



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
**Humanities**

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

## **Digital Projects for the Public**

**Deadline: June 7, 2017 (for projects beginning January 2018)**

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 45.164

If after reading this document you have questions about this grant program, contact the staff of NEH's Division of Public Programs at 202-606-8269 or [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov). Applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing can contact NEH via Federal Relay (TTY users) at 800-877-8399.

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## I. Program Description

Digital Projects for the Public grants support projects that cogently interpret and analyze humanities content in formats that will attract broad public audiences. (You can find a more detailed description of the humanities [here](#).)

Digital platforms—such as websites, mobile applications and tours, interactive touch screens and kiosks, games, and virtual environments—can reach diverse audiences and bring the humanities to life for the American people. The program offers three levels of support for digital projects: grants for Discovery projects (early-stage planning work), Prototyping projects (proof-of-concept development work), and Production projects (end-stage production and distribution work). While projects can take many forms, shapes, and sizes, your request should be for an exclusively digital project or for a digital component of a larger project.

All Digital Projects for the Public projects should

- present analysis that deepens public understanding of significant humanities stories and ideas;
- incorporate sound humanities scholarship;
- involve humanities scholars in all phases of development and production;
- include appropriate digital media professionals;
- reach a broad public through a realistic plan for development, marketing, and distribution;
- create appealing digital formats for the general public; and
- demonstrate the capacity to sustain themselves.

All projects should demonstrate the potential to attract a broad, general, nonspecialist audience, either online or in person at venues such as museums, libraries, or other cultural institutions. Applicants may also choose to identify particular communities and groups, including students, to whom a project may have particular appeal.

NEH also welcomes applications for non-promotional digital components of a larger project. For these projects, you should explain how the digital platform will enrich the users' learning experience and engagement. For instance, if your request is for a mobile experience that would operate within a museum or would work in conjunction with a film, you should explain how this project element will substantially add to the audience's learning experience.

### Grant categories

Grants are available to support research, to design or create prototypes of digital projects, and to produce the actual projects. Projects must be intended for a broad American audience. Three levels of support are available: Discovery, Prototyping, and Production. Applicants are not required to obtain a Discovery grant before applying for a Prototyping grant, or to obtain a Prototyping grant before applying for a Production grant.

NEH encourages potential applicants to contact the staff of NEH's Division of Public Programs at 202-606-8269 or [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov) for advice on choosing the appropriate grant level.

**Discovery grants** (for up to \$30,000) are designed to fund the exploratory stages of a digital project that bring together experts on the project's content and media experts to assess the approaches that the project might take. Activities must include consultation with scholars, refinement of the humanities themes, analysis of potential platforms, and initial development work. In order to be successful at the Discovery level, the project team members should have a solid grasp of the content and collections with which they will work (and should be looking for a platform to engage the content). Alternatively, the project team members should have chosen a subject and a platform (and should be looking to assess and interpret the humanities content). In both cases, the project team must include both content experts and media experts.

**Discovery grants may be used for**

- content research and narrative development;
- consultation with humanities scholars;
- platform research and selection;
- identification or digitization of production assets;
- preliminary design;
- audience evaluation;
- user experience mockups; and
- storyboarding.

Discovery grants should culminate in the creation of a written design document that details fundamental aspects of the project such as the content, format, technical specifications, budget, work plan, intended audience, and learning objectives. The design document should serve as a roadmap for prototyping the project.

**Instructions for completing a Discovery grant application are available [here](#) (PDF).**

**Prototyping grants** (for up to \$100,000) support the creation of a proof-of-concept prototype. Proposals for Prototyping grants must include a [design document](#) (PDF) that describes the project's platform, user interface, design, and the ways in which the project's central humanities ideas will be conveyed. Prototyping grants should result in a digital prototype that explains the key digital features and humanities content of the project. These completed prototypes do not need to have finalized or designed each and every asset, but they should demonstrate the project's technological feasibility and design through screenshots, videos, mockups, or other illustrations. In the case of transmedia projects that utilize multiple formats, the prototype should feature two or more of the project's chosen platforms.

