



# Ashtabula County Online Consortium Website Development Grant Program

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## Mission and Objectives

The purpose of the Ashtabula County Online Consortium (ACOC) is to provide internet technology leadership to all community centered, non-profit organizations to create and maintain a comprehensive website containing information about Ashtabula County. The ACOC will promote Ashtabula County as a good place to live, work and visit, and will increase our sense of community by fostering communication among residents, businesses and other organizations.

## Type of Assistance

The ACOC and the Civic Development Corporation of Ashtabula County offers this financial assistance to non-profit organizations within Ashtabula County. Grants are given for the development of websites for the applicant organization. No grant monies are to be used for operational expenses of a website, such as annual hosting costs, or computer hardware. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis provided sufficient justification is included with the application.

## Financial Options

1. Basic Website Development Grant - A limited number of cash grants will be made available to qualifying non-profit organizations in Ashtabula County specifically for the purpose of developing a website. The maximum amount of the *Basic Website Development Grant* is \$500.00.
2. Expanded Website Development Grant – As of 12/07/05, Expanded grants are no longer available, only Basic grants will be awarded with the remaining funds. ~~This grant applies to organizations that qualify and receive the *Basic Website Development Grant* and who have interest in developing a more comprehensive website. This is a matching grant program in which the applying organization must match dollar for dollar after the initial \$500.00 grant (from the *Basic Website Development Grant*). An organization may receive up to an additional \$1500.00, providing there is a 50% financial participation commitment. The max dollar amount that one organization could receive from the ACOC is \$2000. This \$2000 sum is achieved by combining a \$500 basic grant with the max matching grant amount of \$1500. Since the last \$1500 must be equally matched by the grantee, a \$3500 total would result.~~

## Criteria for Grant Applicants

An organization applying for assistance must meet the following criteria:

- Be an Ohio non-profit organization, non-profit club or recognized educational institution;
- Have a permanent Ashtabula County address or presence;
- Have an organizational mission statement compatible with the goals and objectives of ACOC;
- Demonstrate the need/benefit of a website in accomplishing the organization's mission;
- Demonstrate a commitment to the on-going maintenance and updating of a website;
- Demonstrate an ability to fund operating costs associated with a website;
- New website development only (can not be used to fund existing websites or website development already in progress);
- Grantee must guarantee the website will be up and running within six months of notification of grant award.

## Procedures

- An organization wishing to apply for assistance shall complete the application form and include all required documentation. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications will be reviewed in the order in which they are received.
- Once an applicant has been notified of the approval for the grant (then known as the Grantee), the monies will be distributed in the form of reimbursements. The Grantee is responsible for up-front costs incurred for website development. Reimbursement checks will be made out to the Grantee, not to the provider of service. The Grantee will be reimbursed within four to six weeks after the submission of proper invoices and/or receipts. Reimbursements will be applied against the total amount of the grant.

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## Other

- The ACOC grant offer is available until funding has been exhausted. Please remember, this grant program is for new website development only. One grant request per organization, please.
- The following statement and link must appear on the front page of your web site: “This page paid for in part from funds provided by the Ashtabula County Online Consortium, for more information see <http://www.ashtabula.com> ”

In an effort to assist ACOC Website Development Grant applicants in their process of researching costs associated with a website, listed below are local Website Developers who may be able to provide website development for your organization. Please remember to include price quotes from Website Designer(s) if you decide to choose this option.

- Note: It is the responsibility of the Grantee (applicant) that they be aware of copyright considerations when contracting with web site developers. Grant applicants must initial a statement in the grant application form acknowledging that they understand and accept the responsibility for copyright considerations encountered in the course of web site development.
- Developers that are listed on the ACOC Grant Program Information page are each asked to define their requirements and expectations for protecting work that they may be commissioned to perform on behalf of the Grantee. If the developer has responded with the requested information, their response has been included as a “copyright policy” link along with their contact information.

ACOC does not endorse or recommend any of the Website Developers listed below. This list is provided only as information. Should your project require website development service, ACOC encourages utilizing a local provider.

## Ashtabula County Website Developers:

- American Network Technologies; Ralph Varckette and Don Buganski, <mailto:ralphv@mac.com>, Ashtabula, Oh, (440) 998-4709
- Hiller Studios; <http://www.hillerstudios.com> , Patrick Hiller, <mailto:solutions@hillerstudios.com>, Erie, Pa (814) 459-9157, view /print Hiller Studios’ copyright policy [http://www.hillerstudios.com/pdf/hs\\_copyright\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.hillerstudios.com/pdf/hs_copyright_guidelines.pdf)

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Ashtabula County Website Developers – continued:

- SLHSolutions; <http://www.slh-solutions.com/> Shawn L. Hall, <mailto:slh@slh-solutions.com>  
view/print SLHSolutions copyright policy <http://www.slh-solutions.com/webcopyright.htm>
- SOHOsoft; <http://www.sohosoft.net/>, Rick Moore, <mailto:rickmoore@sohosoft.net>, P.O. Box 341,  
Kingsville, Oh 44048-0341, (440) 796-2488
- Thayer Web Design; <http://www.thayerwebdesign.com>, Priscilla Oeffner,  
<mailto:info@thayerwebdesign.com>, Jefferson, Oh, (440) 576-3977
- The Webzar.com Inc.; <http://www.webzar.com/>, Richard Zidonis, <mailto:info@webzar.com>,  
Ashtabula, Oh, (440) 964-5767, view/print Webzar.com's copyright policy  
<http://www.webzar.com/policy.htm>

If you are a Website Designer and would like to be considered to be included on this list, please email your request to:

Troy Bailey at: <mailto:accoa@ashtabulaseniors.org>

To report errors, please email:

Ed Ireland at: <mailto:eireland@suite224.net>

Examples of other costs that a grant applicant may wish to consider and include:

- Web-page designing software (if you choose not to hire a Web Designer)
- Domain Name Registration
- Programming
- Consulting/Design
- Graphic design