

## 2019 GCSAA Best Management Practices Grant Program Guidelines

Grants that assist in the development of state BMP programs will be considered separately from programs that promote implementation of BMPs at facilities across the state. Each of these grants has a separate application form

### Organization qualifications:

- Golf Course Superintendent Associations, Turfgrass Foundations, universities, and other not-for-profit organizations working with golf course associations.
- GCSAA affiliated chapters will be engaged in the approval process for any and all submissions to ensure their acceptance and coordination of any non-chapter organization's application.
- GCSAA strongly encourages chapters within a given state to coordinate amongst themselves and submit a single application for that state's new BMP program. Programs should utilize the BMP Planning Guide and Template. Multiple applications from chapters within a given state may be asked to resubmit a single "state" application. Otherwise applications will be subject to the prioritization process. GCSAA is focusing on meeting the 50 by 2020 objective.
- Chapters submitting grants for states with existing programs will be subject to the prioritization process in order for GCSAA to meet the 50 by 2020 objective.

### Acceptable activities:

#### For Traditional BMP Grants

- The development of new or the review and update of existing agronomic and environmental best management practices for golf course development, operations, and maintenance.
- Projects that provide for the significant demonstration, comparison, and/or effectiveness of golf course best management practices.
- Development of validation or verification programs for proposed or existing best management practice programs for golf courses.
- Marketing and incentive packages for chapter BMP programs

#### For Facility Adoption Program Grants

- Efforts (marketing, communications, education, etc.) geared toward facility adoption of BMPs
- Interactive workshops teaching people how to use the online tool.

## **Requirements:**

- The best management practices must be developed in conjunction with a plan and timeline for implementation across the state/regional or appropriately defined geographic region.
- The process should incorporate the appropriate state authorities and at least one local watershed group, conservation organization, etc. who will endorse the BMPs products/results.
- Best management practices shall incorporate water conservation, water quality protection, nutrient management, and integrated pest management practices without exception. BMPs can be unique to the specific region/environment for which they are intended and should be in alignment with golf's generally recognized BMPs.
- GCSAA and EIFG encourage applicants to develop BMPs that incorporate energy, pollution prevention, and other environmental/agronomic best management practices that correspond to an environmental management program for the golf course.
- GCSAA will be engaged in the development of the best management programs providing technical and strategic consulting.
- GCSAA has the ability to share/utilize BMPs in the development of future BMPs for other chapters or state level golf centric organizations.
- GCSAA and EIFG encourage applicants to incorporate the BMP planning guide with the template of BMPs within their program and grant application. The BMP Planning Guide and Template is available on [gcsaa.org](http://gcsaa.org) in print and online versions.
- Qualifying organizations will work with GCSAA on the development of facility BMP plans in their states

## **Priority consideration will be given to applications in the following order:**

### For Traditional BMP Grants

- The development of new BMP programs in areas that do not have an existing BMP program for golf courses and that incorporate the use of GCSAA's BMP Planning Guide and Template.
- Projects that incorporate water conservation or water quality (nutrient management/pest management) BMPs for areas responding to regulatory requirements, facing regulations or similar circumstances.
- Other considerations may include:
  - Number of golf facilities located within the state developing a BMP program.

- Level of exposure from regulators, media, policy makers, etc. through established state golf days or events. Example: National Golf Day in Washington, D.C.
- Level of exposure to the public through major media opportunities, including major golf events.
- Applications from GCSAA affiliated chapters and/or those incorporating stakeholders from government, watershed, and conservation organizations will rank higher in effectiveness and effort.
- Applications that incorporate validation/verification as part of the proposal will rank higher than those that don't.
- States that set goals, measure progress, implement activities, etc. for facility adoption.

#### For Facility Adoption Program Grants

- Projects that support hands-on workshops or similar events that allow superintendents to start or write their plans on site using GCSAA's facility BMP tool.
- Marketing, communications, and education, plans geared toward facility adoption of BMPs

#### Timeline

**Note: There will only be one application period in 2019.**

#### Application Period:

July 1, 2019 – Applications open

July 29, 2019 – Applications due to GCSAA

October 15, 2019 – Grant recipients notified

November 1, 2019 – Payments initiated

#### **Application process:**

- Applications must be submitted using the BMP Grant Application form available on [gcsaa.org](http://gcsaa.org) or by contacting GCSAA.
- Applications from non-golf course superintendents' associations must have letters of support from the supporting golf course superintendents' associations accompanying complete application forms.
- Email with attachments are acceptable by the deadline with original signature copies mailed to GCSAA.

Submit applications to:

GCSAA, Attn: Emily Fuger, Manager, Environmental Programs, GCSAA, 1421 Research Park Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049