American Rescue Plan Humanities Operating Support Grants

Application Opens: June 16th 2021
Application Deadline: July 15th 2021 at 11:59 PM
Request Range: $5,000-$20,000
Grant Period of Performance Deadline: February 28, 2022[1]

North Carolina Humanities is providing operating support grant funding for North Carolina non-profit cultural organizations experiencing hardships due to the pandemic. This grant funding is available via the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the federal **American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the coronavirus.**

Eligible operating expenses for humanities organizations include but are not limited to:
- Staff salaries
- Contract or temporary positions
- Basic institutional and operational costs such as purchasing equipment or systems (i.e. technology and communication systems)
- Rent/Mortgage
- Utilities
- Pandemic-related professional development for staff and volunteers
- Securing and protecting property and collections
- Other general operating costs

Please see our [Grant Guidelines](#) for detailed instructions on NC Humanities' expectations for proposals, Restrictions and Policies Governing NC Humanities grant funds, review criteria, a full list of ineligible grant expenses, and FAQs.

Eligibility
- Organization must be located in North Carolina.
- Organization must have a DUNs number.
- Organization must not be presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from receiving federal grants.
- Organization must demonstrate hardship due to the pandemic.
- Organization must have an EIN and be either a non-profit humanities organization or tax-exempt government entity with a humanities mission.
- Please note, no grant match is required.
- ELIGIBLE: Organizations with a humanities mission and track record of humanities programming – including, but not limited to, archives, cultural centers, community or cultural heritage organizations, historic sites, historic preservation organizations, historical societies, literature organizations that provide public humanities programming, museums, humanities media/film organizations.
    - Note: Organizations whose core mission falls outside of the humanities and the humanistic social sciences (including the creation or performance of art; creative writing, autobiographies, memoirs, and creative nonfiction; and quantitative social science research or policy studies, and religious organizations) are **NOT** eligible to receive funding for operating support but *may be eligible* for our ARP project support grant (please view the RFP for ARP Humanities Project Grants).

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[1] All grant activities must be concluded by this date.

- **INELIGIBLE:** For-profits, foreign entities, individuals, chapters of national organizations, universities/colleges/academic departments, K-12 schools, libraries, visual/performance/literary arts organizations, political or advocacy organizations, social science research or policy study organizations, organizations that do not have a stated commitment to humanities programming, or organizations which provide programs or services limited solely to the members of a particular religious group.

Priorities

Applications that meet one or more of the following criteria will be given priority:
- Organizations who do not receive significant public support,
- Organizations in rural communities,
- Organizations primarily serving traditionally under-resourced groups including communities of color or other marginalized groups (Seniors, ALAANA (those of African, Latinx, Asian, Arab, and/or Native American descent), People with Disabilities, New Ameri-cans (Immigrants, Refugees, First Generation Americans), Low-Income, and LGBTQIA).

How to Apply

1. Please review NC Humanities Grant Guidelines (ARP grant specific) before applying.
2. Watch this video tutorial on the application process.
3. Get started on your application by clicking "Login/Create Account" in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. We regret that feedback cannot be given on draft applications.

   - A. If you are new to the online system, please create an account prior to applying. Once you have created your account and are logged in to your Applicant Dashboard, click "Apply" in the upper left-hand corner to view an alphabetical list of all open funding opportunities. **Please bookmark the login page for ease of access.**
   - B. If you have previously created an account, please click here to login. Once on your Applicant Dashboard click "Apply" in the upper left-hand corner to view an alphabetical list of all open funding opportunities. **Please bookmark the login page for ease of access.**

4. We anticipate that decisions will be announced 6-8 weeks after submission after the submission deadline, however this is subject to the volume of applications received. All decisions will be announced via our online application management system.
   - Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Submission of an application does not guarantee approval. Due to the high volume of applications, we will not be able to provide comments on award decisions.
   - If you do not have internet access, please call our office at 704.687.1520

Questions? Register to attend one of our grant webinars at www.nchumanities.org or contact Caitlin Patton Stanley, Director of Grants and Compliance, at cpatton@nchumanities.org or (704) 687-1521

About North Carolina Humanities: North Carolina Humanities is a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Through public humanities programs and grantmaking, NC Humanities serves to connect North Carolinians with cultural experiences that spur dialogue, deepen human connections, and inspire community. To learn more, visit www.nchumanities.org.