**Prototyping grants may be used for**

- refinement of humanities content;
- consultation with scholars and digital media experts;
- finalization of the platform;

- scripting;
- creation or digitization of audiovisual assets;
- user interface and backend development;
- testing (including early launches) and de-bugging;
- final design;
- audience evaluation; and
- other activities that will advance the project towards the production stage.

**Instructions for completing a Prototyping grant application are available [here](#) (PDF).**

**Production** grants (for up to \$400,000) support the production and distribution of humanities projects that have a primarily digital format. Applicants must submit a design document and a prototype that demonstrate a solid command of the humanities ideas and scholarship related to the subject. The prototype must also show how the narrative, audiovisual, and interactive elements function to bolster an audience's experience of the project's humanities ideas. NEH expects that by the conclusion of the grant period, the project team will have fully produced the project and distributed it for widespread audience use.

Production grants may be used for

- ongoing consultation with scholars;
- additional research and writing;
- fine-tuning the hardware, software, and platform;
- the final design, production, and distribution of digital media projects;
- finalization of the script and/or audiovisual assets;
- rights and licensing fees for audiovisual assets;
- production of complementary components such as museum displays;
- publication of complementary materials, such as catalogs and curriculum guides;
- publicity, outreach activities, and public programs; and
- project evaluation.

**Instructions for completing a Production grant application are available [here](#) (PDF).**

**Digital Projects for the Public awards may not be used for**

- archival efforts, preservation, online encyclopedias, cataloguing of materials and collections, digitization of archives, and/or databases without a strong narrative or interpretive element (applicants interested in such projects should consult the Division of Preservation and Access grant programs [here](#));
- the purchase of art, artifacts, or collections;
- the purchase of hardware or software exceeding 20 percent of the total grant award;

- the development of software, platforms, or user experiences that do not directly serve the proposed project (for grant opportunities supporting innovation in digital humanities, please see the [Digital Humanities Advancement Grants](#) program);
- general operations, renovation, or construction of production facilities; and
- programs designed to persuade audiences of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view.

## User-generated content

NEH funds cannot be used to support obscene, libelous, indecent, or defamatory content (including hate speech, personal attacks, or material constituting harassment). Projects receiving NEH funds must demonstrate how user-generated content would be monitored.

## The Common Good: The Humanities in the Public Square

NEH invites projects related to its initiative, [The Common Good: The Humanities in the Public Square](#). This initiative seeks to connect the study of the humanities to the current conditions of national life. Many of today's challenges require more than ever the forms of understanding and knowledge represented by the humanities. They require the broadest possible engagement of scholars and the public with the resources of the humanities, including but not limited to the study of language, literature, history, philosophy, comparative religion, and ethics. The study of the humanities can help illuminate the complexity of many contemporary challenges while enriching our understanding of the common good.

Note that the Common Good initiative incorporates the [Standing Together](#) initiative, which encourages projects related to war and military service.

## Humanities and science and technology

The Division of Public Programs encourages projects that examine connections between the humanities and science and technology. The humanities can offer significant insight into scientific discovery, scientific thinking, and the historical, cultural, and ethical implications of various technologies. Proposals must demonstrate sound humanities and science scholarship. Projects must involve collaboration between the project team and advisers drawn from the humanities and the sciences.

NEH also especially encourages projects that include Native American organizations and communities as lead applicants and project partners.

All applications will be given equal consideration in accordance with the program's evaluation criteria, whether or not they respond to the Common Good initiative or the Standing Together initiative, examine connections between the humanities and science and technology, or include Native American organizations and communities as lead applicants and project partners.

## EDSITEment

NEH's [EDSITEment website](#) is a respected source of educational materials for the classroom. NEH encourages applicants to create resources that would be appropriate for publishing on EDSITEment or promotion through EDSITEment.

## Providing access to grant products

As a taxpayer-supported federal agency, NEH endeavors to make the products of its awards available to the broadest possible audience. Our goal is for scholars, educators, students, and the American public to have ready and easy access to the wide range of NEH award products. NEH gives preference to those projects that provide free access to the public, when possible. You can find detailed guidance on access and dissemination matters in the “Distribution expectations and rights” section below.

NEH grantees must follow the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which is designed to eliminate discrimination on the basis of handicap in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. For more information consult Design for Accessibility: A Cultural Administrator's Handbook [here](#).

