



The following is a sample contract only.

It is provided to demonstrate the expectations and requirements of completing a grant project with the DNR.

Do NOT complete or submit with your application.

This Grant Contract Agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Department of Natural Resources ("State") and **Give the full name of the grantee including its address** ("Grantee").

Recitals

Under Minnesota Statutes [§ 84.026](#) and [§ 97A.057 Subd. 2](#), the State is empowered to enter into this Grant Contract Agreement. The State has developed the No Child Left Inside grants program for statewide implementation as one strategy to provide “outdoor environmental, ecological, and other natural-resource-based education and recreation programs serving youth” (Minnesota Statute [§ 84.976](#)). The Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this Grant Contract Agreement to the satisfaction of the State. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute [§16B.98, Subd.1](#), the Grantee agrees to minimize administrative costs as a condition of this grant contract agreement.

Grant Contract Agreement

1 Term of Grant Contract Agreement

1.1 Effective Date. Execution date of this grant contract agreement, or the date the State obtains all required signatures, whichever is later.

Per [Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98, Subd. 5](#), the Grantee must not begin work until this Grant Contract Agreement is fully executed and the State's Authorized Representative has notified the Grantee that work may commence.

Per [Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98 Subd. 7](#), no payments will be made to the Grantee until this Grant Contract Agreement is fully executed.

1.2 Expiration Date.

June 30, 2027, or until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever occurs first.

1.3 Survival of Terms. The following clauses survive the expiration or cancellation of this Grant Contract Agreement: Liability; State Audits; Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property; Publicity and Endorsement; Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; and Data Disclosure.

2 Specifications, Duties, and Scope of Work

2.1 The Grantee will comply with the required grants management policies and procedures set forth through Minnesota Statute [§16B.97, subd 4 \(a\)\(1\)](#).

2.2 The Grantee will perform the duties specified in Exhibit A: Project Work Plan and Exhibit B: Budget Worksheet, which are attached and incorporated into this grant contract agreement.

2.3 The Grantee agrees to complete the program in accordance with the approved budget to the extent practicable and within the program period specified in the grant contract agreement. Any material change in the grant contract agreement shall require an amendment by the State. The Grantee must acquire pre-approval for any changes to project objectives, audience, timeline and/or budget outlined in Exhibit A: Project Work Plan and Exhibit B: Budget Worksheet. All requests for changes must be submitted in writing and approved by the State's Authorized Representative prior to implementation.

2.4 The Grantee shall be responsible for the administration supervision, management, record keeping, and program oversight required for the work performed under this agreement.

2.5 The Grantee is responsible for maintaining an adequate conflict of interest policy. Throughout the term of this agreement, the Grantee shall monitor and report any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest to the State's Authorized Representative

3 Time

The Grantee must comply with all the time requirements described in this Grant Contract Agreement. In the performance of this Grant Contract Agreement, time is of the essence and failure to meet a deadline date may be a basis for a determination by the State's Authorized Representative that the Grantee has not complied with the terms of the Grant Contract Agreement. The Grantee is required to perform all the duties cited within clause two "Specifications, Duties, and Scope of Work" within the grant period. The State is not obligated to extend the grant period.

4 Consideration and Terms of Payment

The consideration for all services performed by the Grantee pursuant to this Grant Contract Agreement shall be paid by the State as follows:

4.1 Compensation. The total obligation of the State under this Grant Contract Agreement, including all compensation and reimbursements, is not to exceed **\$ Total Compensation**, which shall be paid after the Grantee presents a final report with appropriate documentation for expenditures as described in Exhibit B: Budget Worksheet, which are attached and incorporated into this Grant Contract Agreement.

4.2 Administrative Costs. Grantee administrative costs must be necessary and reasonable. They are only allowed as part of the Grantee's match requirement. No compensation or reimbursement will be paid.

4.3 Travel Expenses. Reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses actually and necessarily incurred by the Grantee because of this Grant Contract Agreement will not exceed **\$ Total Travel Budget**. The Grantee will not be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses incurred outside Minnesota unless it has received the

State's prior written approval for out of state travel. Minnesota will be considered the home state for determining whether travel is out of state.

