

# HOBART REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

## EDUCATIONAL & WORKFORCE READINESS GRANT PROGRAM

The Redevelopment Commission (RDC) of the City of Hobart (City) is seeking applications for 2026 grants allowed under Indiana Code 36-7-25-7 (see attached). The purpose of the grants is to support educational programs, career & technical education (CTE) initiatives, and other programs designed to prepare Hobart's students for success in a competitive global economy, post-secondary education, and high-demand careers. It is the intention of the RDC's grant program to 1) promote redevelopment and economic development in the City and 2) support programs or expenses which are in the best interest of the City's residents. A majority of the people served by the grant program or expense should be residents of Hobart.

In 2026, \$30,000 will be available for grant payment. Grant availability in future years is unknown at the present time. The RDC may make a single grant, multiple grants, or no grants based on the grant applications received. Grant selection is not determined on a point-based system but may be in the future. Grant awards will be recommended by the Grant Committee of the RDC to the entire RDC for approval. Award notification will be made by no later than Friday, January 10, 2026.

Grants are a reimbursement type of grant. Applicants must incur 100% of the expense and then provide the required documentation to seek reimbursement. (A reimbursement request form with submittal instructions will be provided to grant awardees.) An agreement between the Applicant and the Hobart Redevelopment Commission must be fully executed before any grant funded expense can be incurred. This agreement will include the RDC's findings of fact as required by State Statute.

Documentation of compliance with grant conditions, including key program metrics (certification rates, post-secondary commitment), must be submitted quarterly during the term of the grant. Reimbursement of expenses from grant funds will take no longer than 45 days upon submission of a completed request for grant funds. Approval of claims for grant expenses will be made at a meeting of the RDC. A final written report with photographs and a summary of outcomes against the proposed metrics (Question 14) must accompany the final request for reimbursement. (An outline of what to include in the final report will be provided to grant awardees.) All grant and compliance information submitted will become public records.

Any publicity related to the program or expense funded by a grant must also be credited to the Hobart Redevelopment Commission.

The RDC operates without discrimination as to age, race, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, income status, or national origin in the consideration of grant requests. The RDC funds only grant seekers who do not unlawfully discriminate as to age, race, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, income status, or national origin.

Grant recipients must comply with I.C. 22-5-1.7-1 (E-Verify Program) for grants over \$1,000.00.

Applications for the **2026** program are due by **12:00 p.m. on Friday, November 29th, 2025**, to Community Development Coordinator, Kate McGill, 414 Main Street, Hobart, IN 46342. [kmcgill@cityofhobart.org](mailto:kmcgill@cityofhobart.org) 219 -942-5517  
The RDC encourages your questions, which should be directed to Ms. McGill.

Five hard copies and one electronic copy are required. Incomplete applications will not be considered by the Grant Committee or the RDC.

**Include in the grant application submission the following information.**

1. Name of Organization or Individual Seeking Grant (the Applicant).
2. Contact information for Applicant (include Name/Title of Contact Person, E-mail, Phone #, Fax #, and Mailing Address)
3. Legal Status of Applicant.
4. Identify the Grant Administrator if different than the Contact Person.
5. Please provide a concise summary of the Applicant's purpose and identify the governing body (Board of Directors, School Board, etc.) Provide a website address if such exists.
6. Please describe how your proposed program directly supports a key initiative or goal in the City of Hobart's current comprehensive plan, economic development strategy, or the school district's strategic priorities for Career & Technical Education (CTE) or college readiness.
7. Explain which specific in-demand sector or high-growth career path in Hobart or Lake County your program addresses. Detail the specific technical skills, essential (soft) skills, or core academic competencies (e.g., advanced physics application) to be developed.
8. If applicable, describe how the program incorporates new technologies, virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), or digital platforms in the training delivery, ensuring these tools are accessible to all participants.
9. Explain when the grant funds will be spent, including start and stop dates.
10. Provide a short title for the grant request.
11. Calculate the estimated Return on Investment (ROI) by providing two key metrics: 1) The target percentage of students who will earn an industry-recognized certification (e.g., ASE, OSHA 10, IC3) or dual credit upon completion, and 2) The target percentage of participants who commit to post-secondary education or training (college, trade school, or apprenticeship) in a related field within 12 months of graduation.
12. Explain if other funds are secured for the program or expense proposed for grant funding.
13. Describe your strategy for public outreach, specifically detailing how you will use digital media, social platforms, or online information sessions to reach diverse segments of the Hobart student body and their families. Explain the specific metrics and data collection methods you will use to measure success, such as pre/post-program skills assessments, certification pass rates, course completion rates, or surveys tracking post-graduation plans. Commit to providing this data in the required quarterly and final reports.
14. Identify any partner organizations involved in the grant and explain their role and responsibilities.
15. Explain why the Applicant is seeking funding for this grant program, expense, or equipment.
16. Beyond general benefit, identify any specific Hobart businesses that have committed to providing student mentorships, internships, guest speakers, or job shadowing opportunities related to this

program. Provide letters of support from these businesses if available.

17. Are there planning documents to support the requested grant program, expense, or equipment? If so, please provide supporting documentation (estimate from supplier or screenshot of equipment and pricing from supplier's website).
18. Describe how your program ensures equitable access for Hobart students, specifically addressing common student barriers like transportation, scheduling conflicts, or technology access (e.g., will the program be offered during or after school, and what resources are provided to bridge technology gaps?).
19. Have you researched and identified other organizations or individuals who are currently providing a similar program or have made a similar expense? Explain why your program or expense is warranted, if a similar program exists, or a similar expense has been made by another organization or individual.

**Indiana Code Title 36. Local Government § 36 -7-25-7**

Sec. 7. (a) As used in this section, “eligible entity” means a person whose principal functions include the provision of:

- (1) educational programs;
- (2) work training programs;
- (3) worker retraining programs;
- (4) marketing and advertising of land located in an allocation area; or
- (5) any other programs;

designed to prepare individuals to participate in the competitive and global economy.

(b) After making the findings set forth in subsection (c), a commission, or two (2) or more commissions acting jointly, may contract with an eligible entity to provide:

- (1) educational programs;
- (2) work training programs;
- (3) worker retraining programs;
- (4) marketing and advertising of land located in an allocation area; or
- (5) any other programs;

designed to prepare individuals to participate in the competitive and global economy.

(c) Before a commission may contract for a program described in subsection (b), the commission must find that the program will promote the redevelopment and economic development of the unit, is of utility and benefit, and is in the best interests of the unit's residents.

(d) Except as provided in subsection (e), a commission may use any revenues legally available to the commission to fund a program described in subsection (b).

(e) A commission may not spend:

- (1) bond proceeds; or
- (2) more than fifteen percent (15%) of the allocated tax proceeds it receives on an annual basis;

to fund a program described in subsection (b). However, of the amount available under subdivision (2), not more than seven and one-half percent (7.5%) of that amount may be used for a use described in subsection (b)(4).