



City of Forks 2025 Application for Lodging Tax Funds

Due: September 23, 2024 by 5:00 p.m.

Amount of Lodging Tax Requested:

Organization/Agency Name:

Federal Tax ID Number (EIN):

Event or Activity Name:

Contact Name and Title:

Mailing Address: City: State: Zip:

Phone: Email Address:

Check all service categories that apply to this application:

- Tourism Promotion/Marketing
- Operation of a Special Event/Festival designed to attract tourists
- Operation of a Tourism Promotion Agency
- Operation of a Tourism-Related Facility owned or operated by a non-profit organization
- Operation and/or Capital Costs of a Tourism-Related Facility owned by a municipality

Check which one of the following applies to your agency:

- Non-Profit (*Attach copy of current non-profit corporate registration with Washington Secretary of State*)
- Public Agency

CERTIFICATION

I am an authorized agent of the organization/agency applying for funding. I understand that:

- I am proposing a tourism-related service for 2025. If awarded, my organization/agency will enter into a Municipal Services Contract with the City and may be required to **provide liability insurance for the duration of the contract** naming the City as additional insured and in an amount determined by the City; and file for a permit to use City property, if applicable.
- The City of Forks will only reimburse those costs actually incurred by my organization/agency and only after the service is rendered, paid for if provided by a third party, and a signed request for reimbursement has been submitted to the City, including copies of invoices and payment documentation (no exclusions).
- If awarded, my organization/agency will be required to submit a report documenting economic impact results in a format determined by the City. **This report is due after the event/activity and no later than January 30, 2026, 5:00 p.m.**

Signature: _____

Date:

Printed or Typed Name:

Supplemental Questions – You may use this form or a separate sheet of paper for answers

1. Describe your tourism-related activity or event. If an event, list the event name, date(s), and projected overall attendance. Describe why tourists will travel to Forks to attend your event/activity/facility.

2. *(Some of the estimates in question #2 are required by State law)*

As a direct result of your proposed tourism-related service, provide an estimate of:	
a. Overall attendance at your proposed event/activity/facility	
b. Number of people who will travel more than 50 miles for your event/activity	
c. Of the people who travel more than 50 miles, the number of people who will travel from another country or state	
d. Of the people who travel more than 50 miles, the number of people who will stay overnight in Forks or the Forks area	
e. Of the people staying overnight, the number of people who will stay in PAID accommodations (hotel/motel/bed-breakfast) in Forks or Forks area	
f. Number of paid lodging room nights resulting from your proposed event/activity/facility	

What methodology did you use to calculate the estimates?

3. Describe the prior success of your event/activity/facility in attracting tourists.

4. Describe your target tourist audience (location, demographics, etc.)

5. Describe how you will promote your event/activity/facility to attract tourists.

6. Describe how you will promote lodging establishments, restaurants, and businesses located in the City of Forks.

7. **What is the overall budget for your event/activity/facility? What percent of the budget are you requesting from City of Forks Lodging Tax Fund?**

8. **What will you cut from your proposal or do differently if full funding for your request is not available or recommended?**

9. **Describe the method you will use to gather data necessary to complete post-reporting requirements. (See page 5.)**

Application Instructions and General Guidelines

Application Deadline: September 23, 2024, 5:00 p.m. – received at Forks City Hall.

To be eligible for consideration, your complete proposal must be received by the deadline.

City Council will review proposals in a public meeting on November 25, 2024, 5:30 p.m. at Forks City Hall, Council Chambers.

Submit application to:

Caryn DePew, Clerk/Treasurer
City of Forks
500 East Division Street
Forks, WA 98331

- ⇒ **You must complete and sign the cover sheet with this packet.**
- ⇒ **You may use the Supplemental Form or type the questions and answers on separate sheets of paper.**

Attach:

1. Itemized budget for your event/activity/facility (income and expenses).
2. Description and budget showing how you intend to use the amount requested from the City of Forks.
3. A copy of your organization’s current non-profit corporate registration with the Washington Secretary of State.
4. A list of your organization’s board members.
5. (Optional) Brochures or other information about your event/activity/facility, in particular items showing recent tourism promotion efforts.
6. All copies need to be single sided and not stapled. Brochures must be printed on 8.5” X 11” paper.

