

2024-25 Moose International Board of Directors' Local Marketing Grant Program

The Moose International Board of Directors has approved a new grant allocation of \$500,000 during the 2024-25 Moose fiscal year to assist lodges throughout the Fraternity to promote themselves in their local communities. **Applications for the 2024-25 Local Marketing Grant Program open July 30th, 2024 and will stay open throughout the current fiscal year (through April 30, 2025) or until the funds have been depleted, whichever comes sooner.**

Please read and adhere to the information below in order to improve your lodge's chances for securing a Local Marketing Grant:

1. Attendance at the 2024 International Moose Convention is required. At least one member representing the lodge needs to be scanned into an official meeting of The Moose in New Orleans for the lodge to qualify for grant consideration.
2. Attendance at your Association 2023 Annual Meeting is required. *New for 2024-25*, at least one representative from your lodge must have attended your Association's 2023 Fall Annual Meeting.
3. Attendance at your Association 2024 Midyear Meeting is required. At least one representative from your lodge must have attended your Association's 2024 Midyear Meeting.
4. All Fraternal lodges represented at the 2024 Convention, the 2023 Association Annual Meeting and the 2024 Association Midyear Conference are eligible to apply, even if you have received a grant in the past. Lodges that do not have representation at one or more of these meetings will not be considered.
5. Lodges can apply starting on Monday, July 30th and at any time until funds are depleted. The application will only appear within the lodge's Moose Admin section, which can be accessed by the lodge Administrator via LCL.web. No online or emailed applications will be available.
6. Lodges need to submit new applications for 2024-25 even if they have an "open" application from the 2023-24 fiscal year. All previous applications should be considered closed.
7. There is no specific closing date for applications. Applications will be reviewed on a consistent basis until funds are depleted or the fiscal year ends (April 30, 2025), whichever comes first. Approvals/denials will *usually* occur semi-weekly and funds will be dispersed via check on most Fridays throughout the year, with some exceptions due to staff availability. Application reviews often are dictated by the number of new or edited applications received over a time-span.
8. Grant applications without costs identified/attached will not be considered. Further, applications with generic costs will also not be considered. (i.e. Tent - \$1,000; tables - \$500; Food - \$1,000)
9. Grant applications whose projects "magically" add up to exactly \$3,000 will be assumed to be estimates/guesses if there is no verification of costs attached, and will not be considered.

10. Every lodge applying for a grant must identify one specific person who will be the project manager for the lodge. You must be able to supply the person's name, email address and phone number, and that individual will be the main point of contact for Moose International.
11. Grants will be dispersed in quantities between \$100 and \$3,000. All checks will be made out to the lodge and the Territory Manager will work with the lodge's project manager to make sure the funds are spent on the items identified in the grant application.
12. Funds are to be used to promote the lodge locally at events, fairs, sporting competitions, etc. Funds may also be used to sponsor local teams, buy local advertising, hold public events at the lodge, or generally improve the public perception of the Moose and the lodge within the community.

Generally, the lodge is limited only by its own creativity in how to promote itself locally. Funds will **not** be granted to pay for lodge signage, repairs or upgrades, nor to pay taxes, loans, past bills, or other financial obligations of the lodge. The grant also will not pay for *lodge-focused* events that are also open to the public. Examples include lodge anniversaries, holiday events, etc.

Further, the grant program is designed to get lodges and members out into the community, so you increase your chances for a grant by identifying a project/program that makes you more visible in your area.

a. Examples of potential grant projects:

- i. Moose Night at the local minor league baseball game or race track
- ii. Exhibit space at a local town fair
- iii. Ribfest (or competition) at the Lodge which specifically targets the public
- iv. Little League team sponsorship with the lodge name on the uniforms
- v. A billboard within the local community for a period of time
- vi. Radio ads at a local radio station promoting what the Moose does

13. Grant funds are to be used entirely on public-facing events or promotion. They may not be used for lodge member-only events or promotions. For example, a lodge may conduct an open-to-the-public car show at the lodge and promote that show through advertisements and signs, but may not use grant funds to promote a member dance or event that simply allows non-members to attend.
14. Lodges that apply for public events at the lodge will not be approved unless some advertising costs are included in the project plan. Advertising can be on the radio, in print, or online, but must be identified on your application. There is no point in holding a public event unless the public knows about it.
15. Lodges must complete a dispensation through Moose International's Compliance Office for every project submitted for grant consideration. No funds will be dispersed without a dispensation. Dispensation forms can be accessed from the Moose International website (www.mooseintl.org) in the Forms/Documents section under Compliance Office.
16. Do not apply for a grant for a program you are already doing. The grant is meant to enhance your public exposure; so, if you are already participating in a program, then receiving a grant just shifts the financial responsibility to Moose international. Submit applications for new or enhanced programs that will build on your reputation instead.

