



Community Service Areas

2026 Alan M. Painter Grant Program

This program funds community projects that help residents in King County's unincorporated community service areas participate in—and be more connected to—their communities and King County. To receive funding, applicants must demonstrate how their project is accessible to all residents, regardless of race, income, or language spoken. **These funds may not be used for political purposes.**

Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 5, 2025.

Funds available

A total of \$90,000 will be reimbursed for projects in 2026. **Funding for projects will begin in March 2026.**

The King County Department of Local Services will provide funds to selected projects through a Letter of Award and Memorandum of Agreement. **Amounts will be limited to less than \$5,000 per project.** A complete list of selected projects will be available online (at kingcounty.gov/alan-painter-grants) after funding decisions have been made.

Funding priority goals

Alan M. Painter Grants will support projects that advance the King County Strategic Plan and achieve at least one of the following goals:

- Promote the engagement of unincorporated area residents in community or civic activities
- Educate local residents about issues that affect them
- Identify and gather community needs and priorities
- Carry out a community enhancement project
- Provide a safe and healthy environment in the unincorporated area during extreme weather events
- Meet King County's equity and social justice goals of increasing fairness and opportunity for all people, particularly people of color and those with low incomes and/or limited English

Some example project types

- Community enhancement projects, such as graffiti removal or neighborhood cleanup
- Community-led planning or training on King County government operations and programs, opportunities for involvement with King County programs, or community priorities

- Neighborhood or community signs
- Community events like concerts, festivals, and education and/or safety events

How we choose projects to fund

Priority will be given to project applications that...

- Are one-time only or are time limited and **will be finished in 2026**
- Clearly address one or more of this grant program's Funding Priority Goals (see page 1)
- Fund services, resources, or activities that are located in, and serve target populations in, an unincorporated King County Community Service Area—and are free and open to all members of the public
- Detail how the funded services, resources, or activities will be accessible to all residents, regardless of race, income, or language spoken
- Detail how the funded services, resources, or activities will encourage community engagement and high community participation
- Detail clear outcomes or results and a specific work plan to achieve them
- Detail community outreach and support
- Detail community support based on the level of community involvement by the project partners
- Have a budget that is realistic and achievable, and a funding request that is specific and attributable to the project
- Have a project match of at least 25% of the total project budget (see details below).

Note: Geographic distribution of funds will be considered.

Match

A minimum match of 25% of the total project cost is required. This match can be in the form of volunteer time, cash, or other forms of in-kind services and/or other resources from project partners and contributors.

Who can apply?

- Locally based, community-led organizations in King County's unincorporated community service areas
- Organizations that are based in a city but serve unincorporated area residents and/or encourage collaboration and partnership in unincorporated King County

Applicant status

If your organization is not incorporated, you must designate a fiscal sponsor that is incorporated. We encourage partnership with local nonprofits. Please contact us via the methods listed at the top of this page for guidance and support.

Project timeframe

All funded projects **must be finished in 2026.**

What costs are allowed?

Reasonable expenses that are attributable to, and clearly needed for, the project and outlined in the budget.

Grant funds may not be used for political activity.

Grant funds are not intended to support infrastructure or ongoing operational costs of locally funded governmental organizations, except where the organization is seeking grant funding to support one or more one-time volunteer events.

King County reserves the right to determine the nature and manner in which costs and items will be paid for in any grant.

Reporting and other requirements

Grant recipients must submit a final report documenting that the outcomes and measures defined for project success were met. Project results may be published in a report that will be available online.

Funding recipients must acknowledge King County's contribution to the funded event or project.

The grant recipient is responsible for establishing a record keeping system that includes a breakdown of cash and in-kind contributions as well as grant funds, and must keep these records for three years after the project is finished.

Tax reporting is the responsibility of the grant recipient.

Funding recipients may be asked to participate in, and/or provide input on, King County Local Services programs and projects.

Community service areas in unincorporated King County

King County's unincorporated area is made up of seven community service areas, shown on the map on the next page. To find out which community service area you are in, you can use the interactive map at kingcounty.gov/CSAlookup.

