



COUNTY OF MERCER
DIVISION OF CULTURE & HERITAGE
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Special 250th Planning Grant – Grant and Narrative Requirements

About this mini-grant

The County of Mercer announces a special “**250th Planning Grant**” available to Mercer County based not-for-profit history sites, societies and organizations. The grants are to be used exclusively to initiate or support a first steps in planning for your organization’s participation in the celebration of the 250th anniversary of our nation’s founding in 2026.

Our County and communities played a critical part in that founding and we are committed to making sure that Mercer County is well represented in the national profile of this anniversary celebration. The Division encourages local history organizations and sites to begin strategizing creative, meaningful ways to commemorate this important anniversary.

Funds for this special *250th Planning Grant* may only be used for initiatives that further the organization’s planning and preparation for the 250th anniversary. They may not be used for any regular programs or for general administrative support. These funds may only be used to engage outside experts to assist in researching, cataloguing, planning, or otherwise preparing your organization/site to participate in the 250th celebration. Funds may not be used to pay or reimburse regular staff, volunteers or board members of applicant organization.

Request levels: Grant requests of \$500 - \$2,500 will be considered

Possible use of funds (suggested but not limited to):

- Interpretation specialist to help identify unique Revolutionary era stories related to your site
- Collections expert to evaluate your holdings relative to colonial era
- Technology expert to design new ways of presenting relevant digital content
- Genealogist to do some deeper research into diverse colonial era residents of your site
- Curriculum specialist to start developing family programs
- Writer/videographer to start research/develop script for video or dramatic interpretation
- Development of interpretive materials

Additional Eligibility requirements: In addition to the 250th Planning grant requirements outlined above; applications must also comply with basic Mercer County History Regrant eligibility requirements. A link to those guidelines is included in this announcement email.

Narrative: Submit a narrative of 1 – 2 pages that describes the proposed use of funds, the basis by which the dollar amount of the grant request was determined, a brief timeline for proposed project, supervisor for the project, and anticipated end product.