



MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Michigan State Historic Preservation Office

www.michigan.gov/saveourlights

Important Dates

Applications Due to SHPO
Anticipated Notice of Award
Anticipated Grant Period

November 20, 2026, no later than 5:00 PM
Spring 2027
Summer 2027 to August 31, 2028

Application Assistance

The Michigan SHPO strongly advises applicants to consult with staff when developing project proposals and to discuss the project scope of work prior to submitting a grant application to ensure the project is eligible and/or appropriate for potential grant funding.

Please direct all questions to:

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INTRODUCTION

The Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP) was established to assist in the preservation, rehabilitation, and protection of historic lighthouses in Michigan.

This grant program is managed through the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Funding for the MLAP comes from the sale of lighthouse license plates. For more information on these plates, contact your local Secretary of State office. You can also purchase the lighthouse license plate when renewing by mail or by logging on to www.michigan.gov/sos.

ELIGIBILITY

Historic Eligibility:	The light station must be listed in or be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation.
Fresnel Lens Planning:	MLAP funds may be used for analysis and evaluation of an existing, historic lens that results in a report but not actual work on the lens. The analysis and evaluation must be completed by a qualified Coast Guard lampist who has documented training and experience related to the lens work.
Fresnel Lens Rehabilitation:	MLAP funds may be used for the rehabilitation of a Fresnel lens. For the lens work to be eligible as a grant expense, the lens must be permanently located in its original location in the lantern room, on permanent display in the tower or attached keeper's quarters, or permanently displayed in a structure on the light station site in close proximity to the location of its original installation. If the lens is located in such a structure, it must be a documented historic structure and must have been in existence during the period of significance for the light station and during the time period in which the lens was in use. The lens work must be completed by a qualified Coast Guard lampist who has documented training and experience related to the lens work.
Fresnel Lens Replacement:	MLAP funds may be used to purchase a replacement lens for the lighthouse. For a replacement lens to be eligible as a grant expense, the lens must be permanently located in the location of the original lens in the lantern room. Any work on historic features associated with the installation of the replacement lens may also be an eligible expense. For example, work on the original lens pedestal or lantern vents can be considered eligible expenditures. All work related to the replacement lens installation will be reviewed and must comply with the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation</i> (see below).
Fresnel Lens Display or Interpretation:	Any work on non-historic features associated with the display or interpretation of the lens is not an eligible expense.

For example, creating permanent display cases, structural reinforcement, and contemporary lighting are considered non-eligible expenditures. However, all work associated with the lens such as creating permanent display cases, structural reinforcement, and contemporary lighting will be reviewed as part of the overall project. All work must comply with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* (see below).

Life Saving Stations:

Resources that were historically part of a U.S. Lifesaving Service station may be eligible for an MLAP grant. The lifesaving station must be immediately adjacent to the light station and share a property line or both must be part of one large parcel. Lifesaving station buildings that are relocated to the historic light station or lifesaving station site may be eligible for MLAP grants. Costs of acquiring or moving those buildings are not eligible MLAP expenditures. The SHPO will evaluate each situation separately and will confer with the applicant to make a determination on eligibility. Resources that were not historically part of or are not immediately adjacent to a light station will not be considered eligible for an MLAP grant.

Treatment of Historic Properties:

The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* are common sense historic preservation principles in non-technical language. They promote historic preservation best practices that help to protect our nation's irreplaceable cultural resources. The Standards are a series of concepts about maintaining, repairing, and replacing historic materials, as well as designing new additions or making alterations. The Standards can be applied to historic properties of all types, materials, construction, sizes, and use. They include both the exterior and the interior and extend to a property's landscape features, site, environment, as well as related new construction.

All MLAP project work must comply with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S STANDARDS FOR REHABILITATION

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.
2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.
4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.
7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
9. New additions, exterior alteration, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.
10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

You can find additional information on the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation* [here](#).



PROJECT APPLICATION
MLAP 2027

1. APPLICATION INFORMATION

Who can apply?	Nonprofit organizations and governmental units that own (or are in the process of acquiring) or have long-term leases (minimum of 10 years) on a lighthouse are eligible to apply for these funds. Private individuals are not eligible for these grants.
What qualifies?	Grant dollars are exclusive to light station rehabilitation and planning projects for light station resources listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register.
Planning Projects:	Grant dollars can be used to complete a lighthouse planning project. Planning projects include Historic Structure Reports (HSR), Condition Assessment Reports (CAR), plans and specifications, and construction administration services. Planning projects must be completed by a consultant who has experience with historic resources and ideally with maritime resources. The consultant must demonstrate that they meet or exceed the professional requirements for "Historic Architecture" as stated in 36 CFR Part 61.
Rehabilitation Projects:	Grant dollars can be used to complete a bricks and mortar rehabilitation project. A rehabilitation project could include work such as masonry repair, exterior painting, and replacement of missing features. <u>Rehabilitation plans and specifications must be submitted with the application.</u> All rehabilitation project work must comply with the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation</i> .
Project Readiness:	The project must be ready to proceed at the time of application and must not be dependent on future actions, approval, or cooperation from other organizations before the project can begin.
How much?	The minimum grant award is \$10,000. The maximum grant award is \$60,000.
What is the match requirement?	Grants must be matched equal to 50% of the grant amount awarded. For example, in a \$30,000 project, a \$20,000 grant request must be matched by a \$10,000 cash match. The cash match may be in any form, including savings, loans or other private, state, or local grants. Federal funds are not eligible to be used as match.
Where are the instructions?	The MLAP grant manual is available on the SHPO website at www.michigan.gov/saveourlights . Applications must be prepared according to the instructions provided.
When is it due?	Completed applications must be received by SHPO in PDF format via e-mail <u>no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 20, 2026.</u>
How to apply:	Submit one copy of the final application in PDF via e-mail to HigginsS3@michigan.gov .
Application Scoring:	SHPO will review and competitively score all applications. Greater scores will be given to projects that fulfill the program requirements. Final selections will be based on the highest scores as adjusted by administrative capability. See <i>Chapter 4: Scoring Criteria</i> for additional information.

Grant Timeline:	If an application is selected for funding, SHPO will prepare a grant agreement officially awarding the funds. Project costs must be incurred between the date the grant agreement is executed (signed and dated by SHPO) and the end date specified in the agreement. Costs incurred prior to the execution of the grant agreement or after the end date of the grant agreement are not eligible project costs and will not be considered part of the grant or the matching share. Awarded grants will have until August 31, 2028 to complete the project work.
Grant Modifications:	Prior to implementing any changes to the grant agreement (i.e., scope of work or project budget), the grant recipient must notify the SHPO in writing. It will be at the sole discretion of the SHPO to approve or deny any proposed amendments.
Payments:	All grant funds are paid on an EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT basis only. The applicant must have funds available for expenditures amounting to 100% of the entire project cost at the time of application. The grant recipient will be reimbursed for eligible expenses incurred (up to the grant amount) at the end of the grant process. All project work must be complete, all invoices must be paid, all financial documentation must be audited, and all must be approved by the SHPO before the grant recipient receives any reimbursement. If a historic preservation easement is required, reimbursement will only occur after the easement is recorded at the Register of Deeds and the original recorded easement is submitted to SHPO.
Historic Preservation Easement:	When rehabilitation or stabilization work is performed, a historic preservation easement (easement of maintenance and public accessibility) must be executed to protect the historic resource. The historic preservation easement will be prepared by SHPO. Before grant funds will be released, the grant recipient must record the easement with the Register of Deeds, and the original documentation must be submitted to the SHPO. An individual easement will be created specifically for each resource. See <i>Chapter 9: Historic Preservation Easement</i> for additional information.
Completion Report:	All projects require a completion report and reimbursement request for funds to be reimbursed. The completion report details will be specified in the grant agreement. Review this section of the agreement carefully. For rehabilitation projects, completion materials will include items such as photographs of the project sign, work in progress, completed work, and a written description of the project's accomplishments.
Acknowledgments:	In all publications, reports, and newsletters, the grant recipient shall acknowledge financial support by the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program. They should also acknowledge administration by the State Historic Preservation Office. The full text acknowledgment to be used will be included in the grant agreement.
Open Grants:	Grant recipients are limited to having two open MLAP grants at one time: one planning and one rehabilitation. Grant recipients cannot have an open MLAP grant project and submit another application of the same type. One grant must be closed before another grant will be awarded.

Record Accessibility/ Retention:	Grant recipients will submit program, financial, or other reports as required by SHPO. On-site documentation, papers, and records of the grant recipient and any subcontractor shall be kept for a minimum of three years (3) after funds have been reimbursed to the grant recipient or until all claims or audit findings have been resolved.
Civil Rights Act:	As mandated under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and in Executive Directive 1979-4, it is the policy of the State of Michigan to assure that all Michigan citizens receive full and equal access to benefits provided by State-supported programs and services without discrimination based upon race, color, creed, religion, national origin, height, weight, marital status, age, sex, or disability. SHPO requires compliance with the non-discrimination laws in connection with the use of grant funds. In furtherance of this policy, it is appropriate that SHPO not enter into any contract, nor fund or serve as a conduit for funding, programs which may have the effect of creating or perpetrating patterns of discrimination. If it is determined that the applicant is not in compliance as established by the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, the project will not be funded.
Barrier Free Access:	State and federal laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), concerning barrier free designs which facilitate access to grant-assisted properties by persons with disabilities are applicable to the MLAP. SHPO strongly urges each applicant contemplating rehabilitations of historic structures to consider the implications of such compliance at the earliest possible stage. It should be kept in mind that not all preservation work involving extant buildings or structures will trigger the need to meet the barrier-free design requirements. Should a determination be made that barrier-free design requirements are applicable, the Michigan Barrier-Free Design Board is empowered to grant a variance to the Michigan requirements when an applicant sufficiently shows that: 1) the proposed repairs, alterations or additions are to be performed on a building or structure listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places; and that 2) adherence to the barrier-free design provisions would destroy or diminish a significant feature of the building's or structure's historical character or physical integrity or both. The applicant will make this showing at an administrative hearing conducted in Lansing, Michigan by a hearings officer for the Design Board.
Safety:	The State of Michigan assumes no responsibility with respect to accidents, illnesses, or claims arising out of any work performed under a grant-supported project. The grantee is expected to take necessary steps to insure itself and its personnel and to comply with the applicable local, state, or federal safety standards, including standards established pursuant to the National Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (see CFR 1910).

