The Grants Program is a federal-aid option to assist partners located within the boundaries of the ANHA in meeting the Heritage Area goals. This option provides matching funds assistance through reimbursement. The recipient, therefore, must provide proof of payment for 100 percent of eligible expenses when submitting a request for reimbursement.

**Goals of the ANHA**

- Build an understanding and identity of the Area’s key stories
- Expand economic opportunities based on the area’s culture and environment
- Strengthen the sense of place, preserving languages, skills, cultures and traditions
- Increase community collaboration and involvement, cultivating multiple partnerships
- Support a healthier Atchafalaya ecosystem, working to balance all the Area’s activities
- Enhance outdoor recreation opportunities, encouraging sustainability and improving access

**Grant Funding Categories**

**Heritage Interpretive**
Funds interpretive improvements, mapping and heritage tourism-based improvements. Eligible projects include trail signage installation, trail creation and tour development.

**Natural Resource Improvements**
Funds native planning, native plantings and environmental consultants. Eligible projects include waterway improvements and conservation programs.

**Cultural Heritage Event**
Funds events within the Heritage Area that directly relate to culture, ecology and recreation. Eligible projects include annual cultural festivals, wildlife presentations and heritage speaker events.

**Recreation Improvements**
Funds creation, update and maintenance of paths, boardwalks, boat ramps, etc. Eligible projects include boardwalk restoration, boat ramp updates and recreation signage restoration.

**Small Fund Grants**
Grants of up to $1,500 for marketing, promotion, small events, speaker fees, etc. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.