DYNAMIC LANGUAGE INFRASTRUCTURE – DOCUMENTING ENDANGERED LANGUAGES (DLI-DEL) FELLOWSHIPS AT NEH

IN COLLABORATION WITH NSF

PROGRAM WEBINAR (JULY 22, 2022)

DLI-DEL PROGRAM CONTACTS

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MEETING AGENDA FOR THE WEBINAR

- Introduction to NEH
- The DLI-DEL program at NEH
  - Fellowships Program (Research):
    - Eligibility, required and conditional documents, evaluation criteria
    - Funding restrictions
  - DLI-DEL Research Grants (Preservation & Access)
- How to prepare strong applications
- Q&A Period

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES ACT, 1965, AS AMENDED
HTTPS://WWW.NEH.GOV/ABOUT

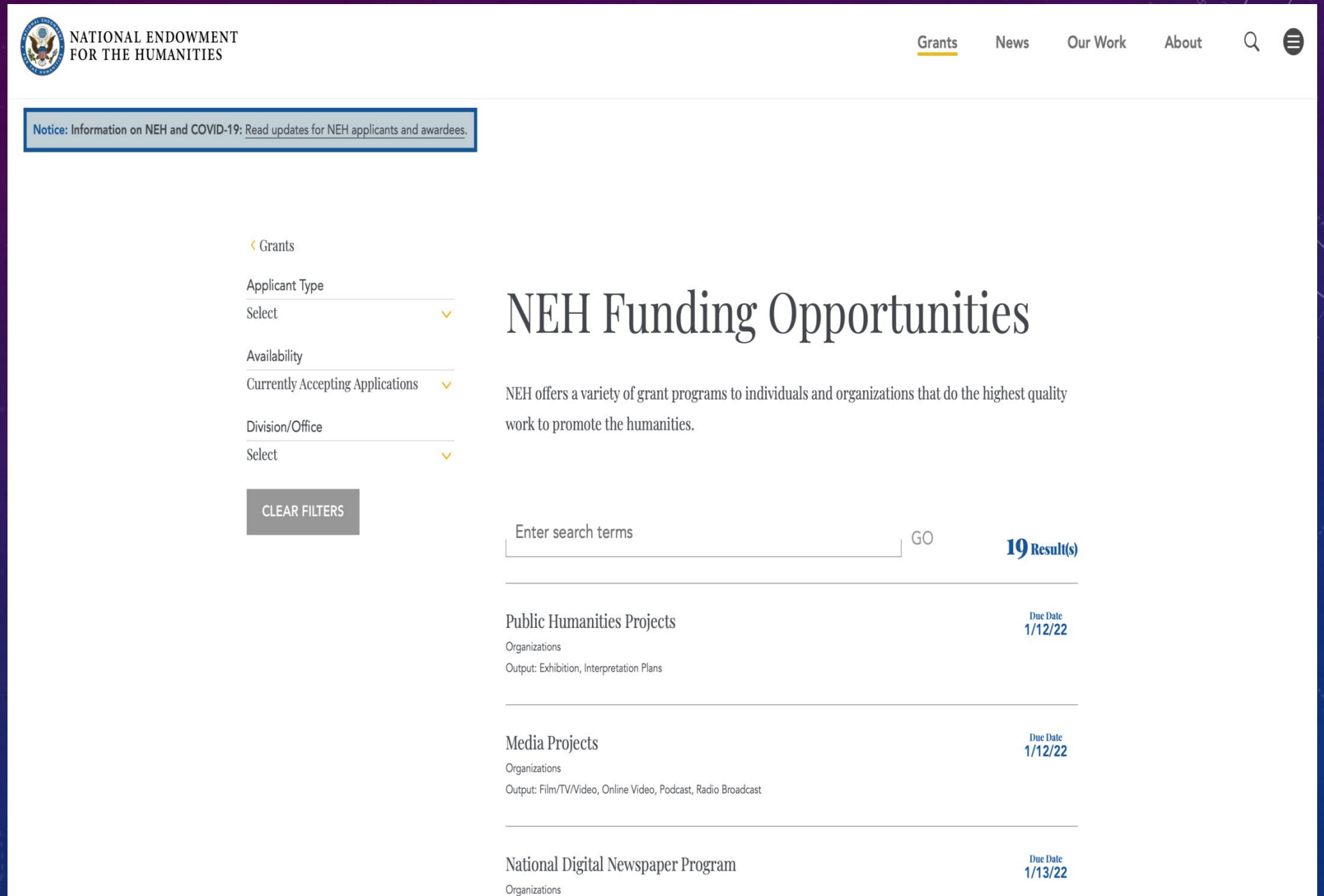
"The term 'humanities' includes, but is not limited to, the study and interpretation of the following: languages, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts; those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life."

