



# REAP Grant Resources

This document contains information for communities, counties and non-governmental organizations wishing to apply for Resource Enhancement & Protection Grants. If questions arise, please contact Michelle Wilson at [Michelle.Wilson@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Wilson@dnr.iowa.gov) or 515-446-0535.

## What Types of Projects are NOT eligible for REAP Funding?

Funds are not available for single or multipurpose athletic fields, baseball or softball diamonds, tennis courts, golf courses, and other organized sport facilities. Swimming pools and playground equipment, frisbee golf, and dog parks are also ineligible.

## Resources for All REAP Grants

- [Iowa Administrative Rule 571, Chapter 33, Resource Enhancement and Protection Fund: County, City, Private Open Spaces and Conservation Education Grant Program](#)(pdf)
- [REAP Committee Chair and REAP County 5-Year Plans](#) (pdf)
- [Iowa Open Spaces Plan](#) (pdf)
- [State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan](#)
- [Iowa Wildlife Action Plan](#)
- [Iowa Forests Action Plan](#)
- [Iowa DNR SlideRoom](#) - Grant Application Submission
- Land Acquisition Applications.
  - Appraisal guidelines to assist applicants and their contracted certified appraisers in performing appraisals for grant reimbursement or general certified appraisers contracted by the DNR for performing appraisals on behalf of the DNR.
    - [Real Estate Appraisal Report Guidelines- For Grant Applicants](#)
    - [Real Estate Appraisal Report Guidelines - For Certified Real Property Appraisers](#)
- [REAP Grant Project Budget Workbook](#) – All grants must use this format for submission of budget details.

## City Parks & Open Spaces

Three (3) city size categories and grant amount ceilings have been established to assure grants are distributed to all sizes of cities. The amount of REAP grant money available to a city depends on population. Population numbers are derived from data reported via the last US Census, currently [2020 Census Data](#). The population categories and respective grant amount ceilings are shown below:

Population	Maximum
0-1,000	\$50,000
1,001 - 5,000	\$75,000
5,001 -10,000	\$100,000
10,001 - 25,000	\$125,000
25,001 - 50,000	\$150,000
50,001 - 75,000	\$200,00
Over 75,000	\$300,000

Applications that are funded, must be completed within two years of the grant award. 90% of funds can be requested at the time a grant agreement is signed and the remaining 10% will be awarded upon successful completion of the project. If this award is to be used as matching funds for other state and/or federal grants that information should be included in the grant narrative.

[REAP Application Components](#)

[REAP City Parks & Open Spaces Grant Scoring Rubric](#)

### Awarded Grants

- [REAP FY 2023](#)
- [REAP FY 2024](#)

## County Conservation

Counties are eligible to receive these funds if they are dedicating at least 22¢ per \$1,000 of the assessed value of taxable property in the county for county conservation purposes. In other words, a county must be committing a specified tax levy amount from county tax dollars to conservation in order to receive their REAP County Conservation funding.

Applications that are funded, must be completed within two years of the grant award. 90% of funds can be requested at the time a grant agreement is signed and the remaining 10% will be awarded upon successful completion of the project. If this award is to be used as matching funds for other state and/or federal grants that information should be included in the grant narrative.

[REAP Application Components](#)

[County Conservation Grant Scoring Rubric](#)

## Awarded Grants

- [REAP FY 2023](#)
- [REAP FY 2024](#)

## Conservation Education

The Conservation Education Program (CEP) is a key provision of the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Act of 1989. \$350,000 is allocated annually for formal and non-formal education projects and programs through competitively awarded grants and cooperative agreements. Applicants can apply for funding that supports hands on interactive types of educational experiences (ie. workshops, trainings, field trips, classroom activities) or passive education experiences (ie. interpretive or wayside signs, brochures or video programming, education center exhibits).

**\*UPDATE\*** REAP Conservation Education Large Grant Applications are live on [SlideRoom](#) and due November 17, 2025. This is an interim grant round. All future small and large REAP CEP Grants will be due in February each year. Opportunities are posted to SlideRoom at least 90 days prior to grant submission dates.

The application format for all CEP grants have been updated. In SlideRoom you can view grant questions and requirements prior to creating an account by clicking on the grant offering and then clicking on "Preview Full Application."

The Scoring Rubric for all REAP CEP Grants will be available here and on SlideRoom after September 11, 2025.

## Awarded Grants

- [REAP CEP Grant History 2018-2024](#)

## Private Cost-Share Grants

One-tenth of the 28% of REAP Open Spaces Protection is set aside to cost-share land acquisitions with private organizations. The cost-share arrangement entails 75% of the acquisition costs coming from REAP and the other 25% coming from private contributions. This program provides an excellent opportunity for private conservation organizations to help provide outdoor recreation opportunities and protect critical habitat. The State of Iowa owns and manages the property that is jointly purchased on behalf of the public.

[REAP Application Components](#)

[Private Cost-Share Grant Scoring Rubric](#)

## Awarded Grants

- [REAP FY 2023](#)
- [REAP FY 2024](#)