



Timuel D. Black, Jr. Fund Grant Program

The **Landmarks Illinois Timuel D. Black, Jr. Grant Fund for Chicago's South Side** (the Fund) was created in 2020 in celebration of the life and work of the late acclaimed historian and civil rights activist, Timuel D. Black, Jr., The Fund recognizes the deep and sustained influence Chicago's South Side had on Mr. Black's life, as well as the lives of countless others historically and today.

Purpose

The Fund's purpose is to support grantees in their effort to preserve and promote the history, culture and architecture of Chicago's South Side.

Eligibility

Structures/Sites

- Eligible beneficiaries of Timuel D. Black, Jr. Fund grants are significant structures or sites located on Chicago's South Side that are of such architectural or cultural importance that their preservation will benefit the public and community.
- Structures or sites within the grant program's geographical boundaries that are listed on Landmarks Illinois' most recent "Most Endangered" list are presumed to be Eligible Structures.

Applicants

- Commercial property owners, business owners or nonprofit organizations including community organizations, faith-based and educational institutions.
- Applicants must own the Eligible Structure or Site or have sufficient legal control of the Eligible Structure or Site to permit the Eligible Project to be completed and protected as required by Landmarks Illinois.
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- Applicants must possess the capacity to manage the grant funds prudently and have the expertise to execute the Eligible Project in accordance with its approved conditions. An applicant that lacks one or both of these attributes must submit to the expertise of a pro bono sponsor elected by Landmarks Illinois if, in its sole discretion, it offers to provide it.
- Applicants are encouraged to seek preservation protection for the Eligible Structure or Site from local, state or national preservation organizations as applicable if not already protected.
- Landmarks Illinois must receive a follow-up report of the project within a determined time period.

Projects

- A project must benefit one or more specifically identified Eligible Structures or Sites and one or more specifically identified preservation issues. Projects relating to Eligible Structures or Sites on Landmarks Illinois' most recent "Most Endangered" list will be given priority consideration.
- A project must be for the purpose of preserving (rehabilitation, restoration, adaptive reuse) all or part of an Eligible Structure or Site. Ordinary expenses of owning or maintaining an Eligible Structure or Site will not be considered preservation expenses.

- Landmarks Illinois strongly recommends that any documents or plans for preservation work prepared for the project conform to the Secretary of Interior's [*Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*](#), as appropriate.
- A project may include one or more of the following services provided each service can satisfy the project conditions described above:
 1. Engineering, architectural and feasibility studies
 2. Stabilization
 3. Rehabilitation
 4. Legal services
 5. Surveys and National Register Nominations
- A projects may not include services that have been completed at the time a grant is requested.

Grant Boundaries

The South Side is approximately defined as the following boundaries:

- South of Cermak Road;
- West of Lake Michigan;
- East of S. Ashland Avenue;
- North of the southern boundary of the City of Chicago.

Size of Grants

Grants range from \$500—\$10,000. The size of the grant will be determined by the need of the Eligible Applicant and will be awarded on a 3:1 matching basis. A match may be a direct dollar amount or using volunteer labor or services.

How to Apply

The Timuel D. Black, Jr. Fund Grant Application is available at Landmarks.org/grants.

A completed application must include:

- The Timuel D. Black, Jr. Fund application form
- Digital images of the Eligible Structure and/or Site
- A clear description of the threat to the building(s) or district and a proposed plan of action.
- The application must specify the amount of money needed for the project.
- Nonprofit applicants must provide documentation from the IRS of its nonprofit status and the bylaws of the organization as applicable.

Applications that do not include these items will not be considered complete.

Review of Application

- Landmarks Illinois Timuel D. Black, Jr. Fund Grants are awarded twice a year by the Reinvestment Committee.
- Application deadlines: January 1 and July 1
- Applications will be judged on the importance of the Eligible Structure and/or Site, the nature and degree of the threat of demolition, the quality of the applicant organization and the quality of the proposed plan of action.
- Landmarks Illinois has a limited amount of grant money available each fiscal year. Somewhat while and eligible projects may not be awarded grants due to limited funds but may be considered in the following year.

Contact

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