The Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries is pleased to announce the new round of Historic Cemeteries Grants. The purpose of the Historic Cemeteries Grants is to provide financial assistance in the following general categories: Protection and Security, Restoration and Preservation, Education and Training, Research and Interpretation. Eligible projects may include, but aren't limited to: security fencing or lighting, skilled monument repair or training, conservation of historic elements such as fencing, curbs, markers, etc., documentation and mapping, signage, landscape restoration, planning and interpretation. The funds allocated by the State through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department will be available to support the preservation of historic cemeteries throughout Oregon.

Grants must be submitted through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Grants Online program. There will be two grant cycles in the 2021-2023 biennium.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION: Typical awards are in the range of $1000-$8000.

MATCH: A dollar match for funds requested is not required, though we encourage you to seek local funding and donations in addition to your grant request. Local support allows the program to assist more museums and shows community value of the project and makes your application more competitive. Match can be in the form of cash, in-kind donations and volunteer time. Rates for volunteer services may not exceed Oregon minimum wage, except in those instances in which the volunteer is using their professional skills for the grant assisted work.

BUDGET INFORMATION: Bids and estimates strengthen the grant request when applicable. If awarded the grant requires at least three estimates for work over $10,000.

PRESCRIPTION REQUIREMENTS: The application must convey that any reparation will be completed using appropriate preservation practices. Please specify how the work will be completed and/or include references for past work completed using appropriate methods. The National Park Service, the Association for Gravestone Studies, the National Preservation Institute and the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries all offer information on preservation practices in historic cemeteries.

GRANT REPORTING AND PAYMENT: Awarded projects will be the subjects of binding agreements between the State and the applicants. Typically, grant funds are dispersed on a reimbursable basis. Details of payment arrangements and grant reporting will be provided at the time of award.

GRANT TIMELINE:
Deadline – April 13, 2022 (11:59pm)
Grant period start date, with fully executed agreement - July 1, 2022
Reporting deadline – April 30, 2023
ELIGIBILITY, CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES:

- CEMETERIES: Any cemetery or burial site which contains at least one burial of a person who died before the date that is 75 years before the current date.
- APPLICANTS: Individual citizens, organizations, schools, governments, and nonprofits may apply.
- PROJECTS: Projects that will begin and end during the grant cycle qualify. Grant cycle extensions are extremely rare.

CRITERIA:

- The capability of the applicant to carry out the proposed project.
- The effectiveness of the proposed project to address the historic aspects and long-term preservation of the cemetery.

PRIORITIES:

- Projects with a well-prioritized, clearly explained work plan with an appropriate level of detail and realistic cost estimates.
- Geographic diversity.
- Project readiness, including matching dollar share in-hand.
- Projects that are part of a long range plan.
- Projects that document, preserve, or interpret the history of voices previously marginalized or excluded. For example, this may include ethnicities, races, genders, classes, etc. or themes like labor, immigration, etc.
- Projects on publically accessible cemeteries are not prioritized over cemeteries that are accessible by appointment only. The purpose of the program is the preservation of historic cemeteries.

REGISTER ON TO APPLY ONLINE: Visit the OPRD: Grants Online at www.oprdgrants.org to request an account and receive your login. Please use the instructions for OPRD: Grants Online which can be found at http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/HCD/FINASST/Pages/grants.aspx. If you have used the system before, you do not need to register again.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION: Once you have a login, you will be able to submit your application. You can enter information, save, log out, log back in, enter more, etc. as many times as you would like before you submit. Instructions for OPRD: Grants Online visit our website. http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/HCD/FINASST/Pages/grants.aspx

ASSISTANCE: Please read the Historic Cemeteries Grant Guidelines for details on the application, review, award and grant management. Grant questions and OPRD: Grants Online: Kuri Gill, kuri.gill@oprd.oregon.gov, 503-986-0685.