THE WORK OF THE NEH

www.neh.gov/divisions-offices

Strengthen teaching and learning	/	/ Education Programs
Facilitate research and original scholarship		/ Research Programs
Provide opportunities for lifelong learning		/ Public Programs
Preserve and provide access to cultural and educational resources		/ Preservation & Access
Strengthen humanities institutions		/ Challenge Grants
Nurture new ways to conduct and disseminate scholarship		/ Digital Humanities
Support state and local humanities engagement		/ Federal-State Partnership

www.neh.gov/grants/listing



DLI-DEL - PROGRAM GOALS

- Develop and advance scientific and scholarly knowledge concerning endangered languages
- The concern about threatened languages worldwide.

INTRODUCTION: THE DLI-DEL PROGRAM

- Within NEH, a partnership with the Division of Preservation and Access (P&A)
  - P&A funds institutional DLI-DEL projects (Senior Research Grants)
  - The Research division funds fellowships for individuals

- At NSF, DLI-DEL is a program within the Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences division of the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences directorate

DLI-DEL FELLOWSHIPS STATISTICS

- More than 210 applications.
- More than 105 awards.
- 73 language communities.
- 248 products at least.

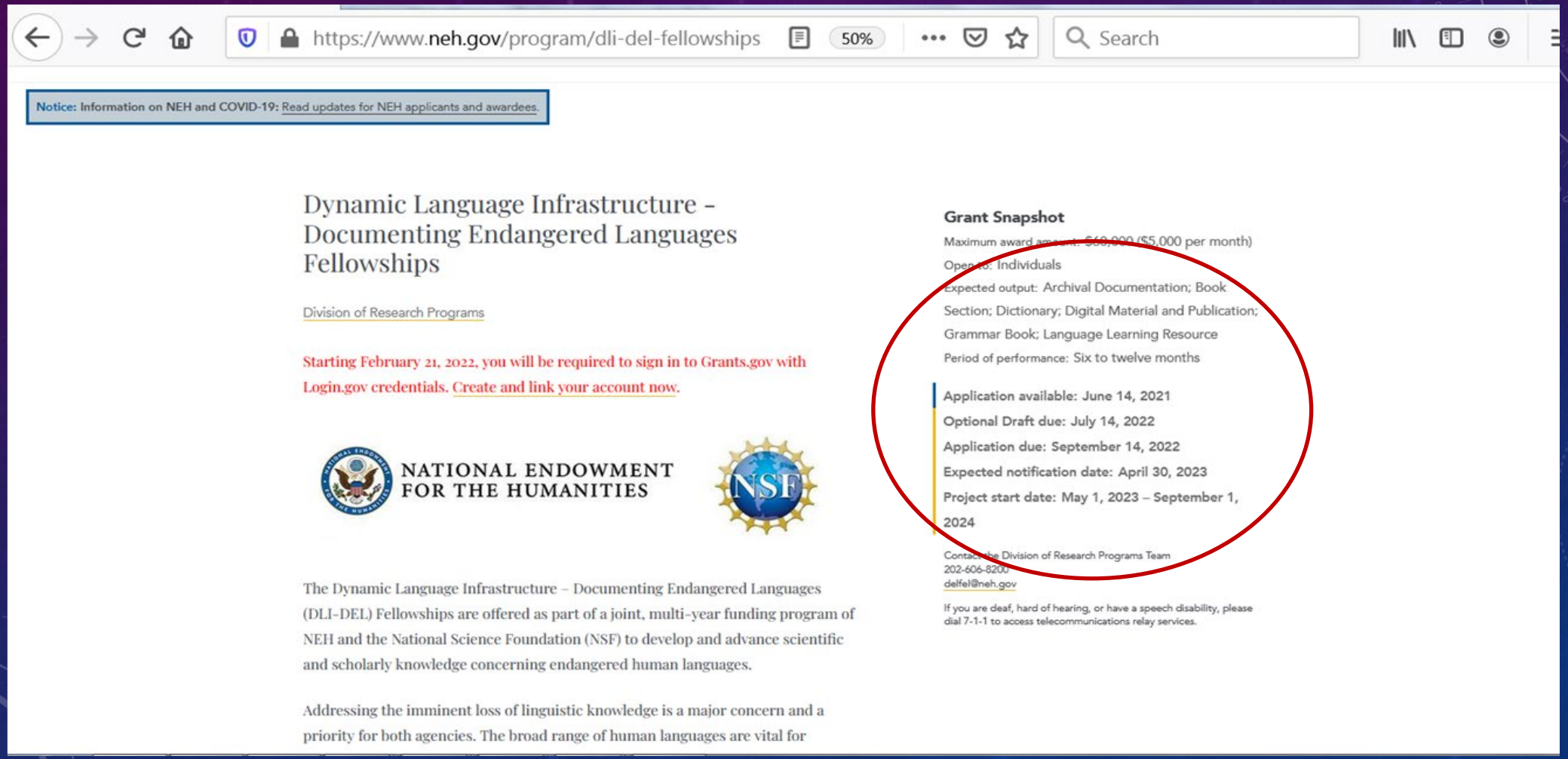
INTRODUCTION: WHAT IS AN ENDANGERED LANGUAGE?

