

# Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund Public Library Report

July 2024



**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

607 South Drive  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
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## Introduction

Act 50 of 1993 established the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL), administers the public library portion of this program through a competitive grant process. The Keystone Grants for Public Library Facilities program awards planning, acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation matching grants to municipalities that sponsor state-aided public libraries.

Grants are awarded for up to fifty percent of eligible costs for projects in state-aided public library facilities. A dollar-for-dollar match is required for each grant, with a maximum award amount of \$750,000. The General Assembly, by establishing funds to make critical repairs, improve existing spaces, or construct new buildings, has ensured better public library facilities to provide vital library services to people across Pennsylvania.

Act 61 of 2011 requires PDE to submit to the Governor's Office and the General Assembly an annual report of the projects and services provided by the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund. The present report, pertaining to the period July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, meets that mandate.

Three 2021 grant round awardees requested extensions. Two are currently finishing project work, as their extensions for reimbursable costs ended April 1, 2024. The remaining project, Haverford Township, is currently in progress, with a grant performance period ending September 30, 2024.

There was no grant round named 2022.

The 2023 Keystone grant round contracts will conclude September 30, 2024. Twenty-one projects were funded, with awards totaling \$4,127,467.81. At the time this report was compiled, no extensions had been requested, although it is anticipated that multiple grantees will request additional time to complete project work.

The 2024 Keystone Grant round received 21 applications from municipalities on behalf of their public libraries, requesting a total of \$5,290,575.41. Seventeen of these projects were approved for funding, with committed funds totaling \$4,486,336.09. A summary of these projects is included in this report.

The next Keystone Grants for Public Library Facilities application is expected to open in July of 2024, with applications due in October. Notification of award status would be made in February of 2025. Projects awarded in the next round will have a grant performance period from April 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026.

## Summary of 2024 Grant Cycle Projects

Grant Recipient: **Beaver Falls City** (Beaver County)  
Project: **Carnegie Free Library of Beaver Falls**  
Granted \$69,000.00 to replace roof including pipe flashing, roof siding, and box gutters.

Total project cost: \$138,000.00                      Amount requested: \$69,000.00  
Matching funds: \$69,000.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Bucks County**  
Project: **Bucks County Free Library: James Michener Library Branch**  
Granted \$157,478.50 to replace HVAC units.

Total project cost: \$314,957.00                      Amount requested: \$157,478.50  
Matching funds: \$157,478.50                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Clearfield Borough** (Clearfield County)  
Project: **Joseph & Elizabeth Shaw Public Library**  
Granted \$329,262.00 to construct a library addition for a dedicated children's space with family restroom and nursing room.

Total project cost: \$658,524.00                      Amount requested: \$329,262.00  
Matching funds: \$329,262.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Derry Township** (Dauphin County)  
Project: **Hershey Public Library**  
Granted \$166,708.00 to replace air conditioning system.

Total project cost: \$333,416.00                      Amount requested: \$166,708.00  
Matching funds: \$166,708.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Dormont Borough** (Allegheny County)  
Project: **Dormont Public Library**  
Granted \$50,000.00 to conduct a feasibility study identifying costs associated with developing the library site.

Total project cost: \$100,000.00                      Amount requested: \$50,000.00  
Matching funds: \$50,000.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Easttown Township** (Chester County)  
Project: **Easttown Library**  
Granted \$45,000.00 to replace two geothermal heat pumps and make building upgrades.

Total project cost: \$90,369.00                      Amount requested: \$45,000.00  
Matching funds: \$45,369.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Hamburg Borough** (Berks County)  
Project: **Hamburg Public Library**  
Granted \$750,000.00 to construct an accessible two-story addition with restrooms, elevator and program space; replace HVAC; address exterior preservation concerns and make infrastructure upgrades.

Total project cost: \$1,796,253.00                      Amount requested: \$750,000.00  
Matching funds: \$1,046,253.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Hanover Borough** (York County)  
Project: **Guthrie Memorial Library**  
Granted \$294,975.00 to replace HVAC system.

Total project cost: \$589,950.00                      Amount requested: \$294,975.00  
Matching funds: \$294,975.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Lackawanna County**  
Project: **Scranton Public Library: Nancy Kay Holmes Branch**  
Granted \$333,700.00 to add accessible ramp, entrance and restroom; upgrade windows and lighting for efficiency.

Total project cost: \$667,400.00                      Amount requested: \$333,700.00  
Matching funds: \$333,700.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Lebanon City** (Lebanon County)  
Project: **Lebanon Community Library**  
Granted \$68,500.00 to [Brief Project Description].

Total project cost: \$137,000.00                      Amount requested: \$68,500.00  
Matching funds: \$68,500.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Monroe Borough** (Bradford County)  
Project: **Monroeton Public Library**  
Granted \$62,323.00 to repoint exterior bricks.

Total project cost: \$124,646.00                      Amount requested: \$62,323.00  
Matching funds: \$62,323.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Nazareth Borough** (Northampton County)  
Project: **Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity**  
Granted \$250,000.00 to replace heating system.

Total project cost: \$500,000.00                      Amount requested: \$250,000.00  
Matching funds: \$250,000.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **New Bethlehem Borough** (Clarion County)  
Project: **Redbank Valley Public Library**  
Granted \$51,735.09 to replace roof and HVAC; upgrade flooring.

Total project cost: \$103,470.18                      Amount requested: \$51,735.09  
Matching funds: \$51,735.09                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Penn Township** (Lancaster County)  
Project: **Manheim Community Library**  
Granted \$750,000.00 to completely fit out a newly-constructed library space.

Total project cost: \$2,501,108.00                      Amount requested: \$750,000.00  
Matching funds: \$1,751,108.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Pleasant Hills Borough** (Allegheny County)  
Project: **Pleasant Hills Public Library**  
Granted \$208,202.00 to replace roof, windows, and two sets of concrete stairs.

Total project cost: \$416,405.00                      Amount requested: \$208,202.00  
Matching funds: \$208,203.00                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **Shaler Township** (Allegheny County)  
Project: **Shaler North Hills Library**  
Granted \$149,452.50 to add accessible 1<sup>st</sup> floor restroom and renovate 2<sup>nd</sup> floor restrooms.

Total project cost: \$298,905.00                      Amount requested: \$149,452.50  
Matching funds: \$149,452.50                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

Grant Recipient: **South Fayette Township** (Allegheny County)  
Project: **South Fayette Township Library**  
Granted \$750,000.00 to completely build out a newly-constructed library space.

Total project cost: \$2,155,024.20                      Amount requested: \$750,000.00  
Matching funds: \$1,405,024.20                      Contract expiration date: 9/30/2025

## Summary of Reported Totals

The following is a summary of the cumulative totals for the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund grant round awarded in 2024 and contained within this report:

Total Project Costs:	<b>\$10,925,427.38</b>
Total Matching Funds:	<b>\$6,439,091.29</b>
Total Amount Requested by Awardees:	<b>\$4,486,336.09</b>
Total Grant Funds Committed to 2024 Awardees:	<b>\$4,486,336.09</b>