You are strongly encouraged to discuss your proposed project with SHPO staff! SHPO staff will be able to provide guidance and recommendations according to your project needs.

2. GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Completed applications must be received by SHPO via e-mail at Higginss3@michigan.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 20, 2026.

1. PROJECT NAME AND ADDRESS

2. PROJECT COORDINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

The Project Coordinator must be an individual directly associated with the project and must have complete knowledge of the day-to-day activities associated with the proposed grant-funded work.

- Name and title
- Address
- Telephone number
- Email address

3. GRANT RECIPIENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Indicate if the grant recipient is a unit of government or a private, nonprofit organization.

- Name
- Address
- Telephone number
- Email address
- Tax ID number of the organization that the SHPO will be reimbursing at the end of the grant project.

4. PROPERTY OWNER CONTACT INFORMATION

- Indicate if the applicant is the property owner
- List Property Owner Information
 - Name
 - Address
 - Telephone number
 - Email address

5. LEGISLATOR INFORMATION

- U.S. Congressional District Number
- Name of U.S. Congressman or Congresswoman
- State Senate District Number
- Name of State Senator
- State House of Representative District Number
- Name of State Representative

6. SCOPE OF WORK

Planning Projects

- Describe in detail the reason the project is needed, the benefits of the work, and what will be produced as a result of the project.
- Plans and specifications may be included so that work can be done at a later date. Perhaps a total building study or Historic Structure Report (HSR) is needed to prioritize work and provide estimates of costs.
- If a project is logically phased over a period of years and the project phasing is clearly delineated, that project may be awarded two grants. For example, under one grant a Historic Structure Report (HSR) may be completed, and under the second grant project plans and specifications may be completed.
- Only one planning grant may be open at any time.

Architectural consultants to be hired must meet the federal standards for Historical Architect listed below.

- All consultants must demonstrate that they meet or exceed the professional qualifications for “Historic Architecture” as stated in 36 CFR Part 61. The minimum professional qualifications for a Historical Architect are a professional degree in architecture or a state license to practice architecture, plus one of the following: (1) at least one year of graduate study in architectural preservation; or (2) at least one year of full-time professional experience on preservation projects. Such graduate study or experience shall include detailed investigations of historic structures, preparation of historic structure reports, and preparation of plans and specifications for preservation projects.

Rehabilitation Projects

- Describe in detail the work that will be completed as a part of the proposed grant project. The description must provide a complete explanation of the existing conditions and the work to be performed. The description should clearly illustrate all materials, methods, and techniques within the provided budget to be used for the rehabilitation project. If possible, include a vendor quotation for the work/services to be completed. Any historic materials to be removed and disposed of should be clearly identified. This work description will complement the required photographs to give a complete accounting of the proposed rehabilitation work.
- Plans and specifications must be submitted with the application for rehabilitation work and approved by SHPO. All plans and specifications and project work must meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.
- If you do not have plans and specifications or you desire a complete building assessment with priorities and estimates of cost, you may wish to apply for a planning grant to prepare them.

7. BUDGET

The budget should be detailed, describe the work to be done, and include all estimated costs. The SHPO will review and may make changes to the budget line items as submitted in the application. The final budget approved by the SHPO will become an attachment to the grant agreement. See below examples.

Including cost estimates for the identified work as an attachment to your proposal is strongly encouraged to show cost reasonableness and feasibility of the proposed budget.

E X A M P L E	PLANNING PROJECT	Grant	Match	Total
	Architectural services for plans and specifications to conduct masonry rehabilitation at the keeper's dwelling	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$30,000
	Total Costs	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$30,000

E X A M P L E	REHABILITATION PROJECT	Grant	Match	Total
	Paint analysis to determine historic colors	\$1,200	\$600	\$1,800
	Repaint tower using historic colors	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$30,000
	Total Costs	\$21,200	\$10,600	\$31,800

Example Allowable Costs

- Bidding and construction administration by a 36 CFR 61 qualified architect can be an eligible expense as part of a rehabilitation project.
- Transportation, lodging, subsistence, and related items for project personnel who are in travel status for project related work is allowable. Such costs are charged on an actual basis and must be consistent with the Standard State of Michigan rate. Documentation and invoices must be provided for each cost. First-class airfare is not allowable.
- The cost of supplies necessary to carry out the grant work is allowable. Purchases under \$5000 made specifically for the grant work shall be charged at their actual prices after deducting all cash discounts, trade discounts, rebates and allowances received by the grant recipient. They do not need to be bid out, but backup documentation (e.g., invoice, receipt, etc.) must be retained for reimbursement. Supplies exceeding \$5000 must be competitively bid and required documentation of the competitive bid process should be determined in consultation with the SHPO.
- Donated material and equipment use are acceptable if documentation substantiates the fair market value of the donation.

Example Unallowable Costs

- Acquisition
- Non-historic site features such as parking lots
- Certain environmental cleanup activities required under federal law
- Reconstruction of demolished buildings (reconstruction of certain missing elements may be allowable if based upon historical documentation, such as photographs)
- Fundraising
- Fines, penalties, debts, or interest
- Operational expenses
- Volunteer labor of professionals, such as roofers, painters, electricians, plumbers
- Cost-plus subcontracts, unlimited time and materials sub-contracts, and contingency fees

8. GRANT REQUEST

Reminder: The grant request must be between \$10,000 and \$60,000. Grants must be matched equal to 50% of the grant amount awarded.

List the grant amount being requested and include the amount of matching share. Indicate the source of the matching share in the following format:

- Donor organization (city, nonprofit, etc.)
- Source (private, city general fund, etc.)
- Kind: (cash, donated material, donated equipment, etc.)
- Total Amount

9. WORK SCHEDULE

Provide a work schedule with dates for the items listed below. Please consider that work cannot begin until the grant agreement is executed; assume a May 2027 date for execution of the grant agreement. Awarded grants will have until August 31, 2028 to complete the project work.

Quarterly Progress Reports must be submitted to the SHPO every January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15 during the grant period.

Planning Projects

- Execute grant agreement
- Individually list due dates of the Quarterly Progress Reports
- Submit draft Request for Proposal (RFP), draft solicitation letter, and list of bidders to SHPO for approval
- SHPO approves RFP, solicitation letter, and list of bidders (allow 4 weeks)
- Solicit bids (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit bids to SHPO with rationale for bidder selection
- SHPO approves bidder selection (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit subcontract to SHPO for approval
- SHPO approves subcontract (allow 4 weeks)
- Execute subcontract and submit copy of executed subcontract to SHPO
- Submit 75% draft of planning documents to SHPO for review and comment
- SHPO comments on 75% draft of planning documents (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit 95% draft of planning documents to SHPO for review and comment
- SHPO comments on 95% draft of planning documents (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit final draft of planning documents to SHPO for review and approval (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit final planning documents to SHPO
- Submit final Completion Report and reimbursement request with financial documentation to SHPO
- SHPO anticipates review of completion report and reimbursement (allow 4 weeks)

Rehabilitation Projects

- Execute grant agreement
- SHPO staff conducts pre-work site inspection
- Individually list due dates of the Quarterly Progress Reports

- Submit draft Request for Proposal (RFP), draft solicitation letter for construction, and the three online posting services to be used for advertising the project to the SHPO for approval
- SHPO approves the RFP and solicitation letter (allow 4 weeks)
- Post RFP and solicit bids (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit bids to the SHPO with rationale for bidder selection
- SHPO approves bidder selection (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit construction subcontract to the SHPO for approval
- SHPO approves construction subcontract (allow 4 weeks)
- Execute construction subcontract
- Submit copy of executed subcontract to the SHPO
- Install project sign
- Submit photographic documentation of the project sign to the SHPO
- SHPO to prepare historic preservation easement (allow 90 days)
- Begin construction
- Finish construction
- Sign easement, record at Register of Deeds, submit original recorded easement to SHPO
- SHPO staff conducts final on-site inspection
- Submit final completion report and reimbursement request with financial documentation to SHPO
- SHPO anticipates review of completion report and reimbursement (allow 4 weeks)

Note: Rehabilitation Projects including Construction Administration Professional Services

Include dates for these items in the work schedule before “Submit draft Request for Proposal (RFP) and draft solicitation letter for construction to the SHPO for approval.”

- Submit draft Request for Proposal (RFP), draft solicitation letter, and list of bidders for construction administration professional services to SHPO for approval
- SHPO approves RFP, solicitation letter and list of bidders (allow 4 weeks)
- Solicit bids (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit bids to SHPO with rationale for bidder selection
- SHPO approves bidder selection (allow 4 weeks)
- Submit subcontract to SHPO for approval
- SHPO approves subcontract (allow 4 weeks)
- Execute subcontract
- Submit copy of executed subcontract to SHPO
- **Construction administration documents:**
 - Submit 75% draft of documents to SHPO for review and comment
 - SHPO comments on 75% draft of documents (allow 4 weeks)
 - Submit 95% draft of plans and specifications to SHPO for review and comment
 - SHPO comments on 95% draft of plans and specifications (allow 4 weeks)
 - Submit final draft plans and specifications to SHPO for review and approval (allow 4 weeks)
 - Submit final plans and specifications to SHPO

10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- What are the present and planned uses for the property?
- Please submit letters or other evidence of community support for this project.

