

Certification Process

Local governments apply for certification through the SHPO. Please consult with SHPO staff prior to submitting an application. To request an application contact Brad Sauls, 803-896-6172.

The requirements for CLGs are outlined in the SC Code of Regulations Chapter 12-101 "Guidelines for Implementation of Certified Local Government (CLG) Program in South Carolina."

South Carolina CLGs

City of Abbeville, City of Aiken, City of Anderson, City of Beaufort, City of Bennettsville, Town of Bluffton, Town of Blythewood, City of Charleston, Town of Cheraw, City of Chester, Town of Chesterfield, City of Clinton, City of Columbia, City of Conway, City of Darlington, City of Dillon, City of Florence, Town of Fort Mill, City of Georgetown, City of Greenville, City of Greenwood, City of Greer, City of Hartsville, Horry County, City of Laurens, Town of Lexington, Town of McClellanville, Town of McCormick, Town of Mt. Pleasant, City of Rock Hill, City of Seneca, City of Spartanburg, Town of Sullivan's Island, Town of Summerville, City of Sumter, and City of York

For More Information

Phone: 803-896-6172

Email: bsauls@scdah.sc.gov

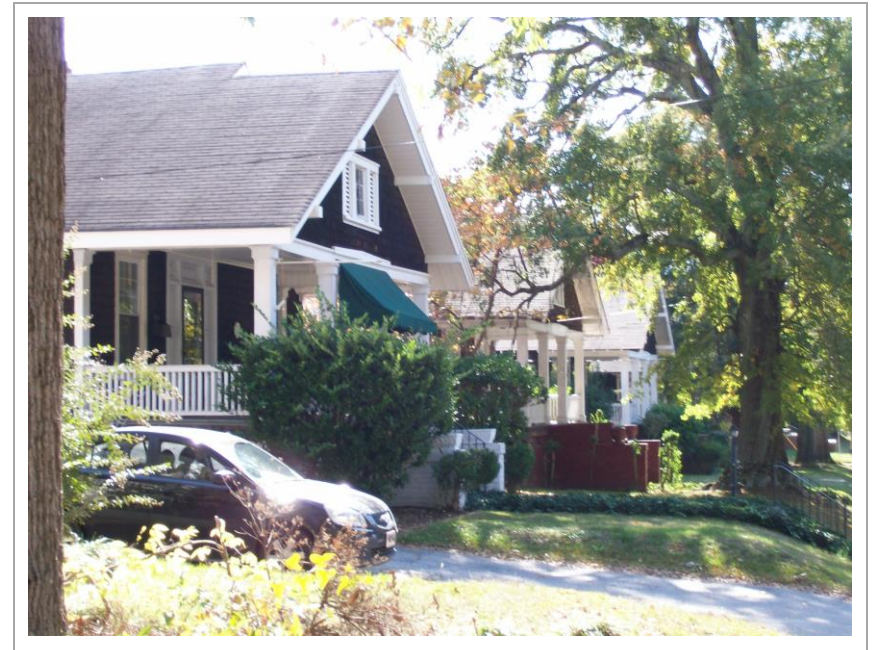
Web: <https://scdah.sc.gov/historic-preservation/programs/local-governments>



State Historic Preservation Office
8501 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29223

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Certified Local Government (CLG) Program in South Carolina: Preservation Through Partnership



State Historic Preservation Office
South Carolina Department of Archives & History

Overview

The decisions and actions of local governments and individuals often decide the fate of the irreplaceable historic and prehistoric properties that give South Carolina communities their special character and make them better places to live and visit. Historic preservation has proven economic, environmental, and social benefits. Studies show that historic districts maintain higher property values, less population decline, more walkability and greater sense of community. The legal power to protect historic properties rests primarily with local governments, not the state or federal government. S C Code of Laws (Section 6-29-870 as amended) allows communities to adopt zoning ordinances to protect their historic and architecturally valuable districts and neighborhoods.

The Certified Local Government program is a federal, state, and local partnership that recognizes local governments that have established preservation programs and that helps communities save the irreplaceable historic character of places. Through the certification process, communities make a local commitment to historic preservation. This commitment is key to America's ability to preserve, protect, and increase awareness of our unique cultural heritage found in the built environment across the country.

The South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) jointly administers the CLG program with the National Park Service (NPS) to facilitate funding, technical assistance, and training for local governments with historic preservation programs. Through local preservation programs, CLGs are better prepared to manage future growth and encourage economic development while protecting the historic and prehistoric resources that are significant to their community, to the state and to the nation.



Benefits

Being a CLG demonstrates your community's commitment to saving what is important from the past for future generations. As a certified community it becomes easy to demonstrate a readiness to take on successful preservation projects, making your community able to compete for new opportunities! CLG can:

- Apply for federal grant funds set aside just for CLGs. It is ten percent of the state's total federal allocation for preservation. In South Carolina, this usually amounts to a minimum of \$75,000 each year that only CLGs may apply to use. These matching grants can fund a wide variety of projects such as surveys, National Register nominations, design guidelines, educational programs, training, structural assessments, and feasibility studies, as well as for stabilization projects for historic buildings.
- Receive technical help and training for the board of architectural review (BAR) and networking with other CLGs. The annual statewide preservation conference includes sessions for BAR members and staff, and the SHPO has offered competitive scholarships to help pay for CLG staff and board chairs to attend conferences and workshops.
- Participate in statewide preservation planning programs.
- Comment on nominations of historic properties and districts in the community to the National Register of Historic Places before the nominations are considered by the State Review Board.

Requirements for Participation

Local governments interested in joining the CLG program need to:

- Enforce appropriate state or local legislation for the designation and protection of historic properties. This means passage of a historic preservation ordinance that meets state guidelines for CLGs.
- Establish an adequate and qualified historic preservation commission by state or local legislation.
- Maintain a system for the survey and inventory of historic properties.
- Encourage public participation in the local historic preservation program, including the process of recommending properties for nomination to the National Register.