## Evaluation

### **NEH encourages audience evaluation throughout all stages of a project.**

Evaluation could include testing of the project's concept, approach, and key components.

NEH requires a final performance report that assesses how well the finished project met its goals. If the project is produced, the final report must include information on the project's reach (size of audience) and impact. NEH particularly wants to know how fully the project met its stated learning goals and how audiences were more deeply engaged in thinking about humanities ideas and questions as a result of the project.

## Acknowledgment of NEH support

NEH requires crediting for any program based on or incorporating the materials created with these awards, including any works derived from those materials. All grantees are expected to comply with NEH's credit requirements. For digital projects, grantees are required to include an acknowledgement of NEH support in any promotional descriptions of the project.

## Distribution expectations and rights

Once production is completed, NEH expects that projects will be offered for distribution to broad public audiences, so that the American public will have ready and easy access to the products of NEH awards. NEH must approve all distribution arrangements before they are finalized.



While the grantee owns the rights to the products of the grant, NEH reserves a nonexclusive and irrevocable right to use materials produced under a grant and to authorize others to use these materials for federal purposes. For more information on NEH's rights to grant products, please see [Article 23 of the General Terms and Conditions for Awards](#).

## Program income

Award recipients are required to report income earned from grant products during the grant period and for seven years following the end of the grant. In addition, a percentage of income earned during this period must be returned to NEH. The percentage is based upon the proportion of the total project costs that NEH supported. For further information, please see the [NEH Program Income Policy](#).

## Award information

Awards are made for a period of one to three years and may range up to \$30,000 (for Discovery grants), up to \$100,000 (for Prototyping grants), and up to \$400,000 (for Production grants).

Successful applicants will be awarded a grant in outright funds, matching funds, or a combination of the two, depending on the applicant's preference and the availability of funds.

(Learn more about [different types of grant funding](#).)

## Cost sharing

Cost sharing includes cash contributions to a project by the applicant and nonfederal third parties, as well as in-kind contributions, such as donated goods and services. Cost sharing also includes gift money raised to release federal matching funds. Although cost sharing is not required, this program is rarely able to support the full costs of projects approved for funding.

## Other award information

A grant from NEH for one stage of a project does not commit NEH to continued support for the project. Applications for each stage of a project are evaluated independently.

## Eligibility

Any U.S. nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status is eligible, as are state and local governmental agencies and federally recognized Indian tribal governments. Individuals are not eligible to apply. Individuals who wish to apply for NEH funding in this program must seek an eligible organization to sponsor the project and submit the application to NEH. Under this arrangement the sponsoring organization is considered the grantee of record and assumes all attendant responsibilities of a grantee organization.

NEH generally does not award grants to other federal entities or to applicants whose projects are so closely intertwined with a federal entity that the project takes on characteristics of the federal entity's own authorized activities. This does not preclude applicants from using grant funds from, or sites and materials controlled by, other federal entities in their projects.

Applicants may not submit multiple applications for the same project at the same deadline. If an application for a project is already under review, another application for the same project cannot be accepted. Applicants drawing substantially on a previous project should demonstrate how the proposed project will reach new audiences and expand on existing content.

All application materials must be received by the application deadline. Late, incomplete, or ineligible applications will not be reviewed.

## II. Preparing and Organizing your Application

### Resources for preparing a strong application

To prepare a strong application, applicants are encouraged to take the following steps:

- read these **guidelines** carefully, noting what information needs to be provided in the application;
- review the **sample narratives**, which are available on the [program resource page](#);
- consult the program's **evaluation criteria**, which are listed immediately below;
- read the **Frequently Asked Questions**, which are available on the [program resource page](#);
- contact the **program staff** (at 202-606-8269 or [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov)) to discuss your project and raise any questions you may have about the application; and
- submit an optional **draft proposal**, to which program staff will respond with suggestions and advice.

Applicants whose projects have received NEH support may apply for a grant for a new or subsequent stage of that project. These proposals receive no special consideration and will be judged by the same criteria as others in the grant competition. In addition, such applicants must substantially update their proposals and must include a description of the new activities and a justification of the new budget. Such applicants must also describe how the previously funded project met its goals.

