



*Where the Story
of American Agriculture
Comes to Life.™*

Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area Bus Grant Overview, Rules, And Frequently Asked Questions

OVERVIEW

The Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area (SSNHA) Bus Grant program is designed to aid schools fund transportation costs associated with ag-related field trips to designated SSNHA Partner Sites and farms located within the 37 county heritage area. The grant funds 75% of the total cost of transportation to and from the school and the selected field trip destination. **Maximum grant award is \$350.00.**

RULES & ELIGIBILITY

Who is Eligible?

An accredited Pre K-12 public, private, or charter school in Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area with the desire to learn more about Iowa's agricultural heritage. One grant per school building will be awarded.

Who is Ineligible?

School buildings who have received a SSNHA Bus Grant in the current grant cycle. Schools that do not meet the criteria above.

How Are Grant Recipients Selected?

The SSNHA Bus Grant program is managed by the Educational Engagement Director of SSNHA. Grants will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. **Priority will be given to those field trips with a high agriculture component.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area?



Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area is one of 49 heritage areas in the United States telling a unique story that celebrates our nation's diverse heritage.

In 1996, SSNHA received designation as a National Heritage Area and became affiliated with the National Park Service. Uniting 119 Partner Sites in a 37 county area, SSNHA strives to preserve and tell the story of American agriculture and its global significance through partnerships and activities that celebrate the land, people and communities.

What Does the Grant Fund?

The grant funds 75% of the total amount of transportation to and from the school and selected SSNHA Partner Site or farm for an agriculture related experience, not to exceed \$350.00. Schools must either fund or find another sponsor to fund the remaining 25% of transportation costs.

What Will the Grant NOT Fund?

- Admission costs
- Materials (computers, software, AV equipment, cameras)
- Lunches
- Salaries

Who Are SSNHA Partner Sites?

Please visit our website, <http://www.silosandsmokestacks.org/sites/> for a current list of our 119 SSNHA Partner Sites. Each site tells an unique story related to American Agriculture.

How Do I Apply?

The online application will become available via a link on www.silosandsmokestacks.org/bus-grants page. A paper hard copy of the application will also become available at that time, found on the same page. Complete the form and email it to, Laura Elfers, Educational Engagement Director at lelfers@silosandsmokestacks.org.

When Do I Apply?

Applications will be accepted starting August 1, 2018.

How Many Grants Will Be Awarded?

The number of total grants awarded per grant cycle will vary. SSNHA will award one grant per school building during the current grant cycle (August 1, 2018-December 15, 2018) or until the funding is depleted.

How Will I Be Notified If I Have or Have Not Been Awarded a Bus Grant?

Applicants will be notified of their award status by email within three weeks of receiving the application. The grant cycle will end and notification will be posted on the SSNHA website upon depletion of funds or December 15, 2018.

How Are Grants Paid?

Grant recipients will receive a check made payable to the school designated for field study transportation costs after an evaluation form and transportation bill/receipt is received. Payment will not exceed the estimated transportation cost on the application form.

When Must Grants Be Used?

Grants must be used for the proposed field trip transportation costs in the current school year. If the field study trip is cancelled, the school must notify the Educational Engagement Director of Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area either in writing or by phone to discuss options.

Questions?

If you have further questions, please contact Laura Elfers, Educational Engagement Director at Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area at lelfers@silosandsmokestacks.org or (319)234-4567.