

Indiana Historical Society – Heritage Support Grants
Fundraising for Local History: Making a Case for Grants
Think Like a Reviewer

What we ask reviewers: Does the organization make a convincing case for support?

25 questions grant reviewers ask themselves:

1. Does this project fit funding guidelines and priorities?
2. Is the need compelling? Is it undeniably important to the community?
3. Who is affected by this project?
4. Does this project fit within the organization's mission?
5. Are the project goals and objectives realistic?
6. Is this the best solution to address the stated need?
7. Is the proposed solution likely to lead to the stated outcomes?
8. Is the submitting organization committed to the project?
9. Is the submitting organization capable of carrying out the project?
10. What is the history of the organization? Has it shown success?
11. Does the project team understand the scope of this project? Have they identified potential stumbling blocks? Important milestones?
12. Can the timeline be met?
13. Is this the most critical/compelling need for this organization at this time?
14. Is the project team capable and accountable?
15. Is the cost of this project justified and realistic?
16. Do they need a contingency plan? Do they have one?
17. Is there a plan to continue or maintain the project after grant funding is spent?
18. Are there collaborators involved in the project?
19. Has the organization demonstrated external support for the project?
20. Is this an all-or-none type of project, or could we provide partial funding?
21. Is this one phase of a larger project? How does it fit into the overall picture?
22. Are there any overlooked aspects of the project that the submitting organization should be made aware of?
23. Has the organization identified and addressed any issues that contributed to this need?
24. Does this project support the organization's overall sustainability? Will the effects of this project continue to be realized?
25. What would happen if this proposal is not funded? If this need is not met?