CARES Act Grants 2020

Guidelines

Through funding made possible by the CARES Act to the National Endowment for the Humanities, Mass Humanities offers grants to support operating expenses at museums, libraries, archives, and other nonprofit organizations across Massachusetts.

Grants

Applicants can request a grant amount based on the organization’s operating budget as of 12/31/2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating Budget Expenses</th>
<th>Grant Amount Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$300,000 or less</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$300,001 to $999,999</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1 million or above</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DUNS Number

NEH requires all applicants for CARES Act grants to provide a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number at the time of application. If your organization does not have one, click here for instructions on how to register.

Registering for a DUNS number is free of charge, so if you encounter any organizations or websites soliciting a fee or charge to acquire a DUNS number it is likely a scam or fraudulent.

Eligibility

Massachusetts-based federally recognized tribes or 501(3) nonprofit organizations registered in Massachusetts that serve Massachusetts residents through the humanities are eligible to apply. Mass Humanities seeks to distribute the CARES Act funds to organizations around the state, with priority given to organizations with budgets of $300,000 or less.

Mass Humanities CARES Act Grants will support operating expenses only.
The following types of organizations are not eligible for funding through the CARES Act grants:

- Individuals or organizations that serve as fiscal sponsors
- Government agencies
- Universities, colleges, academic departments
- Organizations solely focused on the arts
- Political or advocacy organizations

Criteria

Mass Humanities will award grants based on:

- Audience served
- Centrality of the humanities to the organization's mission.
- Financial impact YTD due to COVID-19
- Financial loss projected through Aug. 1

Review and Notification

A committee of the Mass Humanities board of directors will approve grants on a rolling basis until all funds are expended.

Use of Funds

NEH requires that funds may not be used for:

- Promotion of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view
- Advocacy of a particular program of social or political action
- Support of specific public policies or legislation
- Lobbying
- Purchase of land or facilities, construction or renovation
- Subawards funded in whole or in part with federal funds to organizations that do not have a universal entity identifier (currently a DUNS number)

Reporting

Mass Humanities will require CARES Act grantees to complete a brief final report no later than September 1, 2020, listing the ways grants funds were expended and the impact of these funds on staff.