## Evaluation criteria

Applications are evaluated according to the following criteria:

### 1. **Humanities content**

For all levels: The likely contribution of the project to public understanding of the humanities, including the significance of the subject and the humanities ideas; the quality and relevance of the humanities scholarship informing the project; and the extent to which the project offers an analytical perspective on its subject.

### 2. **Humanities advisers**

The qualifications and potential contributions of the advising scholars. (For Discovery applications: the degree to which the humanities advisers possess the necessary knowledge to interpret and assess the proposed humanities content and collections over the course of the grant period.)

### 3. **Creative approach, format, technical design, and sustainability**

For Discovery applications: the quality and viability of the chosen digital platform, or the quality and viability of the plan for choosing a digital platform.

For Prototyping applications: the likelihood that the chosen format(s) will effectively convey the humanities content to a broad, general audience in an engaging and thoughtful manner; the quality of the project's technical design.

For Production applications: the likelihood that the chosen format(s) will effectively convey the humanities content to a broad, general audience in an engaging and thoughtful manner; the quality of the project's technical design; the quality of the prototype in demonstrating the potential for creative and technical success; the sustainability of the project (as demonstrated by the proposed lifecycle of the project and any plans for its future use).

### 4. **Project resources**

The quality of the materials and resources that support the project's interpretive themes, ideas, and formats.

### 5. **Digital team**

The demonstrated technical skills and creative approach of the digital team, the quality of the team's previous work, and the likelihood of successful completion of the proposed project.

## 6. **Work plan**

The likelihood that the applicant will achieve the project's goals in a timely and efficient manner.

## 7. **Budget**

The appropriateness and reasonability of the project's costs.

## 8. **Audience, distribution, and evaluation**

The quality of the project's distribution plan and the likelihood that the proposed project would appeal to a broad, general audience. For Prototyping and Production applications, the likely effectiveness of the proposed audience evaluation for measuring the project's reach and impact.

As noted above, applicants are encouraged to contact program officers, who can answer questions about the review process and review preliminary drafts. NEH recommends that drafts be submitted at least six weeks before the deadline, so that staff will have adequate time to respond. Although staff comments are not part of the formal review process and have no bearing on the final outcome of the proposal, applicants have found them helpful in strengthening their applications. Draft proposals are optional; if you choose to submit a draft, send it as an attachment to an e-mail message to [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov) or to an individual program officer.

## Links to instructions for preparing your application

The [Discovery](#) (PDF), [Prototyping](#) (PDF), and [Production](#) (PDF) grant categories have different application requirements. Please click on the appropriate instructions for details on preparing your application. If you have questions about which grant category is appropriate for your project, please contact the staff of NEH's Division of Public Programs at 202-606-8269 or [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov).

## III. Submitting your Application

To be able to submit an application, applicants must have registered with Grants.gov and must have an updated Entity record in the System for Award Management (SAM). More detailed information is immediately below.

**All applications to this program must be submitted via Grants.gov.** NEH strongly recommends that you complete or verify your Grants.gov registration at least two weeks before the application deadline, since it takes time to process your registration.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires federal agencies to make information about the expenditure of tax funds available to the public. To facilitate this, the applicant organization must maintain current information in its Entity record in the System for Award Management (SAM). You must therefore review and update the information in your organization's Entity record at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently if required by changes in your organization's information or another award term. In order for your organization to apply for an award via Grants.gov, receive an award, or receive payment on an award, the information in its Entity record must be current. You can update your organization's Entity record [here](#). You may need a new SAM User Account to register your organization or update its Entity record. NEH strongly recommends that applicants update (or, if necessary, create) their SAM Entity record at least four weeks before the application deadline.

Links to the Grants.gov application package and instructions for preparing and submitting the package can be found on the [program resource page](#).

**Be sure to read the [document](#) (PDF) that explains how to confirm that you successfully submitted your application. It is your responsibility as an applicant to confirm that Grants.gov and subsequently NEH have accepted your application.**

## How to submit samples (and, for Production applications, prototypes)

We prefer work samples (and, for production applications, prototypes) to be submitted as hyperlinks. **Please ensure that your URL is working, and that it will continue to work through the duration of the review process (that is, through November 2017).** If your sample or your prototype is not available at a URL, please send **eight copies of a readable disk**. Each copy of the sample and each copy of the prototype (both the case and the disk) must be labeled with the name of the project director, the name of the applicant institution, the title of the project, and the title of the work sample or prototype. Send eight copies of the sample (and, for production applications, eight copies of the prototype) to

Digital Projects for the Public  
Division of Public Programs  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20506  
202-606-8269

NEH continues to experience lengthy delays in the delivery of mail by the U.S. Postal Service, and in some cases materials are damaged by the irradiation process. We recommend that samples and prototypes be sent by a commercial delivery service to ensure that they arrive intact by the receipt deadline.

