

**TITLE 320. OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CHAPTER 15. OKLAHOMA HERITAGE PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM**

Rules Impact Statement

1. Brief description of the purpose of the proposed rules

The Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program provides financial assistance to cities, counties, nonprofit organizations, and tribal governments to operate and improve the effectiveness of museums and historical organizations. The purpose of the Heritage Preservation Grant Program is to encourage the collecting, preserving, and sharing of Oklahoma history. Proposed changes to the rules include 320:15-1-1 which removes an outdated objective of the program. Proposed changes to 320:15-1-3 clarifies definitions to “cash match,” “not-for-profit historical organization,” and “strategic plan,” and creates a definition for “capacity building.” Proposed changes to 320:15-2-1 include increasing the eligibility threshold for an organization’s operating budget, changing the financial match for organizations requesting less than \$5,000 from a cash match to the option of an in-kind match. Proposed changes are being made to the list of ineligible expenses to clarify expenses related to historic preservation and allowing for certain expenses to be considered on a case-by-case basis and/or addressed in the grant contract as needed. Proposed changes to 320:15-2-2 add two additional examples of items utilized to formulate a score under weighted criteria; project budget and strength of strategic plan (if applicable). Proposed changes to 320:15-2-3 creates additions to the list of typical projects to reflect changes to the rules made last year that now allow for certain types of historic preservation funding, as well as, clarifying expectations of digitization and copyright/fair use. Additional changes outline staff member involvement in evaluation process and the process for project and/or budget modification.

2. Classes of persons affected by the proposed rules

Municipal, county or tribal governments, not-for-profit historical organizations registered with the Oklahoma Secretary of State (museums, historic sites, historical associations, archives, libraries with special collections, or genealogical associations in the state of Oklahoma that feature Oklahoma history as a major component of their mission) with an operating budget of under \$500,000 will be eligible for the program. Therefore, if eligible, applicants would be affected by the proposed rules.

3. Description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rules

Municipal, county or tribal governments, or not-for-profit historical organizations registered with the Oklahoma Secretary of State (museums, historic sites, historical associations, archives, libraries with special collections, or genealogical associations in the state of Oklahoma that feature Oklahoma history as a major component of their mission) with an operating budget of under \$500,000 will be eligible for the program, therefore the staff of the applicant organization will benefit from having a clear and defined process when applying for the grant.

4. Probable economic impact of the proposed rules upon affected classes of persons or political subdivisions

There is no expected economic impact from the proposed rules. However, if awarded a grant, funding would be provided to an organization (which might include a political subdivision) for a project or program that would not have otherwise had the funding. In turn, this may lead to an increase in visitation or grants and donations received from other entities.

5. Probable costs and benefits to the agency and to any agency of the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rules, the source of revenue to be used for implementation and enforcement of the proposed rules, and any anticipated effect on state revenues, including a projected net loss or gain if it can be projected by the agency

The proposed rules do not include any fees, and no economic impact is anticipated. The Heritage Preservation Grant Program has an associated costs, but the program was created by statute and has a dedicated revolving fund for the program. The benefits of the proposed rules to the agency are the clarification of entities eligible for the grant and clarification on the application process. The proposed rules will have no known effect on state revenues.

6. Determination of whether implementation of the proposed rules will have an economic impact on any political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rules.

The proposed rules will have no known economic impact. The Heritage Preservation Grant Program will likely have a positive economic impact, which may affect political subdivisions. Political subdivisions would not play a role in implementing or enforcing the rules, unless said political subdivision, if eligible, chose to apply for a grant.

7. Determination of whether implementation of the proposed rules will have an adverse economic effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act.

No adverse economic effect on small business is expected if the proposed rules are implemented.

8. Explanation of the measures the agency has taken to minimize compliance costs and a determination of whether there are less costly or nonregulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rules

There are no expected compliance costs to implement the proposed rules.

9. Determination of the effect of the proposed rules on the public health, safety and environment and, if the proposed rules are designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety and environment

There is no anticipated effect on the public health, safety and environment. The proposed rules are not designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety and environment.

10. Determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety and environment if the proposed rules are not implemented.

This is no anticipated effect on public health, safety, and environment if the proposed rules are not implemented.