

# Village of Morton

## Tourism Grant Guidelines

### Overnight Events

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**SUBMITTAL DEADLINE – March 31, 2026** - submit one, fully-completed and signed application (no additional copies needed). Applications may be dropped off at Village Hall or sent by email to [jsmick@morton-il.gov](mailto:jsmick@morton-il.gov).

#### REMINDER – IMPORTANT CHANGES:

1. Grants will be paid to an established organization or individual only. The organization's Federal Tax ID or the individual's Social Security Number is required on the application.
2. Organizations will be required to provide their opening cash balance and projected ending cash balance to assist in the determination of need.
3. 1099's will be issued to the organization or individual receiving funds at year-end.

#### PURPOSE

The Village of Morton has established a grant program which is entirely funded by the Hotel/Motel Tax funds received from overnight stays in Morton. Grants up to \$10,000 are available based upon the impact an event has on our community and its businesses. The mission of this program is to provide extra funding assistance to those events which are not self-sustaining but attract visitors who utilize local businesses and enhance the quality of life in the Village. You will note that your organization's beginning and expected ending cash balance is required to assess the need for on-going support.

#### APPLICATIONS

- The ultimate amount of the grant is made based upon the impact of various criteria of the event being proposed. It is VERY IMPORTANT that all applications are complete. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Applications must be submitted by the organization which hosts the event. No payment will be made to an individual. Tax Identification numbers will be required.
- If additional space is needed, please attach a separate sheet.
- Do not use "See attached" for any section, all sections must be answered on the form.
- Applicants must submit a signed copy of the application to the Village of Morton, 120 N. Main, Morton prior to the deadline or by email to [jsmick@morton-il.gov](mailto:jsmick@morton-il.gov).
- Applications must be signed by an authorized individual of the submitting organization.
- Faxed applications will not be accepted.

**ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS** All promotional materials and advertising must contain the tagline, *"Event sponsored in part by the Village of Morton Tourism Fund."*

**ELIGIBLE EVENT DETERMINATION PROCESS** The Village acknowledges the value of events which are held in Morton for multiple years. The evaluation of the Grant Applications is accomplished by the Village staff, which submits their recommendation to the Village Board for final approval. Applicants must show written permission from public or private property owners that the applicant can utilize their property for the event.

**LOCAL PURCHASING** Applicants must utilize Morton businesses for purchases to the extent possible. Additional consideration will be given to those applicants who do so.

**LOCAL EVENTS** This grant program is established to assist events which are held in Morton. If your event has locations in areas outside of Morton, your grant will be reviewed for the expenses of the portion located within the Village limits only.

**FOLLOW-UP REPORTING** Applicants will be required to submit reports which indicate the event's income and expenses within six months of the date held or completed. The report will require proof that all grant funds were expended on the event. If the event was cancelled, please contact the Tourism Coordinator about plans to reschedule.

**CONTACT INFORMATION** Questions should be directed to the Village of Morton at 309-266-5361.

# Village of Morton Overnight Tourism Grant Application

Name of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Sponsoring Event Information:

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal ID Number/Contact Social Security number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact/Organization Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Funds Requested: (Max per event \$10,000/\$20,000 per organization per year) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Grant Received in Prior Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the Organization and Its Purpose:

Describe the Event: Is this event important and valuable to the community?

How many years has the event been held? \_\_\_\_\_

Provide the number of nonresident overnight hotel rooms utilizing Morton hotels that the event created when held in the prior year? How did you arrive at that number?

Number of : \_\_\_\_\_

Manner of determination (if no manner of determination is provided, then the grant will be denied or reduced):

Concessions and/or Food Trucks:

What meals do you offer onsite? \_\_\_\_\_

How many meals were served at the previous event? \_\_\_\_\_

Do participants to your event visit other restaurants in town? \_\_\_\_\_

## Village of Morton Overnight Tourism Grant Application

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION REQUIRED:**

Provide a financial overview for the event:

<b><i>Sponsor Beginning Available Funds (Cash, Checking, &amp; Savings)</i></b>		\$
<b>Projected Revenue from Event:</b>		
Tourism Grant – Morton		\$
Tourism Grant – Other Municipalities		\$
Entry/Participation Fees		\$
Sales of Items During Event		\$
Fundraising		\$
Sponsorships - Corporate		\$
Sponsorships – Not-for-Profit		\$
Other		\$
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>Projected Expenses from Event:</b>		
ITEM	TO WHOM PAID	COST
Advertisement		\$
Postage		\$
Printing		\$
Trophies, Awards		\$
Security		\$
Location Rental		\$
Equipment Rental		\$
Other Event Expenses (specify)		\$
Other Event Expenses (specify)		\$
Other Event Expenses (specify)		\$
Use of Event Proceeds (specify)		\$
Use of Event Proceeds (specify)		\$
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b><i>Sponsor Projected Ending Funds ( Cash, Checking, &amp; Savings)</i></b>		<b>\$</b>

You must also attach a report of the prior year's income (including sponsorships) and expenses, in detail. Please also include a list of all partners and sponsors and their contributions. Be sure to let us know which items were purchased in Morton.

# Village of Morton Overnight Tourism Grant Application

Please list how the proceeds of the event will be used:

Other Comments:

This application must be signed by an authorized representative of the Organization listed on Page 1. By signing this application, I verify that the information is true and correct. I also agree to allow the Village of Morton full access to the records of this organization when requested.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Print or Type)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organizational Title

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR SUBMITTAL:**

- Signed, complete application form.
- Additional pages, if required.
- Written approval from entity owning property where event will be held.
- Detailed report of prior year's event income and expenses (if not previously provided).