



Project Priority Scoring System
Texas Recreation & Parks Account
Non-Urban Indoor Recreation Grant Program
(Effective May 1, 2014)

Applicant Eligibility

All previously completed Recreation Grant Projects must be in compliance with all program guidelines and all terms of the Project Agreement under which they received assistance.

For active grants, all required project documentation must be complete and have been received on schedule.

All active projects which are at least two years old must be reimbursed for a minimum of 50% of the approved grant amount at the time of application.

The total of approved grant funds which have not been reimbursed may not exceed \$2 million for all active grant projects at the time of application.

1. Master Plan

Total Range: 0-15 points

- Applicant has a current department-endorsed master plan or other comprehensive plan on file with the department at the time of application. (5 points); and
- Project meets 3 of the top 5 priority needs identified in the plan (10 points) or;
- Project meets 2 of the top 5 priority needs identified in the plan (6 points)

2. Recreation Diversity

Total Range: 0-10 points

Project will provide diversity of public indoor recreation facilities or opportunities. Points shall be awarded based on the number of indoor recreation facilities provided. One point will be awarded for each type of recreation facility provided that each recreation element is identified as a need in a locally adopted master plan

or, if the applicant does not have an adopted plan, by a documented public input process. The department will not consider project elements that do not support a recreational activity. (0-10 points)

3. Geographic Distribution

Total Range: 0-20 points

- Project provides the first public indoor recreation facility in the applicant's jurisdiction or intended service area. (20 points); or
- Project provides significantly new and different public indoor recreation facilities (other than school facilities) in the applicant's jurisdiction or intended service area, based on 5 points per opportunity, provided the individual recreation elements are identified as a need in a locally adopted master plan or, if the applicant does not have an adopted plan, by a documented public input process. (0-15 points)

4. Local Resources and Partnerships

Total Range: 0-20 points

- Project involves the contribution of resources, including publicly owned non-parkland, from sources other than the applicant, which serves as all or part of the applicant's matching share of funds. Points shall be awarded on a percentage basis, determined by dividing the total outside contribution value by the total match and multiplying the result by 15. (0-15 points); and/or
- Project includes documented contributions via the applicant or outside resources above the 50% required match. Up to five points will be awarded based on the following criteria: $(\text{Additional Contribution Amount} / \text{Required Match}) \times 5 =$ (0-5 points)

5. Renovation and Adaptive Reuse

Total Range: 0-25 points

Project provides for the renovation or adaptive reuse of an existing facility, determined by dividing the renovation cost by the total construction cost and multiplying the result by 25. (0-25 points)

6. Underserved Populations

Total Range: 0-12 points

- Project improves opportunities for low-income citizens: determined by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as low-income by 5 and dividing by 100. (0-5 points); and/or

- Project improves opportunities for minority citizens: determined by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as minority by 5 and dividing by 100. (0-5 points); and/or
- Project provides park and recreation opportunities for physically/mentally challenged citizens, which exceed the federal and state required accessibility standards. (2 points)

7. Sustainable Park Design

Total Range: 0-10 points

Points shall be awarded based on how the overall project embraces sustainable techniques in the design and construction of the facility including but not limited to the diversity, innovative nature and/or cost of the project elements. (0-10 points)

8. TPWD Goals

Total Range: 0-5 points

Project supports the department's Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan. Applicant must address how the project meets the goals of the Plan in the proposal narrative. (0-5 points)

9. Compliance

Total Points Deducted: -5 points

Applicant is in compliance with previously funded projects. If applicant is not in compliance with existing grant obligations, 5 points will be deducted from the project score. (-5 points)

10. Application Materials

Total Points Available: 5 points

A complete application was received by the application deadline. (5 points)



**Project Priority Scoring System
Texas Recreation & Parks Account
Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program
(Effective May 1, 2014)**

Applicant Eligibility

All previously completed Recreation Grant Projects must be in compliance with all program guidelines and all terms of the Project Agreement under which they received assistance.

For active grants, all required project documentation must be complete and have been received on schedule.

All active projects which are at least two years old must be reimbursed for a minimum of 50% of the approved grant amount at the time of application.

The total of approved grant funds which have not been reimbursed may not exceed \$2 million for all active grant projects at the time of application.

