



**2022-2023
Accommodations Tax
Grant Application**

**Applications are due on
September 1, 2022 at 4 pm**

Introduction

Accommodations Tax Grants are provided through revenue received by the County for its share of the 2% lodging tax levied by the State of South Carolina. An Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee mandated by the State and composed of seven representatives of the hospitality industry reviews applications for funding and makes recommendations to County Council for the awarding of these funds. By law these monies may only be used for activities related to travel and tourism conducted by non-profit organizations.

“Travel” and “Tourism” mean the action and activities of people taking trips outside their home communities for any purpose, except daily commuting to and from work. According to the S.C. PRT and other agencies, travel distance is generally defined as 50 miles. However, the South Carolina Tourism Expenditure Review Committee (TERC) considers any event that brings in tourists to a region and boosts the local economy.

According to the T.E.R.C. website, "Tourism-related expenditures" include:

1. Advertising and promotion of tourism so as to develop and increase tourist attendance through the generation of publicity;
2. Promotion of the arts and cultural events;
3. Construction, maintenance, and operation of facilities for civic and cultural activities including construction and maintenance of access and other nearby roads and utilities for the facilities;
4. The criminal justice system, law enforcement, fire protection, solid waste collection, and health facilities when required to serve tourists and tourist facilities. This is based on the estimated percentage of costs directly attributed to tourists;
5. Public facilities such as restrooms, dressing rooms, parks, and parking lots;
6. Tourist shuttle transportation;
7. Control and repair of waterfront erosion;
8. Operating visitor information centers.

In order to qualify as a “tourism-related expenditure” an expenditure must meet the following two tests:

1. The expenditure must be used to attract or provide for tourists. The expenditure can't be used for operational costs of sports tournaments.
2. The expenditure can't be used for an item that would normally be provided by the county or municipality.

Accommodations tax funds must be used to attract and provide for tourists, and must be spent on tourism-related expenditures. If an expenditure isn't directly related to tourism, accommodations tax revenue can't be used to fund the expenditure.

Application Procedures

All applications must be completed in full and submitted before the application deadline, which is **September 1, 2022 at 4 pm.** ***You must include a complete operating budget for the project or event.*** Failure to provide a complete application may result in the applicant being ineligible to receive funding.

Eligible organizations are any government agency; board; commission; or public subdivision not specifically designated as a state agency and any non-profit or organization exempt from federal taxes. All applications must provide a federal identification number.

Completed applications will be reviewed by the County Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee. A recommended budget will be submitted to County Council and upon approval, applicants will be notified of award.

The County Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee will be assessing the applications in a more quantitative manner this year. As County ATAX funding becomes more limited, we must ensure it is spent in the most effective way possible. Provide as much information about your event (# of hotel room nights, # of out of town visitors, visitor length of stay, etc.) as possible to bolster your application. ***The Committee strongly recommends event organizers keep track of visitor information for the current year's events to ensure a more accurate tally for next year's application.***

NOTE: You may begin your project before final County Council approval; however you as the applicant assume the risk of not receiving all or part of your requested funding.

REMINDER: Failure to turn in Final Report for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 will delay your disbursement of any Fiscal Year 2022-2023 funding for your organization.

Please mail your completed ATAX forms to:

**Glenn Brill
Director
Anderson County Parks, Recreation & Tourism Division
101 S. Main St., Room 11
P.O. Box 8002
Anderson, SC 29622**

Phone: 864-260-1092

Fax: 864-260-4044

Forms can also be emailed to: gbrill@andersoncountysc.org



FY 2022-2023 Accommodations Tax (ATAX) Application

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 1st, 2022 @ 4 pm

Project Name:

Federal ID #:

Applicant Organization:

Phone:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Event Starting Date & Event Completion Date:

Total Event/Program Budget:

ATAX Funds Requested:

Amount Requested from Other ATAX Sources:

Number of Hotel Room Nights this Project Will Generate:

Funding/Support from Other Sources (i.e. in-kind donations, partnerships, volunteers, etc.): *(Please list all that are applicable)*

Proposed Budget Items That Utilize ATAX Funding: *(Reminder: Accommodations tax funds must only be used to attract and provide for tourists and must only be spent on tourism-related expenditures.)*

Description & Justification of Project: *(Please be as specific as possible. Use additional sheets if necessary.)*

Project Manager:

Date: