

**Prairielands Library Exchange
Better Together Grant
Connecting Libraries of Different Types
FY 2026-2027**

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 \$1000 total to provide a collaborative event, experience or programming activity between two or more libraries of different types.

Program:

Prairielands Library Exchange's 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:

- One organization should be the primary contact for the grant. Payment will be made to that organization.
- 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.
- An [evaluation form](#) will be provided on the website and must be completed. 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.

Grant Process:

- Complete an online application which can be found at Prairielands Library Exchange's website. <https://www.prairielands.org/grants/>
- Ensure the Prairielands Membership [Agreement](#) has been signed (available on the application form).
- Applications must be received between August 1st, 2026 and July 31, 2027.
- Prairielands will send notification of approval of funding and the Request for Reimbursement form to the library functioning as the primary contact.
- Proof of payment for all spending must accompany the completed Request for Reimbursement form.
- Checks will be written to the library functioning as the primary contact for the grant.
 - Checks will not be written to an individual.
- Requests for Reimbursement, evaluation and receipts are due 90 days from the date of your approval letter.