11. GRANT FUND ADMINISTRATION

Provide a brief description of the experience your organization has in administering grant funds.

12. FINANCIAL CERTIFICATION

Under this program, the recipient must provide match equal to fifty percent of the grant award.

- Certification of the availability of funds to pay for 100% of the total project cost must be provided with the application. Using the example of a \$20,000 grant with a \$10,000 match, you must demonstrate in your grant application that you have \$30,000 available at the time of application to pay the entire cost of the grant project. Funds to pay for 100% of the entire project cost must be documented and verifiable at the time of application. Any changes in the availability of project funds and/or matching share must be approved by the SHPO.

Certification may be a statement from a banker that funds are available, a resolution from the governing body setting aside specific funds, or similar verification. The certification and resolution must specify the amount and source of the funding and that the funds are earmarked for the project.

Matching funds for projects may include the following:

- Private Funds
- Local Government Funds
- State Funds

Federal funds are not allowable as a matching share.

- Include a letter from your financial manager that your organization has in place an adequate accounting system with appropriate internal controls to assure accuracy and reliability of accounting data. The financial management system shall:
 - Provide accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each grant
 - Provide records that identify the source and application of funds for grant supported activities
 - Provide for effective control of all grant assets
 - Compare actual and budgeted amounts for the grant
 - Establish procedures for determining reasonableness, allowability, and allocability of costs in accordance with the provisions of the applicable cost principles and terms of the grant agreement
 - Support accounting records by source documentation such as canceled checks, paid bills, payrolls, and subcontract documents. Separate project records must be established and identified by the grant name and number.

13. DEED AND OWNERSHIP INFORMATION

Submit a copy of the deed showing the Register of Deeds recordation markings and sufficient documentation which discloses all present and future interests in the land, together with a statement of each lien, change, and liability, if any.

- If a copy of the deed is not available, sufficient documentation may include: Title commitment or an abstract of title or a legal opinion from the local unit's attorney.
- If a previous historic preservation easement exists on the property, submit a copy with the grant application.
- For leased or licensed property please submit a copy of the lease/license, the name of the owner, and any additional documentation, as necessary. Also, submit a letter of support from the property owner granting permission and stating that they support the grant application.
- If the applicant is not the owner of the light station, there must be a written agreement between the owner and the applicant. The agreement must clearly delineate the authority and responsibilities of both organizations relative to the light station. Submit a copy of the written agreement with your MLAP grant application. A grant agreement cannot be executed if there is not a written agreement between the owner and applicant.
- For offshore light stations where bottomlands regulations are in effect, provide a copy of the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (MEGLE) Offshore bottomlands agreement. Please provide both the name of the county the offshore light station resides in and the latitude and longitude coordinates.

14. PHOTOGRAPHS

All photographs must clearly explain and demonstrate the project in its entirety. Due to the geography and difficulty of access to many of Michigan's lighthouses, photographs taken within the last six months or after seasonal work has been completed will be acceptable.

Photographs

- Photographs must clearly and sufficiently illustrate the existing conditions of the light station resource that will be the focus of the work undertaken utilizing grant funds
- Minimum of 1500 x 2100 pixels (this is equal to 5" x 7" at 300 dpi.)
- Please include a zip file with JPEGs of photos in addition to including them in the PDF application
- Name all digital images using the following standard format:
 - o Property Name_Date_View Description
 - o For example: Lawton Center_July 2025_East elevation

Aerial Photograph or Sketch Map

Include an aerial photograph or sketch map of the light station property with all the buildings, structures and features labeled, and the property boundaries clearly delineated. Please make sure the aerial photograph or sketch map lists the date it was taken or prepared.

15. RESOLUTION

Include a resolution authorizing acceptance of the grant under the conditions attached thereto and designating all authorized contract signatories. The resolution must include the names/titles of the individuals authorized to sign the grant agreement and any grant agreement amendments,

acknowledgement that the MLAP program is an expense reimbursement program, the name/title of the individual authorized to file the application, the total project cost, the amount and source of match being provided, and the name/title of the individual authorized to sign the historic preservation easement, if applicable.

For rehabilitation projects, the resolution must also include the name/title of the individual property owner authorized to sign and record the historic preservation easement.