17. Do not submit requests for funds to pay for events that have already happened. They will not be approved.
18. You may NOT solicit membership to any groups (more than one person) as part of your event or program. Membership can only be offered on a one-to-one basis, based on our Private Policy. You CAN suggest that individuals speak with any current member regarding the Moose, or invite people to “find out more’ by stopping at the lodge. You can certainly talk about the Moose’s missions (Caring for children in need, supporting our senior members, and helping our local communities) or about events and activities of the lodge.
19. Projects will first be reviewed and recommended/not recommended by the lodge’s Territory Manager. Therefore, lodges should consult with their TM regarding the proposed project prior to completing the application.
20. Lodges may work in unison with other area lodges if it makes sense to do so. (i.e. Multiple lodges may participate together in a regional minor league ball team promotion) On the application, lodges should identify other fraternal units who will be participating in the event/project. If multiple lodges agree to participate in a single event, each lodge may receive up to \$3,000 in grant money, however, may not claim duplicate expenses. For example, if the rental fee for a tent is \$400, lodge A can claim that expense, but lodge B, which is participating within the same space, may not claim that expense. Exception, if a sponsorship agreement is over the \$3,000 maximum for a single lodge, then multiple lodges may request funds to reach the sponsorship total.
21. These are not loans – there is no monetary payback required. The lodge will be required to sign a statement if a grant is awarded, however, pledging to become more Fraternal by following the tenets set forth by Moose International regarding lodge activities, fraternal giving and Heart of the Community activities.
22. Whenever possible, always submit specific costs for each of the projects listed on your application. Attach any proposals or invoices to your proposal if possible, but if you cannot, you must still list specific costs for which funds will be used within the application. It is highly unlikely that you will be funded if you submit estimated costs with no justification.
 - a. For example: If you will be exhibiting at a community fair, you should list costs such as:
 - i. Anyplace USA fairground space rental - \$200 for a 10’ X 10’ booth space
 - ii. Steve’s Tent Rental - \$100 for a 10’ X 10’ tent enclosure
 - iii. Anyplace Banners Inc. - \$365.99 for an 8’ X 3’ banner
 - iv. Speedy T-shirt Co. - \$135.65 for six volunteer promotional polo shirts
 - v. Anyplace USA promotional program - \$125 for a quarter page advertisement
 - vi. Oriental Trading - \$65 for fair promotional giveaways
 - vii. Total requested through the Grant - \$991.64
23. You may list several events on your application, although the lodge’s allotment will still cap at \$3,000 total for all projects. If you list several projects on your application, always identify specific costs for each project and the order of importance to which you attribute each project on

your list. You may also submit applications at separate times, but if you have received a grant in 2024, you will have to contact Moose International to reopen your application portal to add additional information.

24. Lodges may apply for funds at different times for multiple projects, although the cumulative total cannot exceed the \$3,000 maximum. If a lodge wants to request an additional project having already received a previous grant, it may be necessary to “reopen” the online application by contacting Moose International.
25. Moose International can provide promotional brochures and applications, as appropriate, as part of your event/project, including the new “Heard of Moose?” brochures and the new combined application. You will still need to order these materials through catalog sales however.
26. Further, as part of the program, Moose International is conducting a buy one, get one free (BOGO) offer for Tommy Moose plush dolls that lodges can use as part of their event or for a specific event involving first responders. The lodge will, however, be required to purchase half the dolls from their own funds without using grant money. (i.e. A lodge plans to present four dozen Tommy Moose plush dolls to the local police. The lodge would buy two dozen from their own funds and Moose International would provide two dozen to the lodge from the grant fund.) Once approved for a grant, the lodge must order the Tommy Moose plush by contacting either Kurt Wiebe or Patti Passarelli, whose contact information is listed below, to qualify for the offer. Note: lodges may not take advantage of the Buy-One-Get-One program once the fiscal year ends.
27. If you include the costs for Tommy Moose plush dolls in your application (\$85 per dozen) you will not receive those funds from Moose International, but they will count against your total \$3,000 ceiling. All costs for the BOGO part of the program will occur as an internal transfer within Moose International.
28. A limited number of Tommy Moose costumes are available through the grant program. The cost is \$7,000 which includes the shipping. This is obviously much higher than the last costume that was produced years ago, and requires three lodges to submit applications to cover the entire cost. A single lodge *may* submit an application and cover any excess costs, if it chooses. There may also be limits to how many costumes are distributed in a single geographic area in order to ensure all regions have access to the new costume.
29. There is no guarantee that you will receive the full grant cap of \$3,000. You may receive any amount from \$100 up to the actual costs listed on your application depending upon the recommendation of the Territory Manager or the applicability of the expense to the grant program.
30. Moose International’s graphic design team can help produce signage, banners, ads, etc. for your event, given enough advance notice. They will provide you graphic files via email based on your request, and you will be required to print/produce your materials locally. Please note that they may not be able to accommodate last minute requests, so please plan ahead accordingly.
31. Regardless of who designs your materials, all designs must be approved by Moose International prior to production to make sure they reflect current guidelines and standards for the Fraternity.
32. Your fraternal record is taken into account when considering grants, including membership trends; contributions through Moose Charities; MI accounts receivable trends; Heart of the Community activity, etc.

33. Applications will be reviewed by the Territory Manager, and/or the Regional Manager, and the Moose International Grant Committee. Applications may be denied at any time during this process based on the request of the field staff or fraternal history of the Lodge.
34. If awarded a grant, you must read these instructions again and follow the guidelines; otherwise no payments will be made for your projects.
35. A follow-up report, including digital photographs or video, is required for all projects.
36. Questions may be directed to Kurt Wiebe, CMO or Patti Passarelli in the Marketing/ Communications Department;
Phone - Kurt - 630-966-2226; Patti – 630-966-2219; Email – kwiebe@mooseintl.org or ppassarelli@mooseintl.org.