DIGITAL HUMANITIES ADVANCEMENT GRANTS WEBINAR

National Endowment for the Humanities
Office of Digital Humanities
Webinar for 2022 Funding Cycle
TOPICS COVERED

• Digital Humanities Advancement Grants program
• Funding statistics
• Deadlines & Eligibility
• Planning your application
• Review criteria
• Application & review process
• Resources
• Key dates
• Contact information
• Questions
2022 Program Priorities:

• research and refinement of innovative, experimental, or computationally-challenging methods and techniques

• enhancement or design of digital infrastructure, such as open-source code, tools, or platforms, that contribute to and support the humanities

• research that examines the history, criticism, ethics, or philosophy of digital culture or technology and its impact on society, including racial, religious, and/or gender biases

• evaluative studies that investigate the practices and the impact of digital scholarship on research, pedagogy, scholarly communication, and public engagement
**2017-2021 DHAGs**

149 awards | 15% funding average

- Find all [DHAG Awards in the NEH public database](#)
- Read white papers from past ODH awardees

**2022 DHAGs**

- Anticipated Funding: $2.2 million per deadline
- Awards: 12-15 per deadline
DEADLINES & ELIGIBILITY

**DHAG Deadlines:**
January 14, 2022
June 24, 2022

**Eligibility:**
(Section C., NOFO p. 5-6 for complete list):
- US & territorial 501 C3 orgs; state or local governmental agencies; federally recognized Native American tribal governments
- Project directors and Co-Project Directors may only submit 1 DHAG application per deadline.
- Do not submit identical applications to multiple NEH programs.
IS THIS PROJECT A DHAG?

What Grant Program Fits my Digital Project?

Does your project fit within our program priorities?

Other divisions also fund DH:
- Division of Education Programs
- Division of Preservation and Access
- Division of Public Programs
- Division of Research Programs
- Office of Challenge Grants
ACTIVITIES WE DO NOT FUND

Funding Restrictions (NOFO pp 26):

- projects that mainly involve digitization, unless the applicant is proposing an innovative method for digitization;
- projects that primarily develop humanities content for websites, mobile applications, games, and virtual environments, unless the applicant is proposing innovative methods or developing new technologies;
- the creation or conversion of a scholarly journal (although the implementation of new modes of scholarly publication is permitted);
- undergraduate or graduate course development;
- recurring maintenance costs that would support only the day-to-day operations of existing projects rather than substantive changes or upgrades;
- projects that fall outside of the humanities; the creation or performance of art; creative writing, memoirs, and creative nonfiction; and empirically based social science research or policy studies.
- promotion of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view; advocacy for a particular program of social or political action; support of specific public policies or legislation; and lobbying
Level I: small research projects or early stages of larger projects.

Level II: projects that have completed an initial planning phase and are poised to scale up based on prior research and development.

Level III: expansion of mature projects with an established user base, robust dissemination plans beyond the applicant institution, and strong plans for managing and sustaining projects after grant ends.
Univ of Nevada, Reno, *Ethical Visualization in the Age of Big Data* (image of workshop website)

Univ of Richmond, *Distant Viewing Toolkit for the Analysis of Visual Culture* (image of github documentation)
Morehouse College, **Algorithmic Thinking, Analysis and Visualization in Music** (image of multicolored visualization of musical theme in Mozart's Sonata in C Major)

Washington State University, **Mukurtu Hubs** (image of Mukurtu's website with core features)
PLANNING:
START WITH THE
DHAG RESOURCE PAGE

The NOFO is formerly known as
the application “guidelines.”

Image is screenshot of the DHAG
Program Resource Page

DHAG Program Resource Page:
Everything you need!

http://neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-advancement-grants
2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Your application will include a narrative, budget, and other required forms and attachments. As indicated in the Application Components Table, forms will be completed within Grants.gov Workspace and other components will be uploaded into the Attachments Form.

You must submit all required attachments and conditionally required attachments relevant to your proposal. Applications missing any required documents or relevant conditionally required documents will be considered incomplete and will be rejected from further consideration.

Take note of the page limits and formatting instructions for each attachment. Applications that exceed page limits or violate format instructions will be considered nonresponsive and will be rejected from further consideration.

Unless otherwise stipulated in specific instructions, attachments must conform to the following formatting requirements:

- paper size no larger than standard letter paper size (8 1/2” x 11”).
- at least one-inch margins on all sides for all pages.
- a font size no smaller than 12-point
- single-spacing
- recommended fonts: Arial, Georgia, Helvetica, or Palatino Linotype
- any standard citation style is acceptable; citations are included in page counts
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Image is a screenshot of the Application Components Table (p 8 in the NOFO)

• Note page limits & requirements

Check with your institutional research or development office about internal deadlines & requirements before you begin applications.
APPLICATION COMPONENTS & MATCHING REVIEW CRITERIA

Use the application pieces to build your argument

**Narrative** (Attachment 2):
- Enhancing the Humanities: 1
- Environmental Scan: 2
- History of the Project: 2
- Activities and Project Team: 3, 4, and 5
- Final Products and Dissemination: 1 and 3

**Work Plan** (Attachment 3): 3, 4, and 5

**Biographies** (Attachment 4): 4

**Data Management Plan** (Attachment 5): 6

**Sustainability Plan, Level III**s (Attachment 6): 6

**Appendices** (Attachment 7): multiple criteria

**Letters of Commitment** (Attachment 8): 4

**Budget + Justification** (Grants.gov form): 5

NOFO, pp 21-24 includes full list of all attachments & descriptions of their content
1. The intellectual significance & impact of the project for the humanities

- Explain how the proposed activities and the ultimate results address a need or challenge in the humanities.
- Address DHAG program priorities.
- Define users or audiences – it probably isn’t everyone!
- Describe your experimentation & innovation for the humanities.
- Discuss the impact of your research and project activities.
- Share user statistics, evaluation studies, preliminary research, citations or bibliography in the Appendices.