If the grant applicant is not the property owner, submit two resolutions: one from the owner and one from the applicant. Both resolutions must describe the following:

- The owner's project contact name, title and contact information
- The applicant's project contact name, title and contact information
- The fiscal and administrative relationship between the applicant and the owner
- The roles of each organization relative to the grant project
- The organization that will provide the match funds
- The organization that will administer the grant project
- The organization that will pay vendors
- For rehabilitation projects identify who will sign the required historic preservation easement and provide authorization

View **Example Resolutions** by [clicking here](#).

16. BYLAWS AND ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

The applicant must submit copies of bylaws and articles of incorporation. The bylaws and articles of incorporation typically designate certain individuals that have the power to execute contracts, contract amendments and historic preservation easements on behalf of the organization.

17. SIGNATURES

All authorized signatories must sign the application; electronic signatures are acceptable. They must also include their names, titles, addresses (including city or town, state, and zip code), and telephone numbers.

Failure to submit a timely application or failure to provide all information requested above may result in your application not being scored.

3. GRANT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1.	☐	Project Name and Address
2.	☐	Project Coordinator Contact Information
3.	☐	Grant Recipient Contact Information
4.	☐	Property Owner Contact Information
5.	☐	Legislator Information
6.	☐	Scope of Work
		☐ Rehabilitation Projects – Plans and Specifications
7.	☐	Budget
8.	☐	Grant Request
9.	☐	Work Schedule
10.	☐	Additional Information
11.	☐	Grant Fund Administration
12.	☐	Financial Certification
		☐ Certification of available funding
		☐ Certification of an adequate accounting system
13.	☐	Deed and Ownership Information
		☐ Copy of recorded deed
		If applicable:
		☐ Copy of deed is unavailable; submitting title commitment or abstract of title
		☐ Copy of lease/license and letter of support from the property owner
		☐ Offshore light stations: copy of MEGLE Offshore bottomlands agreement
		☐ If previous historic preservation easement exists on property, submit a copy
14.	☐	Photographs
15.	☐	Resolution
16.	☐	Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation
17.	☐	Signatures

4. SCORING CRITERIA

Criteria	Available Points
Project addresses an identifiable threat (e.g., disinvestment, disposal, neglect, substantial deterioration, etc.) or is a newly transferred light.	0-10
Scope of work is clearly defined through plans and specifications and work is eligible; Project is ready to proceed at time of application and not dependent on future actions, approval, or cooperation from other organizations before the project can begin.	0-20
Proposed work will have a (high/medium/low) impact on the resource: - High: structural stabilization or correct deficiencies to prevent further damage - Medium: planning to allow continued use (proposed planning work is needed and will be used for rehabilitation work) - Low: interior cosmetics	0-15 0-10 0-5
Project budget is clearly defined and costs are eligible; project exceeds \$10,000 in grant costs; Costs are reasonable for the proposed work.	0-10
Match is cash or donated materials; value of donated materials is substantiated; application demonstrates availability of 100% of the entire project expense up front.	0-10
Applicant has experience in managing grants; Applicant is a unit of government or other clearly defined organization with administrative ability; <i>Rehabilitation applications only:</i> Property owner agrees to execute historic preservation easement. <i>Planning applications only:</i> Organization has administrative ability and capacity to use plan for future rehabilitation work; for previous grantees, applicant is prompt with quarterly report submissions and complying with grant requirements.	0-10
Project work meets the <i>Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation</i> .	0-10
Application materials are complete and include all required documents.	0-15
Total	100



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5. NOTIFICATION OF AWARD

If an application is selected for a grant award, the grant recipient must submit any additional information found to be deficient in the application and/or any information requested by the SHPO prior to the execution of a grant agreement.

Once projects are selected and approved for funding, SHPO will send selected applicants a notice of intent to award letter identifying the anticipated funding amount. Awardees will be required to respond to SHPO and formally accept the grant offer, or to let SHPO know that the applicant does not wish to accept the award, in which case SHPO will make alternate arrangements with another applicant.

Alongside the notice, SHPO will provide the applicant with a grant recipient packet that includes forms that must be completed prior to the execution of a grant agreement. These include:

- **W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification**

Complete the W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification form. List the name and federal identification number of the organization that will receive MLAP grant funds. This form is used for payment purposes following the completion of the project.

- **Civil Rights Certification**

SHPO requires compliance with the non-discrimination laws in connection with the use of grant funds. All grant recipients shall submit the appropriate documentation pledging a reasonable representation of minority group representatives, and women, in all levels of their work force and that there exists equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of programs and activities without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, height, weight, marital status, age, sex, or disability.

6. GRANT AGREEMENT

The grant is formally awarded at the time the grant agreement is signed and dated by SHPO, after it has been signed by an authorized representative of the grant recipient.

Any work done prior to the execution of the grant agreement with SHPO is not eligible as a part of the grant or matching share expenditures.