1. Master Plan

Total Range: 0-15 points

Applicant has a current department-endorsed master plan or other comprehensive plan on file with the department at the time of application. (5 points); **and**

- Project meets 3 of the top 5 priority needs identified in the plan (10 points) **or**;
- Project meets 2 of the top 5 priority needs identified in the plan (6 points) **or**;
- Project meets 1 of the top 5 priority needs identified in the plan (3 points)

2. Recreation Diversity

Total Range: 0-10 points

Project will provide diversity of park and recreation facilities. One point will be awarded for each type of significant and diverse recreation facility.

Each facility must be identified as a need in the applicant's locally adopted park, recreation and open space master plan or, if the applicant does not have an adopted master plan, by a documented public input process. (0-10 points)

3. Water Based Recreation

Total Range: 0-4 points

The project will expand access to water-based recreation opportunities along existing natural water bodies, provide desirable habitat conditions for fish and wildlife, and will not degrade the resource. Scoring shall be as follows:

- Project expands access to water-based recreation on an existing wetland, river, continuous flow stream, pond, lake, gulf, bay, or estuary (1 point); **and**
- Project preserves, restores, or improves habitat conditions for fish and wildlife (1 point); **and/or**
- Project is provided in an area that currently has limited public access to water-based recreation along existing natural water bodies (1 point); **and/or**
- Project provides a link to existing natural water bodies that support water-based recreation opportunities (1 point)

4. Geographic Distribution

Total Range: 0-10 points

The project will improve the geographic distribution of park and recreation lands and facilities in the project's service area or within the applicant's jurisdiction.

- Project provides the first public park in the applicant's jurisdiction or intended service area (10 points); **or**
- Project provides significantly new and different park and recreation opportunities (other than school facilities) at the project site. Points for this item shall be awarded only if specific recreation elements are identified as a need in a locally adopted park, recreation, and open space master plan or, if the applicant does not have an adopted master plan, by a documented public input process. Point awards shall be calculated as follows: new and different facility costs, divided by total construction costs, multiplied by 10. (0-10 points)

5. Outdoor Recreation/Conservation vs. Support Costs

Total Range: 0-20 points

Project maximizes the use of development funds for outdoor recreation and conservation opportunities determined by dividing the direct recreational and conservation costs by the total construction costs and multiplying the result by 20. (0-20 points)

6. Underserved Populations

Total Range: 0-12 points

- Project improves opportunities for low-income citizens based on economic and demographic data for the service area from the most recent federal census data; determined by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as low-income by 5. (0-5 points); **and/or**
- Project improves opportunities for ethnic minority citizens, based on economic and demographic data for the service area from the most recent census data; determined by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as minority by 5. (0- 5 points); **and/or**
- Project provides park and recreation opportunities for physically/mentally challenged citizens, which exceed the federal and state required accessibility standards. (2 points)

7. Local Resources and Partnerships

Total Range: 0-20 points

The project involves local resources or documented cooperation between the applicant and other public or private entities to provide park and recreation opportunities at the project site.

- Project involves the contribution of resources from sources other than the applicant, including publicly owned non-parkland, which serves as all or part of the applicant's matching share of funds. Points shall be awarded on a percentage basis, determined by dividing the total outside contribution value by the total match and multiplying the result by 15. (0-15 points); **and/or**
- Project includes documented contributions via the applicant or outside resources above the 50% required match. Points will be awarded based on the following criteria: $(\text{Additional Contribution Amount} / \text{Required Match}) \times 5 =$ (0-5 points)

8. Land Acquisition

Total Range: 0-25 points

Project provides for the acquisition and conservation of park and recreation lands, including publicly owned non-parkland, which consist of natural resources or provides desirable open space or needed parkland.