The proposal and all documents filed with the City are public records and may be disclosed to a third-party requestor per the Washington State Public Records Act (RCW 42.56).

General Information

The City of Forks Lodging Tax Fund is the sole source of City funding for activities, operations, and expenditures designed to increase tourism. The City does not make any multi-year commitments for tourism promotion services. However, service providers are not limited or prohibited from making annual requests of the same nature.

The City intends to maintain a reserve in the Fund, and will assess on an annual basis how much of the Fund to appropriate in a given year.

The City of Forks will only consider proposals for use of the Lodging Tax Fund from public and non-profit agencies.

HIGH PRIORITY will be given to tourism activities that:

- Have a demonstrated potential or high potential to result in overnight stays by tourists in lodging establishments within the City of Forks.
- Promote Forks and/or events, activities, and places in the City of Forks to potential tourists from outside the area.
- Have demonstrated or show high potential to result in documented economic benefit to Forks.
- Have a demonstrated history of success in Forks, or are proposed by a group with a demonstrated history or high potential of success with similar activities.
- Minimize duplication of services where appropriate and encourage cooperative marketing and/or includes an element of cooperation or partnership.
- Provide, maintain, operate, or enhance City-owned tourism facilities or infrastructure.

In developing its recommendations, the City considers:

- The estimated amount of Lodging Tax Fund available for the coming year as provided by the Clerk/Treasurer.
- Thoroughness and completeness of the proposal.
- Percent of the proposal request to the event/activity overall budget and revenues.
- Projected economic impact within the City of Forks, in particular projected overnight stays in Forks lodging establishments.
- The applicant's financial stability.
- The applicant's history of tourism promotion success.

If your application is approved for funding, you must request payment in full no later than 60 days after the event or by January 9, 2026, whichever is sooner. There will be no carryover of unexpended funds.

Post-reporting Requirements

Per RCW 67.28.1816, successful applicants must submit a report to the City describing the actual number of people traveling for business or pleasure on a trip:

- a. Away from their place of residence or business and staying overnight in paid accommodations;
- b. To a place fifty miles or more one way from their place of residence or business for the day or staying overnight; or
- c. From another country or state outside of their place of residence or their business.

State Law Excerpts

RCW 67.28.1816 – Use of Lodging Tax Fund.

Lodging tax revenue under this chapter may be used, directly by any municipality or indirectly through a convention and visitors bureau or destination marketing organization for:

- a. Tourism marketing;
- b. The marketing and operations of special events and festivals designed to attract tourists;
- c. Supporting the operations and capital expenditures of tourism-related facilities owned or operated by a municipality or a public facilities district created under chapters 35.57 and 36.100 RCW; or
- d. Supporting the operations of tourism-related facilities owned or operated by nonprofit organizations described under 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3) and 26 U.S.C. Sec 501(c)(6) or the internal revenue code of 1986, as amended.

RCW 67.28.080 – Definitions.

- "Municipality" means any county, city or town of the state of Washington.
- "Operation" includes, but is not limited to, operation, management, and marketing.
- "Person" means the federal government or any agency thereof, the state or any agency, subdivision, taxing district or municipal corporation thereof other than county, city or town, any private corporation, partnership, association, or individual.
- "Tourism" means economic activity resulting from tourists, which may include sales of overnight lodging, meals, tours, gifts, or souvenirs.
- "Tourism promotion" means activities and expenditures designed to increase tourism, including but not limited to advertising, publicizing, or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of attracting and welcoming tourists; developing strategies to expand tourism; operating tourism promotion agencies; and funding marketing of special events and festivals designed to attract tourists.
- "Tourism-related facility" means real or tangible personal property with a usable life of three or more years, or constructed with volunteer labor, and used to support tourism, performing arts, or to accommodate tourist activities.
- "Tourist" means a person who travels from a place of residence to a different town, city, county, state, or country, for purposes of business, pleasure, recreation, education, arts, heritage, or culture.