Preservation Restoration Grants. AHPP will provide two-thirds of the total project cost and the Applicant must provide the remaining one-third (i.e., a minimum \$10,000 grant award requires a cash match of at least \$5,000). In-kind labor or material will not be considered. The Grant Recipient must provide certification/documentation of cash match when the grant agreement is signed.

Option 3 grant recipients must provide a 4 to 1 match, which is 20% of the total project cost (i.e., a minimum \$5,000 grant award requires a match of \$1,250, 50% of which may be in kind materials, services, and/or labor.

Grant Agreement

Each grantee must sign a contract with the AHPP and comply with all of its terms. The contract is included in the grant award packet provided at the grant administration workshop.

Conservation Easement

Recipients of Option 2 grants must convey a Deed of Conservation Easement for the affected property before receiving any grant funds. An easement is a voluntary transfer of some rights inherent in property ownership. The historic preservation easement is a right or limitation, set forth in a legal instrument or deed, which allows the donor to retain ownership and possession of a historic property while granting a government agency or qualified non-profit organization the authority to protect the historic, cultural, architectural, or archeological characteristics of the property.

The agreement may be called a “preservation,” “conservation,” “scenic,” “interior,” “open space,” “exterior,” or “facade” easement. The name has less to do with the way the agreement works than with the kind of resource it protects.

In each instance, the “easement,” as it is legally termed, must contain binding and enforceable covenants that run with the land and structure. These covenants obligate the owner to refrain from actions that are incompatible with the preservation of and/or historic integrity of the property. The Deed of Conservation Easement document must be executed in accordance with AHPP conservation easement program procedures.

In the rare case of a grant that funds restoration of a structure not attached to any real property (a National Register-listed boat, for example), AHPP may seek an alternative Historic Preservation Agreement to extend protections to the structure equal to those of the Deed of Conservation Easement.

At the grant administration workshop, AHPP Conservation Easement Coordinator will provide detailed instructions, templates and materials for applicant to use to complete and file the easement document.

Project Technical Review/Approval

All grant-supported projects must be in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, a copy of which is included in the award packet or may be read in detail at <http://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/rehabilitation.htm>. *Before any grant-assisted work is done, the AHPP must review the final plans and specifications of the project to ensure compliance with these standards.*

When preparation for the project is complete, the grantee must forward project plans and specifications to the AHPP staff before work starts. Failure to do so will result in denial of grant funds. If clarification or additional information is required, the AHPP staff will contact the grantee. The AHPP will conduct a final review of all project plans and required documents. When all is in order, the AHPP Director will provide written authorization for work to begin. *Grantee may not begin work until written authorization is given.* Please allow 30 days from AHPP's receipt of the project plans and specifications to receive the project initiation letter.

AHPP staff members may inspect the project before, during, and after the completion of the work. Once work has begun, the site visits may be made without notification to the grantee. An AHPP photographer may photograph the project.

The grantee and/or the project architect are encouraged to contact the AHPP with questions at any time before or during work on the project. No changes in the project can be made after AHPP gives final approval to the plans unless such changes are submitted in writing to AHPP and approved in writing by the AHPP beforehand. If changes are not approved, final work may not be approved and full funding for the project could be denied. In the event of unforeseen problems, the AHPP staff will work to find a solution satisfactory to both the grantee and the AHPP.

For Option 3 grants, AHPP requires an archeological consultation during a scheduled site visit by an Arkansas Archeological Survey station archeologist. Information about how to schedule those site visits will be included in the grant award packet.

Project Time Limits

Unless otherwise authorized, all projects must be completed within the time period specified in the grant agreement. Extensions are granted only in very special cases, and are strongly discouraged. If a grantee is unable to meet a project deadline, they are required to submit a written request for an extension of time at least 14 days prior to the deadline. This request will be reviewed by the AHPP, and the grantee will be notified as soon as possible of the action taken. A request for an extension does not guarantee it will be granted. If the grantee does not meet the established deadline and/or does not request and receive an extension, the grant will be terminated on the contract end date and funds will be reallocated. A grantee who encounters serious financial problems after accepting a grant, or who is for some other reason unable to proceed with the project, should immediately inform the AHPP. The funds will then be reassigned or returned to the AHPP according to the procedures specified in this manual.

Allowable Expenses

The following is a list of some of the more frequently used allowable costs. To be considered allowable, all costs must appear in the approved work-cost breakdown.

- Historical, architectural, or archeological research necessary to implement and carry out project work.
- Architectural, engineering, or contractor fees necessary to implement and carry out project work.
- Supplies and materials, as indicated in the detailed project description.
- Rental or lease of project equipment.
- Exterior restoration.
- Structural repairs.