The Grantee will be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses in the same manner and in no greater amount than provided in the current Commissioner's Plan promulgated by the Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget.

4.4 Invoices. Payments shall be made by the State after the Grantee's presentation of invoices for services satisfactorily performed and the written acceptance of such services by the State's Authorized Representative. Invoices shall be submitted timely, with additional details as requested by the State, and according to the following schedule: Upon completion of grant project. Final invoices to be submitted no later than July 25, 2027.

4.5 Unexpended Funds. The Grantee must promptly return to the State any unexpended funds that have not been accounted for in a financial report to the State.

5 Conditions of Payment

All services provided by the Grantee under this Grant Contract Agreement must be performed to the State's satisfaction, as determined at the sole discretion of the State's Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations. The Grantee will not receive payment for work found by the State to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, state, or local law.

Payments shall not be made on grants with past due progress and/or financial reports, including final reports, unless the State has given the Grantee a written extension.

In accordance with [Minnesota Management and Budget Statewide Operating Policy 0801-01](#), payment shall be made within 30 days following the State's Authorized Representative approval of an invoice. Payments will not be made if reports or other deliverables are outstanding.

For awards greater than \$25,000, a grantee performance evaluation will be posted publicly at <https://osp.admin.mn.gov/granteval/grant-eval-uploader>, per [Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98, Subdivision 12](#) and [OGM Policy 08-13](#).

6 Contracting and Bidding Requirements

6.1 Any services and/or materials that are expected to cost \$100,000 or more must undergo a formal notice and bidding process.

6.2 Services and/or materials that are expected to cost between \$25,000 and \$99,999 must be competitively awarded based on a minimum of three (3) verbal quotes or bids or awarded to a targeted vendor.

6.3 Services and/or materials that are expected to cost between \$10,000 and \$24,999 must be competitively awarded based on a minimum of two (2) verbal quotes or bids or awarded to a targeted vendor.

6.4 The Grantee must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that targeted vendors from businesses with active certifications through these entities are used when possible:

- A. [State Department of Administration's Certified Targeted Group, Economically Disadvantaged and Veteran-Owned Vendor List](#)
- B. [Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business Program](#)
- C. Small Business Certification Program through Hennepin County, Ramsey County, and City of St. Paul: [Central Certification Directory](#)

- 6.5 The Grantee must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award and administration of contracts.
- 6.6 The Grantee must maintain support documentation of the purchasing or bidding process used to contract services in their financial records, including support documentation justifying a single source bid, if applicable.
- 6.7 Notwithstanding 6.1-6.4 above, the State may waive bidding process requirements when:
 - A. Vendors included in response to competitive grant request for proposal process were approved and incorporated as an approved work plan for the grant; or
 - B. It is determined there is only one reasonably able and available source for such materials or services and that grantee has established a fair and reasonable price.
- 6.8 The Grantee and any subrecipients must comply with prevailing wage rules per [Minnesota Statutes §§ 177.41 through 177.50](#), as applicable.
- 6.9 The Grantee and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government: [Suspended and Debarred Vendors, Minnesota Office of State Procurement](#).

7 Authorized Representatives

- 7.1 The State's Authorized Representative is **Name, title, email address, address, telephone number**, or their successor, and has the responsibility to monitor the Grantee's performance and the authority to accept the services provided under this Grant Contract Agreement. If the services are satisfactory, the State's Authorized Representative will certify acceptance on each invoice submitted for payment.
- 7.2 The Grantee's Authorized Representative is **Name, title, email address, address, telephone number**, or their successor. If the Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this Grant Contract Agreement, the Grantee must immediately notify the state.
- 7.3 The Grantee must clearly post on the Grantee's website the names of, and contact information for, the Grantee's leadership and the employee or other person who directly manages and oversees this Grant Contract Agreement on behalf of the Grantee.

8 Assignment, Amendments, Waiver, and Contract Complete

- 8.1 **Assignment.** The Grantee may neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this Grant Contract Agreement without the prior consent of the State and a fully executed agreement, executed and approved by the authorized parties or their successors.

