

# Spark Scoring Guidance

An overview of scoring categories within the Michigan DNR Spark Grant application.

June 1st, 2023

# DNR Spark Grant Program

## Intro-

- Purpose of video
- Overview of program
- Explanation of tiered scoring
- Details on new scoring report

# All Updated Resources Available on the Spark Grant Website

The screenshot shows the Michigan Department of Natural Resources website. The browser address bar displays [michigan.gov/dnr/buy-and-apply/grants/rec/sparkgrants](https://michigan.gov/dnr/buy-and-apply/grants/rec/sparkgrants). The navigation menu includes: Things to do, Places to go, Buy and apply, Education and safety, Managing your resources, About us, and Events. The 'Buy and apply' menu is expanded, showing options: Go to Buy and apply, Search for permits and more, Recreation Passport, Forest carbon projects, and Grants. The 'Grants' section is also visible, with a 'Go to Grants' link and a paragraph of text. Three numbered arrows indicate the navigation path: Arrow 1 points to the 'Buy and apply' menu; Arrow 2 points to the 'Grants' link in the expanded menu; Arrow 3 points to the 'Recreation' link under the 'Grants' section.

1 ↑

2 ↑

3 ↑


# Updated Resources Available on the Spark Grant Website

michigan.gov/dnr/buy-and-apply/grants/rec/sparkgrants

Favorites Google Maps RTW Supervisor Da... GMS-WorkLogs Worklogs - OneDrive American Rescue Pl...


**Information for applicants**

**1** ↓

 **Program webinar**


View a [recording](#) or [the slide deck](#) of the Oct. 28 webinar that provided a walk-through of the application process.

**2** ↓


 **Sample application**

Sample application with scoring criteria shows what the application will look like and how questions will be scored.

**3** ↓

 **Program booklet**

The program handbook provides the information you will need to prepare and submit your application.

 **Questions and answers**

Find answers to frequently asked questions about the grant, eligibility, application process and more.

**Additional resources**

- [Universal accessibility guidance](#)
- [Example site development plan 1](#)
- [Example site development plan 2](#)
- [Draft site control form](#)
- [Example resolution](#)

# Login to MiGrants: Launch the "Spark Application Score Report"

The screenshot shows the MiGrants interface. At the top left is the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) logo. The header includes navigation links: Home, Administration, Searches, and Reports. The Reports menu is open, showing a list of categories: ARPA, Grant History, Spark, General, Rec Grants, Marine Safety, and Invasive. The 'Spark' category is highlighted, and a sub-menu is visible with the option 'Spark Application Score' marked with a star. A button labeled 'Initiate Related Document' is also present. Three numbered arrows indicate the navigation path: arrow 1 points to the Reports menu, arrow 2 points to the Spark category, and arrow 3 points to the Spark Application Score option.

**1** Reports -

- ARPA
- Grant History
- Spark
- General
- Rec Grants
- Marine Safety
- Invasive

**2** Spark

**3** Spark Application Score ☆

Initiate Related Document

# Spark Application Score Report Information



MiGrants  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Home Administration - Searches - Reports -

## Spark Application Score

Instructions: Select an organization from the drop down menu and hit Search.

**Please note:** To display on this report, the Spark application must be in the status 'Scoring Report Available' or 'Additional Info in Process'. If it is any other status, it WILL NOT display on this report.

For the full question text and further guidance, please refer to the Sample Application.

For question 3, Financial and Social Considerations, refer to the Spark Grant Data GIS Map.

For the Spark Scoring Tier Summary, please click [here](#).

The information provided in this report and in the link above represents only of round one and will not be updated with any new applications submitted as part of round two.