Narrative sections:
Enhancing the Humanities
Final Products and Dissemination
Appendices (attachment 7)
2. The quality of the overall conception, organization, and description of how the proposed work sits within a broader context, and quality of the argument for new (or further) work in this area

- Make it clear that you are aware of work being done across the digital humanities.
- Explain how your proposed project contributes to and advances work already done in the field.
- Justify your decisions to build something, to convene, to research, or to experiment with specific methods, tools.
- Discuss results from prior research or development phases.
- Assess other projects in this area of practice to situate this proposed work, don’t merely list them.

Narrative sections:

Environmental Scan
History of the Project
3. The feasibility & appropriateness of the activities, work plan, methodology, and use of technology, and the project’s plans for mitigating risk and addressing accessibility for its intended audiences

- Provide concrete information about what you’re going to do, how you will do it, and who will do the work.
- Explain how project will support & benefit team members.
- Describe your methods and technology choices for doing the work.
- Talk about the risks involved in this project, including staff attrition or travel restrictions.
- Describe plans for evaluating project activities.
- Identify ways of making the grant’s final products available beyond the funded activities through outreach activities, open access publications, or free and open-source software.
- Include draft workshop agenda, design mockups, or other schematics to illustrate prior work or planned activities.

Narrative sections:

Activities and Project Team
Final Products and Dissemination
Workplan (attachment 3)
Appendices (attachment 7)
4. The qualifications, expertise, and levels of commitment of the project director and key project staff or contributors

Narrative section:
Activities and Project Team
Workplan (Attachment 3)
Biographies (Attachment 4)
Letters of Commitment (Attachment 8)

- Summarize the roles and responsibilities for all project team members in Activities and Project Team section.
- Describe how the project will support & benefit all staff.
- Use biographies (attachment 4) to identify individuals’ experiences and skills that prepare them to do the work assigned to them.
- Demonstrate commitment of project team members and advisors outside of applicant institution.
5. The reasonableness of the proposed budget in relation to the proposed activities, staff compensation, the anticipated results, products, and dissemination

- Budget appropriately for staff time required to complete tasks identified.
- Match project activities with appropriate level requested.
- Use the budget justification to discuss contributions not compensated with grant funds.
- Explain any institutional policies related to wages, student pay, or allowable time for project directors and staff in the budget justification.

Narrative section:

Activities and Project Team
Final Products and Dissemination
Workplan (Attachment 3)
Budget & Justification (Grants.gov form)
6. The quality and appropriateness of project plans for data management and (if applicable) sustainability

- Consult with librarians, data specialists, or preservationists at your institution about managing data and sustainable practices.
- Identify who is responsible for implementing pieces of the data management and sustainability activities.
- Identify where any data produced will be stored and made available after funding ends.
- For Level III: Provide evidence of institutional commitment to the project and its assets. Discuss the project's lifecycle.

Data management plan (attachment 5)
Sustainability plan (attachment 6)

Sample Data Management Plans (link, scroll to bottom of page)
TIPS & REMINDERS

Applications that do not adhere to program requirements (including page limits) or incomplete will not be reviewed.

- Write clearly and concisely for a general audience.
- Avoid jargon & overly technical language.
- Remember, this is the NEH—humanities significance is always key.
- Design a feasible project with a reasonable budget – this is public $$!
- Demonstrate knowledge of the field—you might be new to DH, but DH isn’t new.
- Don’t skimp on the data management plan.
- Be realistic about the lifecycle of a project.
REVIEW PROCESS

• NEH reviews for eligibility & completeness
• Peer review & panel meeting
  • Panelists have 6-7 weeks to evaluate, then meet to discuss
• Staff make recommendations after peer review process complete
• National Humanities Council review recommendations
  • Meetings in March, July, November
• NEH Chair makes final decisions on awards
• Applicants notified

Decision notifications:
6-7 months after submission date
You may submit one draft any time before the deadlines.

Submit a Draft: New Procedures

Drafts

• Email to ODH odh@neh.gov

• In an attached file, include the draft narrative, preliminary work plan, and/or preliminary budget.

• In the email message, include proposed funding level, lead project director, institution name, and preliminary title for the project.

Deadlines:

• November 15, 2021
  (January 14, 2022 deadline)

• April 25, 2022
  (June 24, 2022 deadline)
RESOURCES

All NEH applicants start here: neh.gov/grants

Resources for Applicants to the Office of Digital Humanities:

• Read sample funded applications & dig into databases of funded projects

• Contact program staff for a consultation: odh@neh.gov

• Volunteer to serve as a peer reviewer: odh@neh.gov
# KEY DHAG DATES

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<tr>
<th>App Deadlines</th>
<th>Draft Deadlines</th>
<th>Notifications</th>
<th>Start Dates</th>
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<td>November 15, 2021</td>
<td>August 2022</td>
<td>September – November 2022</td>
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CONTACT ODH

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