Non-allowable Expenses

Historic Preservation and Restoration Grants do not reimburse the following costs:

- Any item not listed in the approved work-cost breakdown.
- Deficits.
- Contributions or donations to other organizations or individuals.
- Capital expenditures defined as tangible property costing \$100 or more and having a life span of two or more years.
- Entertainment expenses, including refreshments, flowers, reception costs, etc.
- Interest and other financial costs.
- Lobbying expenses.
- New construction (some exceptions apply).
- Interpretive expenses (some exceptions apply).
- New pavement of parking lots, roads or walkways (some exceptions apply).
- Furnishings, draperies, or carpeting.
- Work done prior to grant award and after approved grant end date.
- Installation of artificial siding, incompatible replacement windows, or the use of incompatible materials of any type.
- Real estate, property acquisition costs, or legal filing fees.
- Grant writing or grant administration fees.

Grant Payments

Since grants are based on anticipated federal funds or state revenues and not on existing funds, *grant amounts could be reduced at any time during the grant period.*

The schedule of grant payments will depend upon the nature of the project. Grant payments will be made directly to the grantee. No payment will be made to the grantee unless payment requests are accompanied by progress or final reports as applicable. The grantee should use the following procedures:

1. No payment shall be made under this grant agreement until recipient has made a cash match expenditure at least equal to the payment requested.
2. Payments are generally made on a reimbursement basis; the grantee pays up-front project costs and then submits a request for reimbursement to AHPP. In the event that funds are needed from AHPP in advance of service delivery, a request must be made in writing from the grantee to AHPP. AHPP

- reserves the right to refuse any request for advance payment.
3. One of the following payment options can be used:
 - a. Partial reimbursement payments upon completion of portions of the project (no more than four requests during grant period); or
 - b. One full payment upon completion of the total project.
 4. Requests for partial reimbursement payments must include:
 - a. AHPP progress report/invoice form
 - b. Summary of Expense form.
 - c. Vendor invoice(s).
 5. Final payment will be processed upon approval of completed work. Request for final payment must include:
 - a. AHPP final report/invoice form.
 - b. Vendor invoice(s).
 - c. Color photographs of completed project.

A copy of each form required for grant payments will be provided in the grant award packet. Please make copies as needed.

Reporting

Grantees are required to submit reports during the grant period according to the grant agreement. Progress reports are required at least quarterly and must accompany any partial payment request. A final project report is required no later than 30 days after completion of the project. This report must include certification/documentation of cash match, photos and total project costs. Full or final payment requests must be accompanied by the final project report.

Financial Records

Grantee shall make all finance records available for audit. Records should be kept on file by the grantee for at least three years after completion of project.

Reassignment of Funds

Occasionally during the course of the grant cycle AHPP identifies additional funds available for HPRG grants. These funds usually result from a grantee's decision to decline a grant award. When additional HPRG funds are identified, the Historic Preservation Grant Selection Committee will meet to determine the reassignment of any unused grant funds previously awarded. The funds may only be awarded to another qualified applicant with a current grant proposal on file. The Grant Selection Committee will use the same criteria to reassign these midterm funds that are used to award the initial grants.

VI. PROJECT CONTRACTING PROCEDURES

Architects

Only architects licensed by the State of Arkansas can be employed on projects receiving AHPP grant funds. The architect prepares plans, specifications, a work-cost breakdown, and other required contract documents for submission to AHPP, and will supervise the project.

The architect selected by the grantee is encouraged to meet with the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program staff to discuss the project in detail.

Project Specifications

Project specifications **MUST** contain the following statement:

“The Contractor is cautioned that this project involves largely RESTORATION WORK and maintaining the building in its present form is of utmost importance. The contractor shall use construction procedures calculated to protect the building. Any damage shall be repaired or replaced to present condition or better at no cost to the owner. This project involves state funds and carries the resultant obligations and restrictions.”

Bid Documentation

City or county agencies are governed by the bid procedures enumerated in the Arkansas Public Works Law (ACA 22-9-201 et seq) and must maintain the following bid documentation:

1. Dated copies of all required advertisements.
2. Dated copies of all sealed bids received.
3. Names and addresses of all vendors contacted for quote bids.
4. Quotes from all bids.
5. Documentation of negotiations for negotiated contracts.
6. Justification for why the lowest bid was not accepted, if such was the case.

VII. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND FORM

The online Application form is located at <http://bit.ly/2gNJ8dP>. While preparing your application you may contact the AHPP Grant Administrator for assistance. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed for selection, so carefully review each item of the Application form.