The agreement will specify:

- Project work to be accomplished with the grant award
- Method of and requirements for the disbursement of funds
- Period for completion of the project
- State and Federal statutes, regulations, and requirements which must be followed
- The content required for the completion report

Attachments to the agreement include:

- Detailed scope of work and deliverables, if applicable
- Work schedule detailing when various tasks will be completed
- SHPO-approved budget

Grant recipients should make copies of the grant agreement available to project staff and to consultants to assure that work meets the contractual requirement.

7. GUIDELINES FOR BIDDING AND PROCUREMENT

All planning and rehabilitation grant projects must be competitively bid in an open and transparent manner following the execution of a grant agreement. Bidding and procurement requirements are different for planning projects and rehabilitation projects. All steps below must be followed for each project type to ensure the open and competitive bid process. The SHPO must receive documentation of and approve the procurement at each step as outlined below.

PLANNING PROJECTS

Request for Proposal

The Request for Proposal (RFP) is a bidding solicitation document that includes a detailed scope of work and all criteria and requirements that are necessary to address in a bid proposal. The following information must be included in the RFP:

- Include the following sentence: "Compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations is required."
- Acknowledge the funding source for this project: "This project is partially funded by a Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program grant through the State Historic Preservation Office. Funding for this program comes from the sale of Michigan's specialty lighthouse license plate available through the Secretary of State and through donations to the fund."

Documentation of the competition and a copy of all documents must be submitted to the SHPO at each stage of the bidding process. The documentation must include:

- List of prospective consultants
- Copies of letters to be mailed to prospective consultants
- Copy of RFP

Bid Solicitation

Professional architectural or engineering services must have a minimum of three proposals solicited. The proposal that is selected must be from the responsible bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the grantee. Documentation of the competition and a copy of all documents must be submitted to the SHPO at each stage of the bidding process. The documentation must include:

- Copies of responses received
- Method and justification for contractor selection
- A copy of a draft subcontract

The subcontract must be awarded to the lowest bidder whose bid is responsive to the project specifications. A copy of the signed subcontract must be submitted to the SHPO immediately after it is executed. The subcontract must include all work as outlined in the grant agreement with SHPO, it is also recommended that the grant agreement be an attachment to the subcontract.

REHABILITATION PROJECTS

Request for Proposal

The Request for Proposal (RFP) is a bidding solicitation document that includes a detailed scope of work and all criteria and requirements that are necessary to address in a bid proposal. The following information must be included in the RFP:

- If the project cost is over \$100,000, a bid guarantee is required from each bidder equal to five percent (5%) of the bid price.
- If the project cost is over \$100,000, a performance and payment bond for the total fixed-price bid is required from each bidder.
- Include the following sentence: "Compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations is required."
- Acknowledge the funding source for this project: "This project is partially funded by a Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program grant through the State Historic Preservation Office. Funding for this program comes from the sale of Michigan's specialty lighthouse license plate available through the Secretary of State and through donations to the fund."
- Formally advertised procurements must use sealed bids, public opening of bids, and fixed-price type subcontracts, and a declaration of the date, location, and time of the public opening of the bids must be included.

Bid Solicitation

- The RFP must be posted on at least three online posting services such as Builders Exchange or Dodge Reports. Sufficient time should be given for contractors to prepare and submit bids, preferably thirty days. The web addresses for some of these services are:
 - <http://dodgeprojects.construction.com>
 - <http://www.grbx.com>
 - <http://www.bxlansing.com>
 - <http://www.bxtvc.com>
 - <http://www.cam-online.com>
 - <http://www.buildersexchange.com>

Documentation of the solicitation process shall be submitted to the SHPO at each stage of the process. That documentation shall include:

- A copy of the advertisement.
- A copy of the online posting.
- A description of the time and location for posting of the RFP.
- Copies of responses received.
- Method and justification for contractor selection.
- A copy of a draft subcontract.

The subcontract must be awarded to the lowest bidder whose bid is responsive to the project specifications. A copy of the signed subcontract must be submitted to the SHPO immediately after it is executed. The subcontract must include all work as outlined in the grant agreement with SHPO. It is also recommended that the grant agreement be an attachment to the subcontract.

8. PROJECT SIGN

When rehabilitation work is performed, a sign at the project site acknowledging support from the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program shall be placed before work begins and be maintained for one year after work is completed. Whenever possible, it should be displayed so it is clearly readable from the public right-of-way.

The SHPO will provide the digital project sign image and language. The sign shall be manufactured and installed by the grant recipient. **The cost of the sign is an allowable project expense** and should be included in the budget. The sign should be a minimum of 4' x 6' and be in a publicly accessible location.

One photograph of the sign in its location on site must be submitted to the SHPO prior to project initiation.

EXAMPLE SIGN (FINAL TEMPLATE WILL BE PROVIDED BY SHPO):





PROJECT COMPLETION
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9. HISTORIC PRESERVATION EASEMENT

When rehabilitation or stabilization work is performed a historic preservation easement (easement of maintenance and public accessibility) must be executed to protect structures. The historic preservation easement will be prepared by SHPO and will be recorded with the Register of Deeds by the grant recipient before grant funds can be released.

