

223—48.8(303,404A) Sequencing of applications for review.

48.8(1) Order of review. The SHPO anticipates the receipt of a large number of applications for historic tax credits for projects with qualified rehabilitation costs in excess of \$750,000 at the beginning of each state fiscal year. At the start of each state fiscal year, the SHPO will utilize a project review sequencing and prioritization system to establish the order in which applications will be reviewed.

a. Applications for projects with qualified rehabilitation costs of \$750,000 or less applying for credits from the small projects fund will be accepted and reviewed throughout the calendar year until all available credits from that fund are reserved. When all available credits are reserved from the small projects fund, subsequent applications will be accepted utilizing the procedures in subrules 48.8(2) to 48.8(7).

b. If all available credits are reserved before review of all projects submitted within the filing window specified in subrule 48.8(2), applications not reviewed will be returned to the applicant.

48.8(2) Filing window. Part two applications for state historic tax credits received during the first ten working days of the state fiscal year shall be included in a project review sequencing system to determine the order in which they will be reviewed. The filing window for applications submitted in July 2013 will be extended to July 31, 2013.

48.8(3) Initial sequencing process. An initial sorting process based on the status of the project application at the start of the state fiscal year will be used to associate applications with the appropriate initial sequencing category. Following initial sorting into a category and subcategory, each application within the assigned category and subcategory will be sequenced in accordance with subrule 48.8(4).

a. Category A projects do not need to be resubmitted during the filing window and are comprised of two subcategories in the following order:

(1) Projects reviewed in the previous year's sequencing and review process that did not receive a reservation for the full 25 percent of their qualified rehabilitation costs.

(2) Projects with final qualified rehabilitation costs documented in part three of the application in excess of the estimated rehabilitation costs in part two pursuant to paragraph 48.6(8) "d" and which could not be otherwise reserved from available credits in the appropriate fund.

b. Category B projects are comprised of projects for which part two of a state historic tax credit application was submitted during any previous year's filing window, as verified by records maintained at the SHPO, and was included in that year's sequencing system, and did not receive a tax credit reservation. Category B projects must be resubmitted during the current year's filing window and must specify a fund pursuant to subrule 48.7(6). Category B projects will be divided into subcategories arranged in the following order:

(1) Projects will be included in a subcategory for the state fiscal year of original submission provided the project was included in each successive state fiscal year's sequencing system and did not receive a tax credit reservation. These subcategories will be arranged chronologically beginning with the earliest state fiscal year.

(2) Any projects for which applications were not submitted in successive state fiscal years will be included in a subcategory after those defined in subparagraph 48.8(3) "b"(1).

c. Category C projects are comprised of an entirely new part two of a state historic tax credit application not meeting the requirements for any other category and having been received within the specified filing window. Category C projects must be submitted during the current year's filing window and must specify a fund pursuant to subrule 48.7(6).

48.8(4) Secondary sequencing process. Using a random number generator, SHPO staff will assign unique, random numbers to all applications that are eligible for inclusion in the review sequencing system within each category and subcategory of the initial sequencing system. Applications within each category and subcategory shall then be placed in numeric order from lowest to highest. SHPO staff shall then create a master sequence list, with category A applications, arranged by subcategory, sequenced first; category B applications, arranged by subcategory, sequenced next; and category C applications sequenced last.

48.8(5) Random number generator. SHPO staff shall use a random number generator utility found in Microsoft Excel 2003 or the current version of Microsoft Excel generally used by the department of cultural affairs.

48.8(6) *Outside observer.* The initial sequencing process, the secondary sequencing process, and the development of the master sequence list will be observed and certified by an official state witness.

48.8(7) *Prioritization of review according to fund.* Once the master sequence list is set, the projects will be reviewed by fund in the sequential order in which they fall on the list.

a. Category A projects will be reviewed and reserved first. SHPO shall reserve the remaining credits for the project from the same tax credit fund selected by the applicant pursuant to subrule 48.7(6) if a selection was made. Otherwise, SHPO shall reserve the remaining credits for the project from the same tax credit fund from which the original reservation came or from another fund for which the project is eligible.

b. Following review of category A projects, tax credit funds will be reviewed in the following order:

- (1) Small projects fund, CED-GP fund, and new permanent jobs fund.
- (2) Disaster recovery fund.
- (3) Statewide fund.

c. Any tax credits that have not been reserved in a particular fund will be transferred, if applicable, to the appropriate fund as outlined in rule 223—48.7(303,404A). If a fund is exhausted before the completion of reviews for that fund, all remaining projects in that fund shall be eligible for the statewide fund and will be considered in the order shown on the master sequence list.

d. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no projects will be sequenced pursuant to this subrule on or after July 1, 2014.

[**ARC 7943B**, IAB 7/15/09, effective 6/16/09; **ARC 9608B**, IAB 7/13/11, effective 6/22/11; **ARC 0896C**, IAB 8/7/13, effective 7/9/13; **ARC 1970C**, IAB 4/15/15, effective 5/20/15]