### Scoring Categories

Public Benefit and Anticipated Outcomes - **Maximum of 24 Points**

Access to Project Site - **Maximum of 17 Points**

Financial and Social Considerations - **Maximum of 19 Points**

Clarity of Scope and Ability to Execute - **Maximum of 14 Points**

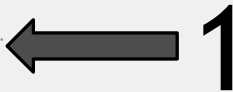
Access to New Opportunities for People of All Abilities - **Maximum of 15 Points**

New Construction, Renovation and Future Maintenance - **Maximum of 11 Points**

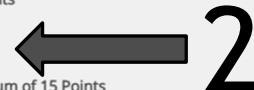
Total Score - **Maximum of 100 Points**

### Search Criteria

Organization



1



2



3

# Spark Application Score Report Instructions

Home Administration - Searches - Reports - 🔍 📄 Dan Lord -

### Search Criteria

Organization  **1** ←

**2** →

**3** ←

Drag a column header and drop it here to group by that column

Utilities	6a1 and 6a2. (Max of 7 points)	6b. (Max of 2 points)	6c. (Max of 2 points)	6. New Construction, Renovation and Future Maintenance	Total Score	Tier
	0	1	1	2	69	Tier 7
	5	1	2	8	63	Tier 9
	3	1	2	6	71	Tier 6

# Round 1 Results

Tiers	Score Range	Number of Apps	Cumulative	Total Request	Cumulative
Tier 1	Funded	21	21	\$14,178,900.00	\$14,178,900.00
Tier 2	83-89	10	31	\$4,804,600.00	\$18,983,500.00
Tier 3	80-82	20	51	\$11,729,600.00	\$30,713,100.00
Tier 4	77-79	39	90	\$27,618,200.00	\$58,331,300.00
Tier 5	74-76	45	135	\$28,802,100.00	\$87,133,400.00
Tier 6	70-73	62	197	\$39,466,100.00	\$126,599,500.00
Tier 7	67-69	55	252	\$32,215,400.00	\$158,814,900.00
Tier 8	64-66	55	307	\$33,418,400.00	\$192,233,300.00
Tier 9	60-63	56	363	\$36,648,900.00	\$228,882,200.00
Tier 10	0-59	99	462	\$52,115,700.00	\$280,997,900.00

**\$23 million for Applications received May 1 - June 26, 2023**



# Scoring Category 1

<b>1. Public Benefit and anticipated outcomes</b>	<b>Score</b>
1a. How was the community negatively impacted by COVID? How does this project address that? (Maximum of 10 points)	0, 5, 10
1b. How will this project contribute to strong healthy communities that promote health and safety? (Maximum of 8 points)	0, 4, 8
1c. What kind of stakeholder and community input did you have? (Maximum of 4 points)	0, 2, 4
1d. Certified Resolution from the highest governing body (Maximum of 2 Points)	0, 2
<b>Section 1 Score (Max of 24 Points)</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Notes</b>	
<p>a. Provide community specific information and impact to recreation during Covid (e.g. programming, usership, etc.).</p> <p>b. Focus on the project impacts.</p> <p>c. Please provide design input regarding project accessibility under the scoring category for “Access to new opportunities for people of all abilities” next to the appropriate group.</p> <p>d. You must include a signed and certified copy of the resolution in the Spark grant application. The resolution language must include: • Project name • Park name • Amount requested from the Spark program • If applicable, additional funding sources and amounts • Signed and certified</p>	

# Scoring Category 2

<b>2. Access to Project Site</b>	<b>Score</b>
2a. Access to the Project Site: Based upon the geographic location of the proposed project or park entrance, the DNR will determine recreation space per capita. (Maximum of 7 Points) - GIS	0-7
2b. How will the public reasonably access the project site. (Maximum of 7 Points)	0-7
2c. What programs and partnerships currently exist that bring people to your project and activate the space? Example - Summer camp, farmers market, music in the park etc. (Maximum of 3 Points)	0-3
<b>Section 2 Score (Max of 17 Points)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Notes</b>	
a. GIS data is based on geographic location and demographic information only. Additional information will not be considered.	
b. Modes of transportation (e.g., skateboard, scooter) using the same access are not awarded additional points.	

# Scoring Category 3

<b>3. Financial and Social Considerations</b>	<b>Score</b>
Household income, park density, and health are all important attributes of a strong, healthy community and the basis for the social and financial scoring section. DNR will score this section based on statewide available data and the geographical location of the proposed project. Additional information regarding the criteria is available in the application guidelines. Total of 19 points available and will display in the scoresheet once scoring is complete.	0-19
<b>Section 3 Score (Max of 19 Points)</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Notes</b>	
GIS data is based on geographic location and demographic information only. Additional information will not be considered.	

