

BLACK HAWK COUNTY GAMING ASSOCIATION



HELPING THE CEDAR VALLEY PROSPER

Funding Guidelines and Procedures

What We Are

The Black Hawk County Gaming Association is a corporation that holds and maintains a license to conduct gambling games in accordance with the Iowa Excursion Boat Gambling Act. The Black Hawk County Gaming Association benefits the Cedar Valley by:

- Providing property tax relief to cities and counties
- Funding capital improvements
- Making charitable contributions

Who We Are

The Board of Directors of the Black Hawk County Gaming Association includes sixteen residents of Black Hawk County, who represent the broad interest of the Cedar Valley.

What We Do

The Black Hawk County Gaming Association accepts, reviews and acts on requests to fund programs, projects and activities that benefit the Cedar Valley.

Where We Do It

The Black Hawk County Gaming Association funds programs, projects and activities for organizations and communities in seven Iowa counties. **Our primary focus is Black Hawk County.** We also serve Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Chickasaw, Grundy and Tama counties.

Letter of Intent

The initial requirement of any organization seeking a grant from BHC GA is that of a [letter of intent](#). The letter should be 1-2 typewritten pages describing the organization, the project for which the funding is requested, the total budget, the portion of the budget for which BHC GA funds are being requested, and other funding sources committed to the project.

When We Do It

The Black Hawk County Gaming Association funding cycle is quarterly. Letter of Intent and Application deadlines:

SUMER 2011

Letter of Intent due	June 1, 2011
Grant Application due	July 1, 2011

FALL 2011

Letter of Intent due	September 1, 2011
Grant application due	October 3, 2011

WINTER 2011

Letter of Intent due	December 1, 2011
Grant application due	January 2, 2012

SPRING 2012

Letter of Intent due	March 1, 2012
Grant application due	April 1, 2012

Requests We Will Consider:

The Board of Directors of the Black Hawk County Gaming Association is interested in making grants that will make the Cedar Valley a stronger, better place to live. It places particular emphasis on proposals that enhance public facilities; create, replace or upgrade substantial capital items; or create new opportunities where none now exist. A partial list of programs, projects and activities that will be considered for funding includes:

- Capital improvements
- Challenge grants
- Charitable programs
- Operating requests (but not in consecutive years)
- Projects that provide tax relief for cities and counties
- Public works projects
- Transformational projects that are major new initiatives in the Cedar Valley

Requests We Will Not Consider

Some programs, projects and activities are outside the scope or geographic area served by the Black Hawk County Gaming Association. We will not accept or consider applications to fund:

- Annual campaigns
- Any program located outside the seven-county service area (see **Where We Do It**)
- Capital campaigns for private organizations
- Conferences or seminars
- Contests or competitions to benefit individuals
- Endowment funds
- Existing bills, debts or obligations or other organizations
- Festivals
- Financial support for individuals or their families
- For-profit organizations or programs
- Foundation operating endowments
- Fundraising events or activities
- Healthcare for individuals or their families
- Membership in civic or social organizations
- Memorials
- Political or issue advocacy or advertising
- Political or issue campaigns or campaigning
- Political or issue lobbying or election
- Private events or activities
- Publications

- Research
- Subscriptions
- Support for religious worship, education or proselytizing
- Tickets
- Trips

General Policies for Funding

The Black Hawk County Gaming Association will keep income and distributions in general balance. Proceeds from **the isle casino and hotel at waterloo** will be put to use each year to enhance the quality of life in the Cedar Valley rather than withheld to build an endowment. We will bank reserves sufficient to meet our expenses and obligations.

These guidelines apply to all grants:

- Applications must be submitted in writing on our form
- Applications must be complete and on time to be considered
- Applications should be clear and to the point
- Application should not be long or complex
- Applications should not include extensive artwork, audio or video presentation or petitions of support
- Applicants must submit only one project per application
- Applicants must be public agencies, educational organizations or not-for-profits (501c3)
- Applicants must demonstrate ability to complete and operate their proposals
- Applications must demonstrate their tax status (501c3) to qualify for funding
- Applicants receiving grants must offer annual written proof of performance
- Applicants may be asked to present in person at the invitation of the Board
- Payments will match the percentage of other payments grantees have received
- Projects must be started and completed on time and completed as presented. Failure to do so may be cause for the Board to suspend future payments and demand repayment.
- Projects must benefit the public rather than private individuals or organizations
- Projects must stand on their own merit
- Generally, the BHC GA board prefers applications that demonstrate matching funds for the project budget have been raised or are available

The Board reserves the right to deny funding to Applicants who fail to follow funding guidelines.

How to Apply for Funding

In Person: Fill out a paper application. Make 17 copies and return the original, plus the 17 copies to us.
Online: Download, print and complete the application at www.bhcga.org
 Make 17 copies and return the original, plus the 17 copies to us.

How to Contact Us

Telephone: 1-319-433-1153
E-Mail: info@bhcga.org
In Person 229 East Park Avenue – Waterloo, IA 50703
Online: Visit us on the web at www.bhcga.org