

**BOULDER COUNTY
SEARCH AND RESCUE & TRAIL/TRAILHEAD SAFETY GRANTS**

2024 (SPRING) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

DESCRIPTION:

The 2024 (Spring) Boulder County Search and Rescue (SAR) & Trail/Trailhead Safety Grant Program (“Grant Program”) is funded by the Boulder County Emergency Services Sales and Use Tax which voters approved in November 2022.

The purpose of the Spring 2024 grant round is to provide funding for the following emergency services needs in Boulder County:

- 1) **Capital, including facilities and equipment, and operational costs of search and rescue organizations** that can assist the County in responding to emergencies;
- 2) **Trail and trailhead safety services** to increase emergency response and public safety on public trails and open space/recreational areas in Boulder County;
- 3) **Innovative pilot program proposals** to enhance emergency response and public safety on public trails and open space/recreational areas in Boulder County.

The Grant Program is intended to help fill gaps in funding for specific uses, such as those identified through stakeholder listening/input sessions.

How much money is anticipated annually for the Boulder County Emergency Services Grant Program?

It is estimated that about \$2 million per year will be available for grant funding. Initially, there will be two grant cycles per year. The **spring grant cycle** is anticipated to provide \$500,000 or more in grants to agencies and organizations that provide search & rescue and/or trail and trailhead safety services in Boulder County. The **fall grant cycle** will allocate the remaining funding to rural and mountain fire districts in Boulder County.

Who will decide how the funding is spent?

Total funding available under the Grant Program is at the discretion of the Board of County Commissioners and will be determined on an annual basis. A volunteer advisory committee comprised of nine Boulder County residents will review the semi-annual grant submissions and make recommendations to the County Commissioners regarding individual awardees and funding amounts.

Funding will be awarded on a project-to-project basis depending upon strategic value and available funding. Boulder County reserves the right to award full or partial funding to successful applicants.

DEADLINE TO APPLY:

Applications must be received by 2 p.m., Friday, April 19, 2024. Please make sure that you have submitted your completed application for the 2024 Boulder County Search and Rescue (SAR) & Trail/Trailhead Safety Grant Program by the due date/time. **The online application will close promptly at 2 p.m. MT on 04/19/2024.**

ELIGIBILITY & GRANT CRITERIA:

The following entities serving public trails and open space/recreational areas in Boulder County may apply for the Spring 2024 round of funding:

- 1) Search & Rescue (SAR)
- 2) Trail and Trailhead Safety Service Providers

Applicant Criteria:

- Applicant must:
 - Provide services within Boulder County;
 - Be able to function as the fiscal agent and have the legal authority to administer and/or purchase the proposed funding request.
 - Apply using the online application: <https://boco.org/ES-GrantApplication>

Grant Criteria:

- All-inclusive one-time grants only (no multi-year or ongoing grants);
 - Awarded grants do not require repayment;
 - Cooperative and cross-organization grant applications and proposals that enhance coordination between agencies and organizations are encouraged;
 - Availability of matching requirements or matching funds availability should be noted in the application but is not a requirement for funding.
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