- Check published endangerment scales or language vitality scales; use the parameters there or in published resources on the language to justify the urgency of proposed projects.
- For background and criteria:
  - https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000183699
  - https://www.linguisticsociety.org/resource/faq-what-endangered-language
  - https://www.jstor.org/stable/416368

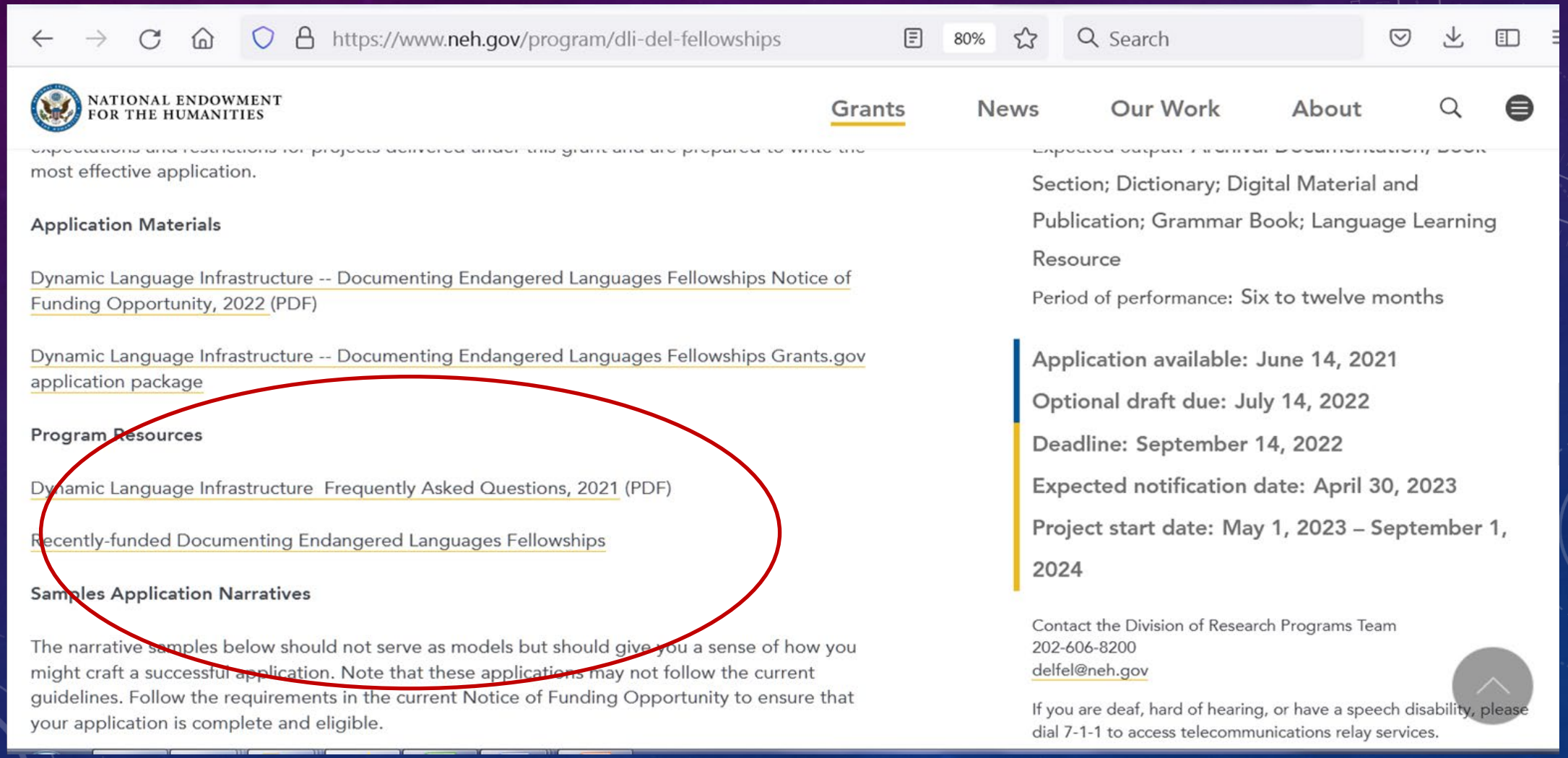
KEY POINTS ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIPS

- Individual program.
- Grants support archival documentation, article, book, book section, dictionary, digital material and publication, grammar book, other scholarly resource, and translation.
- Period of performance: 6 months-12 months.
- Funding: $5,000 per month.
- Deadline to apply: September 14, 2022.
- See the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) at neh.gov.

WEB PAGE & BASIC FELLOWSHIPS DETAILS: HTTPS://WWW.NEH.GOV/PROGRAM/DLI-DEL-FELLOWSHIPS



WEB PAGE, CONT: NOFO, RESOURCES & SAMPLES



ELIGIBILITY

- Who can apply for the grant?

- American citizens and residents
  - Affiliation: in the USA, or elsewhere
  - Residency: anywhere in the world
  - Education and degrees
- Non-Americans who reside in the USA
  - Must be resident in the USA for three consecutive years before they apply

REQUIRED & CONDITIONAL APPLICATION MATERIAL (PAGES 5-16 OF THE NOFO)

Required Material:

- Narrative: 3 pages
- Work Plan: 1 page
- Bibliography: 1 page
- Resume: 2 pages
- Sample: up to 2 pages