## Deadlines for submitting optional draft proposals and applications

Draft proposals, which are optional, must be submitted at least six weeks before the deadline so that staff will have adequate time to respond. A response cannot be guaranteed if drafts arrive after this date. If you choose to submit a draft proposal, send it as an attachment to [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov).

**Applications must be received by Grants.gov on or before June 7, 2017**, for projects beginning in January 2018. Grants.gov will date- and time-stamp your application after it is fully uploaded. Applications submitted after that date will not be accepted. **Samples and (if necessary) prototypes must also arrive at NEH on or before June 7, 2017, to be considered as part of the application.**

## IV. What Happens After the Submission of an Application

### Review and selection process

Knowledgeable persons outside NEH will read each application and advise the agency about its merits. NEH staff comments on matters of fact or on significant issues that otherwise would be missing from these reviews, then makes recommendations to the National Council on the Humanities. The National Council meets at various times during the year to advise the NEH chairman on grants. The chairman takes into account the advice provided by the review process and, by law, makes all funding decisions. More details about NEH's review process are available [here](#).

Prior to making an award, NEH will conduct a risk assessment of successful applicants, consistent with Uniform Guidance [§200.205](#). (See below the next heading for more information about the Uniform Guidance provided by the Office of Management and Budget.) This assessment guards against the risk that federal financial assistance might be wasted, used fraudulently, or abused. Based on its risk assessment, NEH will include in the award documents specific conditions designed to mitigate the effects of the risk.

### Information for all applicants and for successful applicants

Applicants will be notified of decisions by e-mail in December 2017. Institutional grant administrators and project directors of successful applications will receive award documents by e-mail in January 2018. Award documents will identify the relevant terms, conditions, and administrative requirements that pertain to successful applications. The [Grant Management](#) section of the NEH website outlines all the responsibilities of award recipients, including anti-lobbying restrictions, in great detail. Applicants may obtain the evaluations of their applications by sending a letter to NEH, Division of Public Programs, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20506, or an e-mail message to [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov).

In September 2015 NEH adopted without exception a new government-wide regulation for federal awards, referred to as the “Uniform Guidance.” The Uniform Guidance applies to all NEH awards to organizations and is aimed at reducing the administrative burden on award recipients and improving accountability of federal financial assistance for tax payers (See 2 C.F.R. Part 200: [UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS.](#)) NEH will identify in each grantee’s award documents the relevant terms, conditions, and administrative requirements from the Uniform Guidance with which the grantee must comply.

Help NEH eliminate fraud and improve management by providing information about allegations or suspicions of waste, fraud, abuse, mismanagement, research misconduct (fabrication, falsification, plagiarism), or unnecessary government expenditures, during the period of award performance, to the NEH Office of the Inspector General. You can find details on how to report such allegations and suspicions [here](#).

## V. Additional Information

### Contact information for the program and Grants.gov

If you have questions about the program, contact:

Division of Public Programs  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20506  
202-606-8269  
[publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov)

Grants.gov: <http://www.grants.gov>  
Grants.gov help desk: [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)  
Grants.gov customer support tutorials and manuals:  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-tools-and-tips.html>  
Grants.gov support line: 1-800-518-GRANTS (4726)

### Privacy policy

Information in these guidelines is solicited under the authority of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, 20 U.S.C. 956. The principal purpose for which the information will be used is to process the grant application. The information may also be used for statistical research, analysis of trends, and Congressional oversight. Failure to provide the information may result in the delay or rejection of the application.

## Application completion time

The Office of Management and Budget requires federal agencies to supply information on the time needed to complete forms and also to invite comments on the paperwork burden. NEH estimates that the average time to complete this application is fifteen hours per response. This estimate includes time for reviewing instructions, researching, gathering, and maintaining the information needed, and completing and reviewing the application.