- Project provides for the acquisition and conservation of a government- identified natural area which is recognized in an acceptable, published planning document for having valuable or vulnerable natural resources, ecological processes, or rare, threatened, or endangered species of vegetation or wildlife. Points based on acreage and/or quality (0-25points); **or**
- Project provides for the acquisition and conservation of natural open space that is two acres or larger in size, relatively free of man-made structures and which is identified in an acceptable and adopted local, jurisdiction-wide open space plan or master plan. Points based on acreage and/or quality (0-15 points); **or**
- Project provides for the acquisition of needed parkland. Points awarded based on the quality, size and how well the narrative justifies need. (0-5 points)

9. Renovation and Adaptive Reuse

Total Range: 0-25 points

Project provides for the renovation or adaptive reuse of an existing obsolete facility, determined by dividing the renovation cost by the total construction cost and multiplying the result by 25. (0-25 points)

10. Sustainable Park Design

Total Range: 0-10 points

Project promotes sustainable park design. Points for this category will be awarded based on how the overall project embraces sustainable techniques in the design and construction of the park, including but not limited to the diversity, innovative nature and/or cost of the project elements. (0-10 points)

11. Linkage

Total Range: 0-3 points

Project provides linkage via trail to other public park and conservation areas. Points shall be awarded based on the significance of the linkage. (0-3 points)

12. TPWD Goals

Total Range: 0-5 points

Project supports the department's Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan. Applicant must address how the project meets the goals of the Plan in the proposal narrative. (0-5 points)

13. Compliance

Total Points Deducted: (-5 points)

Applicant is in compliance with previously funded projects. If applicant is not in compliance with existing grant obligations, 5 points will be deducted from the project score. (-5 points)

14. Application Materials

Total Points Available: (5 points)

A complete application was received by the application deadline. (5 points)



**Project Priority Scoring System
Texas Recreation & Parks Account
Small Community Grant Program
(Effective May 1, 2014)**

Applicant Eligibility

All previously completed Recreation Grant Projects must be in compliance with all program guidelines and all terms of the Project Agreement under which they received assistance.

For active grants, all required project documentation must be complete and have been received on schedule.

All active projects which are at least two years old must be reimbursed for a minimum of 50% of the approved grant amount at the time of application.

The total of approved grant funds which have not been reimbursed may not exceed \$2 million for all active grant projects at the time of application.

1. Population

Total Range: 0- 3 points

Population of the applicant is 2,500 or less based on the most recent federal census data. (3 points)

2. Geographic Distribution

Total Point Range: 0-10 points

The project will improve the geographic distribution of park and recreation lands and facilities in the project's service area or within the applicant's jurisdiction.

- Project provides the first public park in the applicant's jurisdiction or intended service area. (10 points); **or**
- Project provides significantly new and different park and recreation opportunities (other than school facilities) at the project site. One point per facility identified by documented public input process to be a need. (0-3 points)

3. Outdoor Recreation/Conservation vs. Support Costs

Total Range: 0-10 points

Project maximizes the use of development funds for direct outdoor recreation and conservation opportunities as determined by dividing the direct recreational and conservation costs by the total construction costs and multiplying the result by 10. (0-10 points)

4. Underserved Populations

Total Range: 0-12 points

- Project improves opportunities for low-income citizens based on economic and demographic data for the service area from the most recent federal census data. Points will be calculated by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as low income by five. (0-5 points); **and/or**
- Project improves opportunities for ethnic minority citizens based on economic and demographic data for the service area from the most recent federal census data. Points will be calculated by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as minority by five. (0-5 points); **and/or**
- Project provides park and recreation opportunities for physically/mentally challenged citizens which exceed the federal and state required accessibility standards. (2 points)

5. Local Resources and Partnerships

Total Range: 0-10 points

The project involves local resources or documented cooperation between the applicant and other public or private entities to provide park and recreation opportunities at the project site(s).

- Project involves the contribution of resources from sources other than the applicant, including publicly owned non-parkland, which serves as all or part of the applicant's matching share of funds. Up to five points may be awarded on a percentage basis, as determined by dividing the total outside contribution value by the total match and multiplying the result by five. (0-5 points); and/or
- Project includes documented contributions via the applicant or outside resources above the 50% required match. Up to five points will be awarded based on the following criteria: $(\text{Additional Contribution Amount} / \text{Required Match}) \times 5 = (0-5 \text{ points})$

6. Renovation

Total Range: 0-10 points

Project provides for the renovation of an existing obsolete area or facility, as determined by dividing the renovation cost by the total construction cost and multiplying the result by ten. (0-10 points)

