

Five Things You Can Do Now to Get Ready to Apply for Arts Endowment Funding in 2020

The National Endowment for the Arts' FY2021 funding guidelines are [posted online](#). So, now what? There is a lot of useful information on our website, all designed to enable you to submit the most competitive application possible. We encourage you to spend some time, in advance of the deadlines, clicking through our site to explore the available resources. And to help with that, we've pulled out a sampling of five things you can resolve to do **now**, to help you prepare to submit an application in 2020.

1. Take care of SAM.gov and Grants.gov registrations

These free federal registrations are required in order to apply for Arts Endowment grants. Make sure your organization has a [DUNS Number](#), and then take advantage of the help lines provided by both [SAM.gov](#) and [Grants.gov](#) to keep your registrations up to date.

2. Read the guidelines

Each grant program description and set of guidelines walks through important details on eligibility requirements, review criteria, project types, and more. Read through them in advance to help determine the best program fit for your project. Locals arts agencies will find GAP guidelines [here](#).

3. Watch the webinars

Webinars related to the 2020 grant programs will be posted soon, including recorded guidelines workshops for each of grant programs. Archived webinars on a variety of topics are available [here](#).

4. Access the Recent Grants Search tool and the FOIA Reading Room

In [Recent Grants](#), you can use a variety of filters in a searchable database to see who or what has been funded through our grant programs in recent years. Application narratives from selected applications are available to read through in the [FOIA Reading Room](#).

5. Contact staff

Now that you're checked off all of the above, don't hesitate to call [program staff](#) to ask questions. We're here to help, and always happy to talk through the funding programs and your projects.

And importantly, don't forget the step-by-step directions on preparing and submitting an application for each program, including [Grants for Arts Projects](#), with helpful tips, deadlines, and detailed instructions.