# Scoring Category 4

<b>4. Clarity of scope and ability to execute</b>	<b>Score</b>
4a. Provide your targeted dates for the following project milestones. (Maximum of 10 Points)	0, 5, 10
4b. Are Federal, State and/or Local permits required for the project?* (Maximum of 4 Points)	0, 1, 3, 4
<b>Section 4 Score (Max of 14 Points)</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Notes</b>	
a. Completion dates are requested, not the start date.	
b. Local permits (e.g., soil erosion, building permits) should be included.	

# Scoring Category 5

<b>5. Access to new opportunities for people of all abilities</b>	<b>Score</b>
5a. Please select what groups you have received feedback from and upload the associated support documentation. (Letters, plan review comments, testimonials, etc.) (Maximum of 5 Points)	0, 3, 5
5b. What specific features make your project unique and can clearly show that input from the above groups has been incorporated? (Maximum of 10 Points)	0, 5, 10
<b>Section 5 Score (Max of 15 Points)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Notes</b>	
a. Please provide design review(s) of your project.	
b. Explain how your project incorporates universal and/or inclusive design principles.	

# Scoring Category 6

<b>6. Renovation and Long-term Maintenance</b>	<b>Score</b>
6a1 and 6a2. What type of scope is included for the project? (Maximum of 7 Points)	0, 3, 5, 7
6b. Describe the selection of materials, the way the project is designed, and other features that make it sustainable. (Maximum of 2 Points)	0, 1, 2
6c. What design features or considerations in your project reduces long term maintenance? (Maximum of 2 Points)	0, 1, 2
<b>Section 6 Score (Maximum of 11 points)</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Notes</b>	
a. Points are awarded for scope items listed under “b” for renovation/redevelopment.	
b. Describe environmentally friendly features are incorporated into the project.	
<b>Total Score (Maximum of 100 Points)</b>	<b>100</b>

# Resubmit Round 1 Application

Scoring Report Available

Additional App Info In Process

Application	
Applicant Information	✓
Narrative Details - Part 1	✓
Narrative Details - Part 2	✓
Financial Details	✓
Additional Information	✓
Certification by Authorized Official	✓

- Change the Status
- Edit the Additional Information page
- Make sure to reference the scoring category when providing additional information.

## Additional Information

Provide any additional information relevant to the project such as site photos, support letters, surveys, etc.

5.b. Our project will create an inclusive "scope item" with the following design elements as recommended by "5a review letters"...

Title:

5.a Technical Review DN

Document Upload:

Select

Drag Files Here

# Closing

- ▶ Applicants who have already submitted for Round 2 may reach out to their grant coordinator if you would like to edit the Additional Information page.
- ▶ UEI and SIGMA numbers are required and must be edited in your Organization Profile.
- ▶ All applications must be submitted via MiGrants
- ▶ The Authorized Official must Change the Status to “Submit Application”
- ▶ **Deadline is June 26th at 11:59pm EST**



Submit Application

DNR Review



# Grant Coordinator Contact

- ▶ Upper Peninsula and Oakland and Wayne counties: Merrie Carlock, 248-410-5892 or [CarlockM@Michigan.gov](mailto:CarlockM@Michigan.gov)
- ▶ Eastern Region: Samantha Davis, 517-599-4450 or [DavisS46@Michigan.gov](mailto:DavisS46@Michigan.gov)
- ▶ Western Region: Alexandria Galloway, 517-242-3007 or [GallowayA@Michigan.gov](mailto:GallowayA@Michigan.gov)
- ▶ Central Region: Riley Millard, 517-927-4037 or [MillardR2@michigan.gov](mailto:MillardR2@michigan.gov)
- ▶ Southern Region: Charamy Cleary, 517-599-4565 or [ClearyC1@Michigan.gov](mailto:ClearyC1@Michigan.gov)