7. Sustainable Park Design

Total Range: 0-5 points

Points for this category will be awarded based on how the overall project embraces sustainable techniques in the design and construction of the park, including but not limited to the diversity, innovative nature and/or cost of the project elements. (0-5 points)

8. TPWD Goals

Total Range: 0-2 points

Project supports the department's Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan. Applicant must address how the project meets the goals of the Plan in the proposal narrative. (0-2 points)

9. Compliance

Total Points Deducted: -5 points

Applicant is in compliance with previously funded projects. If applicant is not in compliance with existing grant obligations, 5 points will be deducted from the project score. (-5 points)

10. Application Materials

Total Range: 0- 5 points

A complete application was received by the application deadline. (5 points)



Project Priority Scoring System
Large County & Municipality Recreation & Parks Account
Urban Indoor Grant Program
(Effective May 1, 2014)

Applicant Eligibility

All previously completed Recreation Grant Projects must be in compliance with all program guidelines and all terms of the Project Agreement under which they received assistance.

For active grants, all required project documentation must be complete and have been received on schedule. All active projects which are at least two years old must be reimbursed for a minimum of 25% of the approved grant amount at the time of application.

The total of approved grant funds which have not been reimbursed may not exceed \$4 million for all active grant projects at the time of application.

1. Master Plan

Total Range: 0-10 points

- Applicant has a locally adopted and department-endorsed parks, recreation and open space master plan, or other jurisdiction-wide plan, that addresses outdoor recreation needs. (5 points); and
- Project satisfies 1 of the top 5 priority needs (5 points)

2. Underserved Populations

Total Range: 0-10 points

- Project provides more equitable geographic distribution of facilities. Project proposal shall include a map showing the current distribution of parks in the entire service area to support a need in a particular location entire service area to justify additional facility. (4 points); and/or
- Project improves opportunities for low-income citizens based on economic and demographic

data for the service area from the most recent federal census data: determined by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as low-income by 2. (0-2 points); and/or

- Project improves opportunities for minority citizens based on economic and demographic data for the service area from the most recent federal census data: determined by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as minority by 2. (0-2 points); and/or
- Project provides park and recreation opportunities for physically/mentally challenged citizens, which exceed the federal and state required accessibility standards. (2 points)

3. Local Resources and Partnerships

Total Range: 0-8 points

- Project involves public-public or public-private cooperation based on the percentage of the match contributed by partners. Points are calculated by dividing the partner contribution by the total budget and multiplying by five. (0-5 points); and/or
- Project includes documented contributions via the applicant or outside resources above the 50% required match. Up to 3 points will be awarded based on the following criteria: $(\text{Additional Contribution Amount} / \text{Required Match}) \times 3 =$ (0-3 points)

4. Development

Total Range: 0-9 points

- Nature center that provides natural resource conservation or environmental education visitor experiences (5 points); and/or
- Multi-purpose recreation facilities (1 point); and/or
- Diverse recreation facilities within the applicant's jurisdiction; one point awarded for each type of significant recreation opportunity. (0-3points)

5. Restoration

Total Range: 0-15 points

Project provides for the renovation of existing recreation and conservation facilities that are no longer usable for the intended or original purpose; renewal or revival of existing facilities. Basic maintenance is not an eligible expense.

- Points will be awarded based on percentage of the budget dedicated to restoration of an existing structure. (0-15 points); and/or
- Adaptive reuse of existing structure or facility to provide new or different recreation opportunities; points will be awarded based on the percentage of the budget dedicated to the adaptive reuse (0-10 points)

6. Threat

Total Range: 0-3 points

Project reduces the threat to the public availability of a recreation opportunity. The project narrative must include a discussion of the particular compelling circumstances involving the project, such as imminent loss of opportunity or time-sensitive economic factors (i.e. loss of potential funding partner if action is not undertaken quickly).

