

MOHF Matching Contributions and Partnerships

Applicants are encouraged to broaden public/private partnerships in their project. These partnerships can also be represented with matching funds and in-kind contributions in their project proposals. Projects that include a cash match of at least one-third (1/3) of the total project cost will be given the highest priority evaluation. Matching contributions must consist of contributions raised specifically for the proposed project and does not include salary costs of natural resource agency staff that are funded by the State General Fund. In-kind contributions that occur during the duration of the project will be considered matching contributions. Proposals that are funded will receive funds according to a schedule determined by the Board.

Types of Matching Contributions:

1. Cash Match:

- A cash match is strongly encouraged, particularly one that represents 33% or more of the total project cost. If the cash is in hand at the time of the proposal submittal it would receive the highest scoring. If it is still pending, then it would be considered cash pending and receive a lower score. ([See Grant Evaluation Form for Scoring Criteria](#))
- The cash match must come from sources specifically raised for the project application being submitted and must not include any pre-existing funding or salaries from State General Fund allocations.

2. In-Kind Contributions:

- In-kind contributions can be considered as matching contributions, provided they occur during the project's duration.
- Eligible in-kind contributions include volunteer time, donated materials, and professional services that are directly related to the project and have a quantifiable monetary value.
- The in-kind contributions should be well-documented and verifiable as part of the project's overall budget.
- For additional information on in-kind contribution rates, refer to:
 - <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-and-book>
 - <https://www.gsa.gov/buying-selling/productsservices>
 - <https://independentsector.org/news-post/independent-sector-releases-new-value-of-volunteer-timeof-28-54-per-hour>

3. Project-Related Expenses:

- All matching contributions, whether cash or in-kind, must be dedicated exclusively to project-related expenses, including, but not limited to, salaries, materials, equipment, and other direct costs essential to completing the project.
- By adhering to these criteria, applicants can demonstrate a strong commitment to leveraging additional resources and partnerships, thereby enhancing the potential impact and sustainability of their proposed projects.