

Plan for Emergency Assistance Grants

The South Dakota Arts Council (SDAC) – with support from the National Endowment for the Arts through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act – has developed a program to help secure jobs and keep nonprofit organizations in South Dakota’s statewide arts community operational in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis.

SDAC has designed a plan to distribute critical CARES funds as quickly as possible. Emergency assistance will be carried out through one-time grants to eligible nonprofit arts and culture organizations.

Emergency Assistance Grants – Organizations

Types of Funding

For eligible arts and culture organizations, the following types of funding will be available:

- Operational Support for current SDAC Arts Challenge grant recipients, Fiscal Years 2019-2020: Funding will be distributed based on eligible operating expenses as reported in applications for the FY19-20 cycle. Funding will be provided through an amendment to existing grant agreements. **Organizations seeking immediate support must complete a pre-application.**
- Operational Support for selected FY19-20 SDAC Statewide Services grant recipients: Funding will be determined at the discretion of SDAC. Funding will be provided through an amendment to existing grant agreements. **Organizations seeking immediate support must complete a pre-application.**
- Small Organizational Support: Local or community arts organizations not currently receiving operating support from SDAC will be eligible for competitive one-time grants based on need. **Organizations seeking immediate support must complete a pre-application.**
- Residencies for Recovery: Community arts or service organizations can apply for funds to pay artists to conduct long-term community residencies during which artists will use their creative skillset to help address challenges born from the COVID-19 pandemic in a productive manner. Details and guidelines will be released June 1.

Eligibility (see “Additional Information” for further eligibility requirements)

You must be able to answer YES to all the following questions:

1. Is the applicant a nonprofit arts and cultural organization (or a current SDAC Arts Challenge Grant recipient)?
2. Does the applicant have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) of the U.S. IRS Code?
3. Is the applicant organization incorporated/physically located in the state of South Dakota?

Use of Funds

These funds are to be used for three main purposes:

1. Salary support (full or partial) for one or more staff members
2. Fees for artists and/or contractual personnel
3. Facility costs, such as rent and utilities

Funding Priorities

Eligible nonprofit arts and culture organizations facing significant financial hardship related to the COVID-19 pandemic; hardships include, but are not limited to:

- Temporary or permanent closure
- Loss of, or difficulty preserving, paid staff
- Loss of venue or workspace
- Significant loss of revenue

Emergency Assistance Grants descriptions

Operational Support – Arts Challenge/selected Statewide Services

- To receive Operational Support through the Emergency Assistance Grants program, current eligible grantees must complete the [online application](#) and be prepared to answer the following:
 - Have you been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic? How?
 - What do you intend to do with CARES funds? (see list of approved categories below)
 - Salary support (full or partial) for one or more staff members
 - Fees for artists and/or contractual personnel
 - Facility costs, such as rent and utilities
- Funding tiers – Arts Challenge grantees (ACG) based on eligible operating expenses (EOE) from FY19-20 applications; Statewide Services levels determined by SDAC
 - \$12,500 – ACGs with EOE above \$350,000
 - \$10,000 – ACGs with EOE above \$100,000
 - \$7,500 – ACGs with EOE above \$75,000
 - \$5,000 – ACGs with EOE above \$50,000
 - \$2,500 – ACGs with smallest operating budgets

Small Organizational Support – Competitive category for smaller organizations

- To receive a Small Organizational Support grant, smaller arts organizations must complete the [online application](#) and be prepared to answer the following:
 - Have you been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic? How?
 - What do you intend to do with CARES funds? (see list of approved categories below)
 - Salary support (full or partial) for one or more staff members
 - Fees for artists and/or contractual personnel
 - Facility costs, such as rent and utilities
- To be eligible, organizations must meet the following criteria:
 - Must directly address the arts in mission statement
 - More than 50 percent of programming must be arts-related
- Awards of up to \$2,500
- Grant awards determined by SDAC staff and the Council, its advisory board
- Application and scoring criteria focused on how organizations serve the community equitably. Community impact measured through inclusion, diversity, equity, and access should be directly addressed in application.

Additional Eligibility Information

Eligible organizations include:

- Arts Education Organizations - These organizations provide an arts education experience for students outside the K-12 classroom.
- Arts Service Organizations - These organizations provide support services for other arts and cultural organizations and/or artists locally, regionally, statewide (i.e., art councils).
- Collecting or Material Organizations - These organizations provide public access to physical collections and exhibits (i.e., museums, historical societies).
- Public Broadcasting Organizations - These organizations regularly provide significant arts and cultural programming and/or coverage of the activities of and issues facing South Dakota arts and cultural organizations.
- Literary Arts Organizations - These organizations provide opportunities in creative literary expression, presentation, and participation.
- Performing Arts Organizations - These organizations produce and/or present live, discipline-based performance experiences.
- Visual Arts/ Film/Video/Digital Organizations - These organizations encourage the creation and/or presentation of visual art forms, support artists, visual, and media arts.

Organizations NOT eligible to apply to this program include:

- Organizations whose primary mission does not focus on areas of art or culture
- For-profit organizations
- Government agencies, universities, colleges, academic departments, or entities with significant public funding
- K-12 schools
- Religious organizations
- Auxiliary support organizations (i.e., friends of xyz)
- Organizations that receive direct CARES relief funding from the National Endowment for the Arts or Arts Midwest grant programs