- Minimal threat; the recreation opportunity appears to be in no immediate danger of loss in the next 36 months (1 point); or
- Actions under consideration that could result in the recreation opportunity becoming unavailable for public use (2 points); or
- Actions under consideration that will result in the recreation opportunity becoming unavailable for future public use or a threat situation has occurred or is imminent that will result in the acquisition of rights to the land by a land trust at the request of the applicant. (3 points)

7. Urban Biologist Consultation

Total Range: 0-5 points

Applicant has consulted with an urban biologist from the department regarding the proposed site plan at least 30 days prior to the application deadline and the biologist's comments are included in the application materials. (5 points)

8. Sustainable Park Design and Development

Total Range: 0-5 points

The project embraces sustainable techniques in the design and construction of the facility. Points will be awarded based on diversity, innovative nature and/or cost of the project elements. (0-5 points)

9. Historical/Cultural resources

Total Range: 0-2 points

Project provides park and recreation opportunities that enhance and encourage appreciation and preservation of site-based cultural, natural, historical or archaeological resources by means of interpretation, facilities, or preservation strategies. (2 points)

10. TPWD Goals

Total Range: 0-10 points

Applicant must specifically describe how the project meets the goals of the Land and Water Conservation Plan. (0-10 points)

11. Compliance

Total Point Reduction: -5 points

Applicant is not in compliance with previously funded projects. (-5 points)

12. Application Materials

Total Range: 0-5 points

A complete application was received by the application deadline. (5 points)



Project Priority Scoring System
Large County & Municipality Recreation & Parks Account
Urban Outdoor Recreation Grant Program
(Effective May 1, 2014)

Applicant Eligibility

All previously completed Recreation Grant Projects must be in compliance with all program guidelines and all terms of the Project Agreement under which they received assistance.

For active grants, all required project documentation must be complete and have been received on schedule.

All active projects which are at least two years old must be reimbursed for a minimum of 25% of the approved grant amount at the time of application.

The total of approved grant funds which have not been reimbursed may not exceed \$4 million for all active grant projects at the time of application.

1. Master Plan

Total Range: 0-10 points

- Project applicant has a locally adopted and department-approved parks, recreation and open space master plan or other jurisdiction-wide plan that addresses outdoor recreation needs (5 points); **and**
- Project satisfies 1 of the top 5 priority needs (5 points)

2. Threat

Total Range: 0-3 points

Project reduces the threat to the public availability of a conservation or recreation opportunity. The project narrative must include a discussion of the particular compelling circumstances involving the project, such as imminent loss of opportunity, or time-sensitive economic factors (i.e. loss of potential funding partner if action is not undertaken quickly).

- No evidence of threat is presented (0 points); **or**
- Minimal threat; the conservation or recreation opportunity appears to be in no immediate danger of loss in the next 36 months (1 point); **or**
- Actions under consideration could result in the conservation or recreation opportunity becoming unavailable for public use (2 points); **or**

- Actions will be taken that will result in the conservation or recreation opportunity becoming unavailable for future public use or a threat situation has occurred or is imminent that will result in the acquisition of rights to the land by a land trust at the request of the applicant (3 points).

3. Land Acquisition

Total Range: 0-19 points

The project proposes to acquire land that would satisfy one or more of the following:

- An area that is significant for a relatively undisturbed ecosystem that exhibits regionally representative geological, floral, faunal, or hydrological features and has the potential to serve regional or statewide recreation needs. Natural areas can serve as: greenbelts/open spaces; locations for passive activities; preservation areas for unique natural features; and interpretive sites which highlight or explain ecosystem processes. Points based on acreage and quality. (0-4 points); **and/or**
- Green corridor/connectivity to existing protected areas. Points based on acreage and quality. (0-4 points); **and/or**
- Pocket parks defined as 1 acre or less in size with a service area of one-quarter mile.(2 points); and/or
- Intensive-use recreation facility such as an athletic complex. (2 points); **and/or**
- Future conservation and recreation purposes that initially provide limited public access. Points based on quality and size. (0-4 points); **and/or**
- Expansion, to include in-holdings, of existing parks and conservation areas. (2 points); **and/or**
- Adaptive reuse for recreation or conservation of lands that have limited use in their existing state. (1 point)