AREA DESCRIPTIONS

Bear Creek/Sammamish – The western boundary is the urban growth line near Woodinville. The northern boundary is the King-Snohomish county line. The east and south boundaries follow the watershed ridge line. This area contains the Sammamish Agricultural Production District.

Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County – The western boundaries are the ridge line of the Bear Creek Community Service Area and the urban growth line. The southern boundaries are the watershed line, forest production district, and I-90. The northern boundary is the boundary between King and Snohomish counties. This area contains the Snoqualmie Agriculture Production District and part of the Forest Production District.

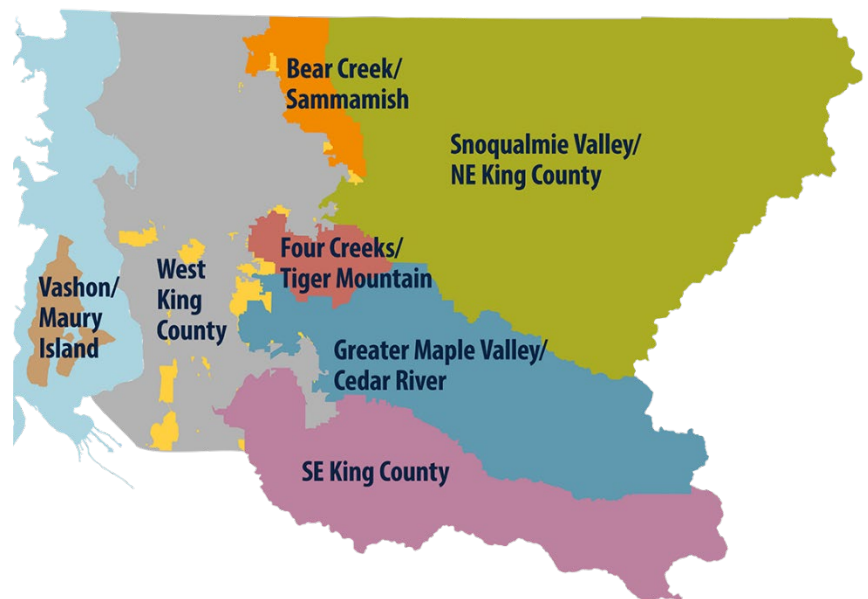
Four Creeks/Tiger Mountain – The western and northern boundaries are the urban growth line, I-90, and the Forest Production District boundary (which is a joint boundary with the Snoqualmie Valley/Northeast King County area). The eastern and southern boundary is the Tahoma School District boundary (joint boundary with the Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River area).

Greater Maple Valley/Cedar River – The western boundary is the urban growth line, the north boundary is the watershed line, forest production district boundary and I-90 (Snoqualmie Valley Community Service Area). The eastern boundary is the county boundary with Kittitas County; the southern boundary is the watershed line (Southeast King County Community Service Area). This area contains portions of the Forest Production District.

Southeast King County – The western boundary is the urban growth boundary. The northern boundaries are the urban growth and the watershed line (Greater Maple Valley Community Service Area). Boundaries to the east are Kittitas County and to the south is the Pierce County line. This area contains the Lower Green, Middle Green, and Enumclaw Agriculture Production Districts and a portion of the Forest Production District.

Vashon/Maury Island – Vashon-Maury Island is bounded by and located in Puget Sound.

West King County – This community service area contains urban unincorporated areas throughout West King County that may be annexed to a city someday. All of these areas are either bounded by existing cities or the urban growth boundary. They include North Highline/White Center, Skyway/West Hill, East Federal Way, Fairwood, and East Renton Plateau.



How and when to apply

The application packet is available for download on the King County website (kingcounty.gov/alan-painter-grants). Completed applications may be submitted in the following ways:

- **By email:** AskLocalServices@kingcounty.gov
- **By US Mail or in-person delivery:**
King County Local Services
Attention: CSA Program
201 S Jackson Street
KSC-LS-0815
Seattle, WA 98104

Completed applications must be received by 5 p.m. on December 5, 2025.



To request this information in another language or format, email AskLocalServices@kingcounty.gov or call 206-477-3800.

Para solicitar esta información en otro idioma o formato, envíe un correo electrónico a AskLocalServices@kingcounty.gov o llame al 206-477-3800.