

December 09, 2025

# **Apply Now: Public Facilities Preservation Initiative Grants for Small, Rural Public Libraries**





The Vermont Department of Libraries launched the application process for \$9.6 million in competitive grant funding through the Public Facilities Preservation Initiative Grants for Small, Rural Public Libraries. **Applications are due on or before March 31, 2026.**

## What This Program Funds

This grant supports capital projects necessary to maintain, repair, or improve existing library buildings, including:

- **critical repairs** needed for existing public library buildings including building system repairs or replacement; building envelope repairs; and structural repairs, and
- **accessibility improvements** to existing public library buildings, including internal ramps; external ramps; lifts; and accessible restrooms.

Construction of new libraries, expansion of an existing library, and moving library buildings are not eligible activities.



## How Your Community Applies

Apply thought the Department of Libraries' [online portal](#).

## Make Your Community's Application Competitive

- Vermont public libraries eligible for this funding must be housed in buildings owned by an incorporated public library or a municipality. They also must be open at least 14 hours per week, at least 5 evening or weekend hours, and at least 50 weeks each year.
- Libraries in smaller, more rural communities will be awarded more points.
- Library buildings located in a floodway ([FEMA maps](#)) are not eligible for this funding per federal guidelines.

## Where You Can Learn More

- Learn more and find the application portal, a recorded webinar, Frequently Asked Questions, and more at <https://libraries.vermont.gov/capitalprojectgrants/public-facilities-preservation>. The application worksheet and rubric help you understand how applications will be scored.
- Direct comments and inquiries to [LIB.VTLIBCapitalGrants@vermont.gov](mailto:LIB.VTLIBCapitalGrants@vermont.gov).

## Find Grant Writing or Grant/Project Management Help

VLCT published a resource, [Increasing Municipal Capacity for Grants](#), that offers ideas for assistance with grants. Many of the capacity builders also provide project



management services. Hiring experienced project management assistance can increase the speed of project development and help avoid cost, permitting, and other development surprises.