4. Development

Total Range: 0-9 points

- Neighborhood park defined as 1-15 acres in size with a service area of one-half mile (3 points); **and/or**
- Natural resource based sites developed for outdoor recreation and education purposes such as trails, wildlife viewing, interpretive signage, etc. NOTE: Indoor facilities are not eligible under this program (2 points); **and/or**
- Park and conservation area of regional significance (project is a component of a comprehensive or park and recreation master plan for 1 or more political jurisdictions). (2points); **and/or**
- Multi-purpose recreation facility (1 point); **and/or**

- Outdoor aquatic recreation (1 point)

5. Sustainable Park Design and Development

Total Range: 0-5 points

The project embraces sustainable techniques in the design and construction of the park or includes wildlife habitat improvement/restoration. Points will be awarded based on but not limited to diversity, innovative nature and/or cost of the project elements. (0-5 points)

6. Restoration and Renovation

Total Range: 0-10 points

Project provides for the restoration and/or renovation of existing infrastructure or other facilities that is no longer usable for its intended or original purpose:

- Restoration of existing infrastructure: Points will be awarded based the following calculation (Renovation Cost divided by the Total Construction Cost multiplied by ten). (0-10 points); **and/or**
- Adaptive reuse of existing structures and facilities to provide new or different recreation opportunities (use of an existing slab from a demolished building as a recreation court, the reuse of a bridge for recreation purposes, remediated brownfield, etc.). Points will be awarded according to the following formula: (Reuse Costs divided by Total Construction Costs multiplied by five) (0-5 points)

7. Trails/Corridors/Greenways

Total Range: 0-25 points

Project proposes one or more of the following. Points awarded based on length of trail.

- Major linear development of 1 mile or longer (0-6 points); **and/or**
- Development that connects or extends an existing trail system or wildlife corridor (0-5 points); **and/or**
- Major loop development of 1 mile or more (0-4 points); **and/or**
- Neighborhood/loop trail development (0-4 points); **and/or**
- Off-road trail development for non-motorized use (0-2 points); **and/or**
- Aquatic paddling trail development (0-2 points); **and/or**
- Interpretive nature trail development (0-2 points)

8. Sports Facilities

Total Range: (0-10 points)

Project proposes the development of one or more of the following:

- Large capacity, intensive-use sports facility (7 points);and/or
- Competition or practice facilities in close proximity to users (3 points)

9. Underserved Populations

Total Range: 0-10 points

- Project provides more equitable geographic distribution of facilities. Project proposal shall provide a map showing current distribution of parks in entire service area to support a need in a particular location. (4 points); **and/or**
- Project improves opportunities for low-income citizens based on the economic demographic information of the service area from the most recent census data, determined by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as low-income by 2 (0-2 points); **and/or**
- Project improves opportunities for ethnic minority citizens based on the demographic information of the service area from the most recent census data: determined by multiplying the percentage of population qualifying as ethnic minority by 2 (0-2 points); **and/or**
- Project provides park and recreation opportunities for physically/mentally challenged citizens, which exceed the federal and state required accessibility standards. (2 points)

10. Local Resources and Partnerships

Total Range: 0-8 points

- Project involves public or private cooperation based on the percentage of the match contributed by partners. Points are calculated by dividing the partner contribution by the total match and multiplying by five. (0-5 points); **and/or**
- Project includes documented contributions via the applicant or outside resources above the 50% required match. Points will be awarded based on the following criteria: $(\text{Additional Contribution Amount} / \text{Required Match}) \times 3 =$ (0-3 points)

11. Historical/Cultural Resources

Total Range: 0- 2 points

Project provides park and recreation opportunities that enhance and encourage appreciation and preservation of site-based cultural, natural, historical or archaeological resources by means of interpretation, facilities, or preservation strategies (2 points).

12. TPWD Goals

Total Range: 0-10 points

Applicant must specifically describe how the project meets the goals of the TPWD Land and Water Resources Conservation & Recreation Plan. (0-10 points)

13. Urban Biologist Consultation

Total Range: 0-5 points

Applicant has consulted with an urban biologist from the department regarding the proposed site plan at least 30 days prior to the application deadline and the biologist's comments are included in the application materials (5 points)

14. Compliance

Total Points Deducted: -5 points

Applicant is not in compliance with previously funded projects. (-5 points)

15. Application Materials

Total Range: 0-5 points

A complete application was received by the application deadline. (5 points)