

The Cave Conservancy Small Grants Application

The Cave Conservancy of Virginias (CCV) offers small grants of up to \$1,500.

These grants can be awarded to individuals or groups supported by a non-profit organization or university. Note that you don't need to be supported by a non-profit organization—individuals are welcome to apply.

Please read the instructions carefully and fill out all 9 sections, as the grants need to be fully filled out in order to be considered.

The purpose of the grant is to support the advancement of knowledge and understanding of caves and karst. Funding may be used for scientific, educational, and conservation-oriented projects, as well as to help individuals attend conferences, events, and projects that will increase their understanding of caves and karst.

Eligible expenses include, but are not limited to: travel costs, conference registration fees, research supplies, conservation efforts, and the purchase of necessary gear to participate in opportunities that will enable individuals or groups to expand their understanding of caves and karst.

Groups or individuals from Virginia and West Virginia can apply, as well as those from adjacent karst regions close to the Virginias. This broader region includes northwestern North Carolina, northeastern Tennessee, western Kentucky, western Ohio, southwestern Pennsylvania, and western Maryland.

All projects should focus on the Virginias and surrounding karst regions, though travel to conferences and events may occur outside the region.

The grants have a rolling deadline and are awarded in 2-3 months. Each year, the CCV Awards Committee will award up to 5 small grants per year. Please, get in touch with the committee to verify the availability of the remaining grants.

A final report about the project and how it helped you achieve your goal or increase your knowledge about karst is required within six months of project completion.

APPLICATION FORM

1. **GRANT TITLE:** _____

2. **PROJECT DATES:**

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

3. **APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

First name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Preferred way of contacting you: ☐ phone / ☐ email

Organization/affiliation (if applicable):

Title (if employed): _____

4. **SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION (if applicable):**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

5. **REFERENCE CONTACT:**

Each application must include a reference contact. A reference contact is someone who can testify that you will use your funds accordingly and are dedicated to the project.

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

6. BACKGROUND:

Explain your karst and caves-related background (up to 250 words). If you don't have a relevant background in the field, provide your motivation for focusing on caves and karst.

7. SPENDING NEEDS and PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Short description of how the funds will be spent (up to 500 words). Note this section will be posted on the Cave Conservancy of Virginia's website.

8. JUSTIFICATION:

Justify how the grant will help foster your knowledge and understanding of caves and karst. Include how this knowledge and experience will contribute to the improvement of your skills and talent, the broader community, such as your grotto, or the scientific community (up to 300 words).

9. ITEMIZED BUDGET:

Please be specific. Include as Attachment.