8.2 Amendments. Any amendment to this Grant Contract Agreement must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original Grant Contract Agreement or their successors.

8.3 Waiver. If the State fails to enforce any provision of this Grant Contract Agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or its right to enforce it.

8.4 Contract Complete. This Grant Contract Agreement contains all negotiations and agreements between the State and the Grantee. No other understanding regarding this Grant Contract Agreement, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

9 Subcontracting and Subcontract Payment

9.1 A subrecipient is a person or entity that has been awarded a portion of the work authorized by this Grant Contract Agreement by Grantee. The Grantee must document any subaward through a formal legal agreement. The Grantee must provide timely notice to the State of any subrecipient(s) prior to the subrecipient(s) performing work under this Grant Contract Agreement.

9.2 The Grantee must monitor the activities of the subrecipient(s) to ensure the subaward is used for authorized purposes; is in compliance with the terms and conditions of the subaward, [Minnesota Statutes § 16B.97, Subd.4 \(a\) 1](#), and other relevant statutes and regulations; and that subaward performance goals are achieved.

9.3 During this Grant Contract Agreement, if a subrecipient is determined to be performing unsatisfactorily by the State's Authorized Representative, the Grantee will receive written notification that the subrecipient can no longer be used for this Grant Contract Agreement.

9.4 No subagreement shall serve to terminate or in any way affect the primary legal responsibility of the Grantee for timely and satisfactory performances of the obligations contemplated by the Grant Contract Agreement.

9.5 The Grantee must pay any subrecipient in accordance with [Minnesota Statutes § 16A.1245](#).

9.6 The Grantee and any subrecipients must not contract with vendors who are suspended or debarred by the State of Minnesota or the federal government.

10 Liability

The Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the State, arising from performance of this Grant Contract Agreement by the Grantee or the Grantee's agents or employees. This clause will not be construed to bar any legal remedies the Grantee may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligations under this Grant Contract Agreement.

11 State Audits

Under [Minnesota Statutes § 16B.98, Subd. 8](#), the Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices relevant to this Grant Contract Agreement are subject to examination by the Commissioner of Administration, the State granting agency, the State Auditor, the Attorney General, and the Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the expiration or termination of this Grant Contract Agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all State and program retention requirements, whichever is later.

12 Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property Rights

12.1 Government Data Practices. The Grantee and State must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, [Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13](#), as it applies to all data provided by the State under this grant contract, and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by the Grantee under this grant contract. The civil remedies of [Minnesota Statutes § 13.08](#) apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either the Grantee or the State.

If the Grantee receives a request to release the data referred to in this Clause, the Grantee must immediately notify the State. The State will give the Grantee instructions concerning the release of the data to the requesting party before the data is released. The Grantee's response to the request shall comply with applicable law.

12.2 Intellectual Property Rights.

- A. Intellectual Property Rights.** The State owns all rights, title, and interest in all of the intellectual property rights, including copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks, and service marks in the works and documents created and paid for under this Contract. The "works" means all inventions, improvements, discoveries (whether or not patentable), databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, and disks conceived, reduced to practice, created or originated by the Grantee, its employees, agents, and subcontractors, either individually or jointly with others in the performance of this Contract. "Works" includes documents. The "documents" are the originals of any databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, disks, or other materials, whether in tangible or electronic forms, prepared by the Grantee, its employees, agents, or subcontractors, in the performance of this Contract. The documents will be the exclusive property of the State and all such documents must be immediately returned to the State by the Grantee upon completion or cancellation of this Contract. To the extent possible, those works eligible for copyright protection under the United States Copyright Act will be deemed to be "works made for hire." The Grantee assigns all right, title, and interest it may have in the works and the documents to the State. The Grantee must, at the request of the State, execute all papers and perform all other acts necessary to transfer or record the State's ownership interest in the works and documents.
- B. Obligations, Notification.** Whenever any invention, improvement, or discovery (whether or not patentable) is made or conceived for the first time or actually or constructively reduced to practice by the Grantee, including its employees and subcontractors, in the performance of this Contract, the Grantee will immediately give the State's Authorized Representative written notice thereof, and must promptly furnish the State's Authorized Representative with complete information and/or disclosure thereon.
- C. Obligations, Representation.** The Grantee must perform all acts, and take all steps necessary to ensure that all intellectual property rights in the works and documents are the sole property of the State, and that neither Grantee nor its employees, agents, or subcontractors retain any interest in and to the works and documents. The Grantee represents and warrants that the works and documents do not and will not infringe upon any intellectual property rights of other persons or entities. Notwithstanding Clause 8, the Grantee will indemnify; defend, to the extent permitted by the Attorney General; and hold harmless the State, at the Grantee's expense, from any action or claim brought against the State to the extent that it is based on a claim that all or part of the works or documents infringe upon the intellectual property rights of others. The Grantee will be responsible for payment of any and all such claims, demands, obligations, liabilities, costs, and damages, including but not limited to, attorney fees. If such a claim or action arises, or in the Grantee's or the State's opinion is likely to arise, the Grantee must, at the State's discretion, either procure for the State the right or license to use the intellectual property rights at issue or replace or modify the allegedly infringing works or

documents as necessary and appropriate to obviate the infringement claim. This remedy of the State will be in addition to and not exclusive of other remedies provided by law.

13 Workers Compensation

The Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with [Minnesota Statutes § 176.181, Subd. 2](#), pertaining to workers' compensation insurance coverage. The Grantee's employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State's obligation or responsibility.

14 Governing Law, Jurisdiction, Venue

Venue for all legal proceedings out of this Grant Contract Agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

15 Termination

15.1 Termination by the State.

A. Without Cause.

The State may terminate this Grant Contract Agreement without cause, upon 30 days' written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.

B. With Cause.

The State may immediately terminate this Grant Contract Agreement if the State finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this grant contract, that reasonable progress has not been made, or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The State may take action to protect the interests of the State of Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

15.2 Termination by the Commissioner of Administration.

The Commissioner of Administration may immediately and unilaterally terminate this Grant Contract Agreement if further performance under the agreement would not serve agency purposes or performance under the Grant Contract Agreement is not in the best interest of the State.

15.3 Termination for Insufficient Funding.

The State may immediately terminate this Grant Contract Agreement if it does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source; or if funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow for the payment of the services addressed within this Grant Contract Agreement. Termination must be by written notice to the Grantee. The State is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed to the extent that dedicated funds are available.

In the event of temporary lack of funding or appropriation, the State may pause its obligations under this Grant Contract Agreement without terminating it. This pause will be for the duration of the lack of funding or appropriation and shall not be considered a termination of the Grant Contract Agreement. The Grantee will be notified in writing of the temporary pause, and the Grantee's ability to provide services may be temporarily suspended during this period. The State will provide reasonable notice to the Grantee of the lack of funding or

appropriation and shall notify the Grantee once funding is restored or appropriated, at which point the provision of services under the Grant Contract Agreement may resume.

The State will not be assessed any penalty if the Grant Contract Agreement is terminated due to insufficient funding. The State must provide the Grantee notice of the lack of funding within a reasonable time of the State's receiving notice.

16 Publicity and Endorsement

16.1 Publicity. Any publicity pertaining to the services resulting from this Grant Contract Agreement shall identify the State as the sponsoring agency. Publicity includes, but is not limited to: websites, social media platforms, notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research, reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared by or for the Grantee or its employees individually or jointly with others or any subcontractors. All projects primarily funded by state grant appropriations must publicly credit the State, including on the grantee's website, when practicable.

16.2 Endorsement. The Grantee must not claim that the State endorses its products or services.

16.3 Signage. Any site funded by this grant contract shall display a sign at a prominent location at the entrance to the site and in a form approved by the State that acknowledges funding through this grant.

17 Data Disclosure

Under [Minnesota Statutes § 270C.65](#), Subd. 3, and other applicable law, the Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and state tax agencies and state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws which could result in action requiring the Grantee to file state tax returns and pay delinquent state tax liabilities, if any.

18 Use of Funds as Match to Other Grants or Programs

The Grantee must inform the State's Authorized Representative whenever the grant funds will be used as match or for reimbursement for any other grant or program.

18.1 The Grantee must inform the State's Authorized Representative or their grant specialist of the following information: grant program, grant name, the amount of grant or match funds to be used, location where funds were or will be used, activity the funds will support, and current landowner (if applicable).

18.2 The Grantee must also inform the State's Authorized Representative before work begins if the new grant or program will add any encumbrances to state land where grant or match funds will be spent.

19 Americans With Disabilities Act

The Grantee must comply with the 2010 American Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design.

20 Non-Discrimination Requirements

No person in the United States must, on the ground of race, color, national origin, handicap, age, religion, or sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. Including but not limited to:

20.1 Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.) and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 8 prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin under programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex under Federally assisted education programs or activities.

20.2 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 8b prohibiting discrimination on the basis of handicap under any program or activity receiving or benefiting from Federal assistance.

20.3 The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 6101 et seq.), and DOC implementing regulations published at 15 C.F.R. Part 20 prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance.

20.4 Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 which prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities in services, programs, and activities of public entities.

20.5 Any other applicable non-discrimination law(s).

21 Invasive Species Prevention

Grantees must follow Minnesota DNR's Operational Order 113, which requires preventing or limiting the introduction, establishment and spread of invasive species during activities on public waters and DNR-administered lands. This applies to all activities performed on all lands under this grant contract agreement and is not limited to lands under DNR control or public waters. Duties are listed under Sections II and III (p. 5-8) of Operational Order 113 which may be found here: [Link to Operational Order 113](#).

22 Pollinator Best Management Practices

Habitat restorations and enhancements conducted on DNR lands and prairie restorations on state lands or on any lands using state funds are subject to pollinator best management practices and habitat restoration guidelines pursuant to [Minnesota Statutes § 84.973](#). Practices and guidelines ensure an appropriate diversity of native species to provide habitat for pollinators through the growing season. Current specific practices and guidelines to be followed for contract and grant work can be found here: [Link to Specific Pollinator Best Management Practices for DNR Grants and Contracts](#).

23 Monitoring

The State shall be allowed at any time to conduct periodic site visits and inspections to ensure work progress in accordance with this grant agreement, including a final inspection upon program completion. At least one monitoring visit per grant period on all state grants of over \$50,000 will be conducted and at least annual monitoring visits on grants of over \$250,000.

Following closure of the program, the State’s authorized representatives shall be allowed to conduct post-completion inspections of the site to ensure that the site is being properly operated and maintained, and that no conversion of use has occurred.

24 Conflict of Interest

It is the policy of the State of Minnesota to work to deliberately avoid actual and potential conflicts of interest related to grant making at both the individual and organizational levels. A conflict of interest (actual or potential) occurs when a person has actual or apparent duty or loyalty to more than one organization and the competing duties or loyalties may result in actions which are adverse to one or both parties. A conflict of interest exists even if no unethical, improper, or illegal act results from it. The Grantee, by signing this contract with the State, certifies it has read and understands the Office of Grants Management [Conflict of Interest Policy 08-01](#), will maintain an adequate Conflict of Interest Policy and, throughout the term of the contract, monitor and report any actual or potential conflicts of interest to the State’s Authorized Representative.

Exhibits

The following Exhibits are attached and incorporated into this Grant Contract Agreement. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Grant Contract Agreement and its Exhibits, or between Exhibits, the order of precedence is first the Grant Contract Agreement, and then in the following order:

Exhibit A: Project Work Plan

Exhibit B: Budget Worksheet

Grant Contract Agreement Signature Page

State Encumbrance Verification

Individual certifies that funds have been encumbered as required by Minnesota Statutes §§ 16A.15

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

SWIFT Contract No. _____

State Agency

With delegated authority

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Grantee

With delegated authority

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Do Not Sign

SAMPLE