- It is the obligation of the property owner to advise the SHPO about any entity which may have an interest in the property, and all must consent to the historic preservation easement.
- Present owner(s) and successor(s) must be bound by the historic preservation easement.
- The Register of Deeds may charge a recording fee and collect a transfer tax at the time the easement is recorded. It is the responsibility of the subgrantee, or property owner, to research any applicable costs associated with the recording of the easement. The SHPO strongly encourages subgrantees/property owners to do this research prior to submitting an application as all such costs will be the responsibility of the subgrantee or property owner to pay at the time of filing the easement. Costs associated with the filing of the easement may be charged to the grant but must be identified as part of the project budget during the application phase to be eligible for reimbursement.
- Certain entities may be exempt from transfer tax fees associated with the easement (see <https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-207-505> and <https://legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-207-526>). It is the responsibility of the subgrantee, or property owner, to make their own determination if they qualify for a transfer tax exemption, in consultation with their legal counsel, and, if applicable, supply information regarding the exemption to the Register of Deeds. **SHPO cannot provide legal advice regarding the applicability of transfer tax exemptions or applicable fees.**

The historic preservation easement will include the following provisions:

- The property must be maintained in such a way as to ensure its historical and architectural integrity;
- No major visual or structural changes may be made without the written approval of the SHPO;
- The grounds must be maintained in keeping with the historical integrity of the property;
- Equal opportunity standards regarding race, color, religion, national origin, age, or sex in relation to any program or activity directly or indirectly related to the structure must be adhered to;
- Public access for twelve days a year to the exterior is required where funds are used for exterior work, and to the interior where funds are used for interior work.

The procedures for executing the historic preservation easement are as follows:

- A resolution authorizing execution of a historic preservation easement must be provided in the grant application.
- The historic preservation easement is prepared by SHPO and approved by the Office of the Attorney General.
- The historic preservation easement must be signed by the authorized individuals in the presence of two witnesses. The name of each witness must appear below their signature. The full address of each witness must appear below the printed name.
- The authorized individuals who have signed must appear before a Notary Public for the purpose of acknowledging the signing. The witnesses need not appear before the Notary.
- The Notary Public before whom the authorized individuals appear must execute a Certificate of Acknowledgment.

- The historic preservation easement must be recorded at the Register of Deeds for the county in which the property is located. There will be a fee for recording at the register's office. The original historic preservation easement will be numbered and stamped by the Register of Deeds. The stamp reflects the date and time of recording. The historic preservation easement will be copied and placed with the deed and other documents of record concerning the property.
- The original historic preservation easement, after recording, must be returned to the SHPO for filing with the Department of State, Office of the Great Seal, the Michigan Department of Attorney General, and the SHPO. Copies for your use should be made prior to returning the original.

SHPO uses a standard template for all easements associated with MLAP grants to ensure compliance with state standards. **No exceptions or modifications to the template are allowed.** Applicants are encouraged to review an example **Historic Preservation Easement** by [clicking here](#) prior to applying for a grant.

10. PROJECT COMPLETION

PROGRESS REPORTS

SHPO staff will remain engaged with subgrantees throughout the duration of their projects to help ensure successful completion. In addition, the grant recipient is required to provide brief quarterly progress reports that provide a snapshot of the project's status, any issues encountered, proposed changes (if any), and a budget update showing any expenditures and their relationship to the total anticipated cost. For rehabilitation projects, work in progress photos should also be included with the report. Reports are due regardless of activities completed or dollars spent. SHPO will provide the grant recipient with a report template.

Reporting Period	Report Due
January 1 – March 31	April 15
April 1 – June 30	July 15
July 1 – September 30	October 15
October 1 – December 31	January 15

COMPLETION REPORT AND REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST

The Completion Report and Reimbursement Request form must be submitted at the end of the project. Grant funds will be disbursed to the grant recipient only on an expense reimbursement basis once the project is complete. No advances will be made under any circumstances. All documents and supporting entries on the accounting records must be available for inspection by authorized representatives of the SHPO.

Complete the **Completion Report and Reimbursement Request** by [clicking here](#). Return the report in PDF format via e-mail to HigginsS3@michigan.gov.

- **Rehabilitation Project Photograph Requirements for Completion Reports**
 - Refer to Chapter 2, Item 14, and the grant agreement for photograph requirements.
 - Color photographs documenting the site, the environment, and the exterior and interior conditions of the prospective project areas prior to the start of work.
 - Good, clear photographs of completed work must be submitted with the Completion Report. The photographs must document the site and the environment and the exterior and interior conditions of the areas of completed rehabilitation. These photographs should be taken from the same vantage points as the photographs taken prior to rehabilitation work.
 - Color photographs of the project work in progress.
 - A color photograph of the project sign.