

Prairielands Library Exchange

Better Together Grant

Connecting Libraries of Different Types Across the PLE Region

FY 2023-2024

Purpose:

Assist libraries of all types including museums, historical societies, and archives that are members of Prairielands Library Exchange to connect with each other and reach new and diverse audiences through collaborative programming between two or more libraries of different types. PLE will provide a **grant of up to \$500 for each library** to provide a collaborative event, experience or programming activity that includes two PLE members of different types.

Program:

Prairielands Library Exchange Governing Board has designated funds to support its members in building stronger connections between regional libraries of different types.

Eligible expenses under this grant could include marketing materials for the event, payment for guest speaker or author, physical items, books, equipment essential to the success of the event, etc. Again, this must be used for two or more different library types that work together to provide a combined programming experience.

Examples:

A high school library and academic library work together on an event that introduces students to the college library.

A public library and school library plan a visit from the public librarian to the school library to promote the public library, reading, an author, etc.

An academic library, school library and public library host a “get ready for college” event to get to know state provided databases often used in colleges in Minnesota.

A history museum and school library plan a field trip for students with a guest speaker and activities at the museum.

Participant Requirements:

- The organizations receiving the grant will be required to sign a membership agreement with Prairielands Library Exchange if they have not done so in the past. Membership is free.
- They must complete an evaluation form that will be provided online. The evaluation will include a final description of the actions taken, stories and feedback from employees, volunteers or participants and a description of any plans impacted by this one-time grant.

- Organizations should mention in newsletters, emails, fundraising and marketing materials, if appropriate, the actions taken because of the grant and acknowledge Prairielands Library Exchange as funding and encouraging connections in the larger community of libraries in Minnesota. [High Resolution Prairielands Logo](#)
- Submit the completed Request for Reimbursement form including proof of payment.
- Reimbursements cannot be made until the previous steps are completed in full.

Grant Process

- Complete an online application which can be found at Prairielands Library Exchange's website (prairielands.org).
- Ensure the Prairielands Membership Agreement has been signed.
- Applications must be received by **February 29, 2023**.
- Prairielands will send notification of approval of funding and the Request for Reimbursement form.
- Paid receipts must accompany the completed Request for Reimbursement form.
- Checks can only be written to a library, **not to an individual**.
- Requests for Reimbursement must be received by **March 29, 2023**.