Please send any comments regarding the estimated completion time or any other aspect of this application, including suggestions for reducing the completion time, to the Chief Guidelines Officer, at [guidelines@neh.gov](mailto:guidelines@neh.gov); the Office of Publications, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, D.C. 20506; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (3136-0134), Washington, D.C. 20503. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB number.

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- **Verify and if necessary update your institution’s Entity record, or create an Entity record for your institution, at the System for Award Management (SAM).** Complete at least four weeks before the deadline.
- **Verify your institution’s registration or register your institution with Grants.gov.** Complete at least two weeks before deadline.
- **Download the application package from Grants.gov, or access it through Grants.gov Workspace.** The [program resource page](#) on NEH’s website has a direct link to the package. (Note that Grants.gov tells you to download the “application instruction” as well as the “application package.” The “application instruction” is this document, so there’s no need to download it.) You can also search Grants.gov for this program. The program resource page includes a direct link to the instructions for completing the package.
- **Complete the following forms contained in the Grants.gov application package.**
  1. Application for Federal Domestic Assistance - Short Organizational
  2. Supplementary Cover Sheet for NEH Grant Programs
  3. Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form
  4. Attachments Form—Using this form, attach the parts of your application as described in the guidelines:

ATTACHMENT 1: Table of contents (name the file “contents.pdf”)



- ATTACHMENT 2: Brief abstract (name the file “abstract.pdf”)
- ATTACHMENT 3: Application narrative (name the file “narrative.pdf”)
- ATTACHMENT 4: Bibliography (name the file “bibliography.pdf.”)
- ATTACHMENT 5: Résumés and letters of commitment (name the file “resumes.pdf”)
- ATTACHMENT 6: Description of your work sample (name the file “sample.pdf”)
- ATTACHMENT 7: Budget (name the file “budget.pdf”)
- ATTACHMENT 8: Images, if applicable (name the file “images.pdf”)
- ATTACHMENT 9: Design document, required only for Prototyping and Production grants (name the file “design.pdf”)
- ATTACHMENT 10: Prototype, required only for Production grants (name the file “prototype.pdf”)
5. Budget Narrative Attachment Form (also known as the Budget Narrative File)— Using this form, attach **only** a copy of the applicant institution’s current federally negotiated indirect-cost rate agreement (or an explanation why you are not attaching such an agreement). (See the Grants.gov instructions for institutional applicants, which are available on the [program resource page](#), for additional information.)

**Do not attach your application budget to the Budget Narrative Attachment Form; instead you must attach it to the Attachments Form (see above in the Application Checklist), as attachment 7.**

Your attachments must be in Portable Document Format (.pdf). We cannot accept attachments in their original word processing or spreadsheet formats. If you don’t already have software to convert your files into PDFs, many low-cost and free software packages will do so. You can learn more about converting documents into PDFs [here](#).

**Upload your application to Grants.gov.** NEH *strongly* suggests that you submit your application no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the day of the deadline. Doing so will leave you time to contact the Grants.gov help desk for support, should you encounter a technical problem of some kind. The Grants.gov help desk is now available seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day (except on [federal holidays](#)), at 1-800-518-4726. You can also send an e-mail message to [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov).

**Be sure to read the [document](#) (PDF) that explains how to confirm that you successfully submitted your application. It is your responsibility as an applicant to confirm that Grants.gov and subsequently NEH have accepted your application.**

## TIMELINE

**Before the June 7, 2017 deadline:** Contact Division of Public Programs program officers (at 202-606-8269 or [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov)) with questions and for advice (optional)

**April 26, 2017:** Submit draft application by this date (optional)

**May 10, 2017:** Create or verify your institution's Entity record at the System for Award Management by this date

**May 24, 2017:** Register your institution (or verify its registration) with Grants.gov by this date

**June 7, 2017:** Submit application through Grants.gov by this date

**August-September 2017:** peer review panels take place

**November 2017:** meeting of the National Council on the Humanities, followed by funding decisions

**December 2017:** applicants are notified of the funding decisions

**December 2017:** institutional grants administrators and project directors of successful applications receive award documents by e-mail

**January 2018:** successful applicants begin work on their projects