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Conditional Material

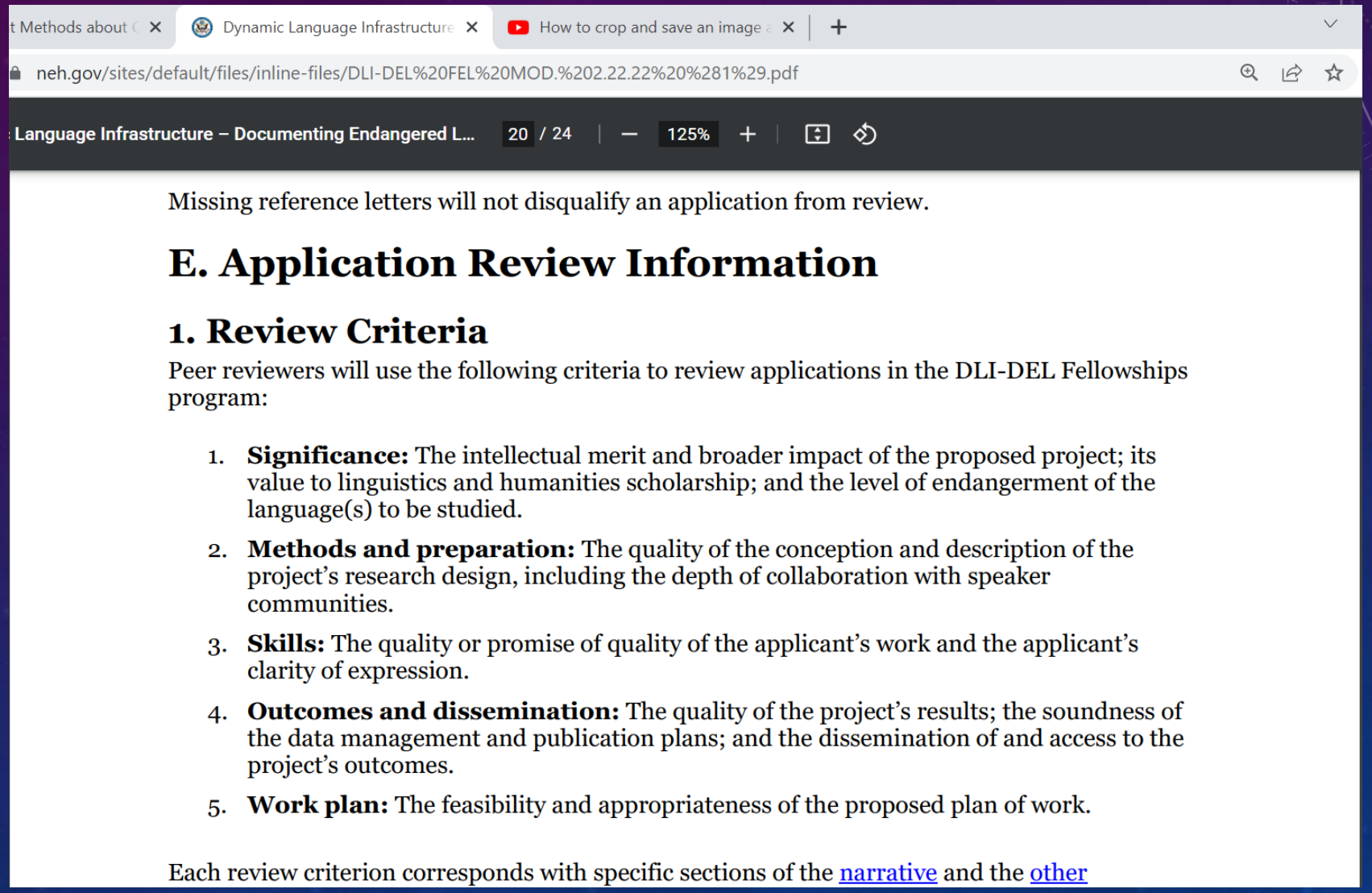
- One reference letter
- Speaker community support letter
- Data Management Plan
- Archive support
- Degree conferral
- Explanation of delinquent federal debt

DLI-DEL FELLOWSHIPS: MIND THE PAGE NUMBER, LAYOUT OF THE APPLICATION, AND ITS FORMAT

- Pay attention to the page limit for all required and optional documents.
- Make sure the format of your document follows the written guidelines.

- Remember:
  - A PhD degrees is not required
  - Adjuncts, retirees, unaffiliated scholars, and tribal linguists are welcome to apply.

APPLICATION NARRATIVE & REVIEW CRITERIA



Missing reference letters will not disqualify an application from review.

E. Application Review Information

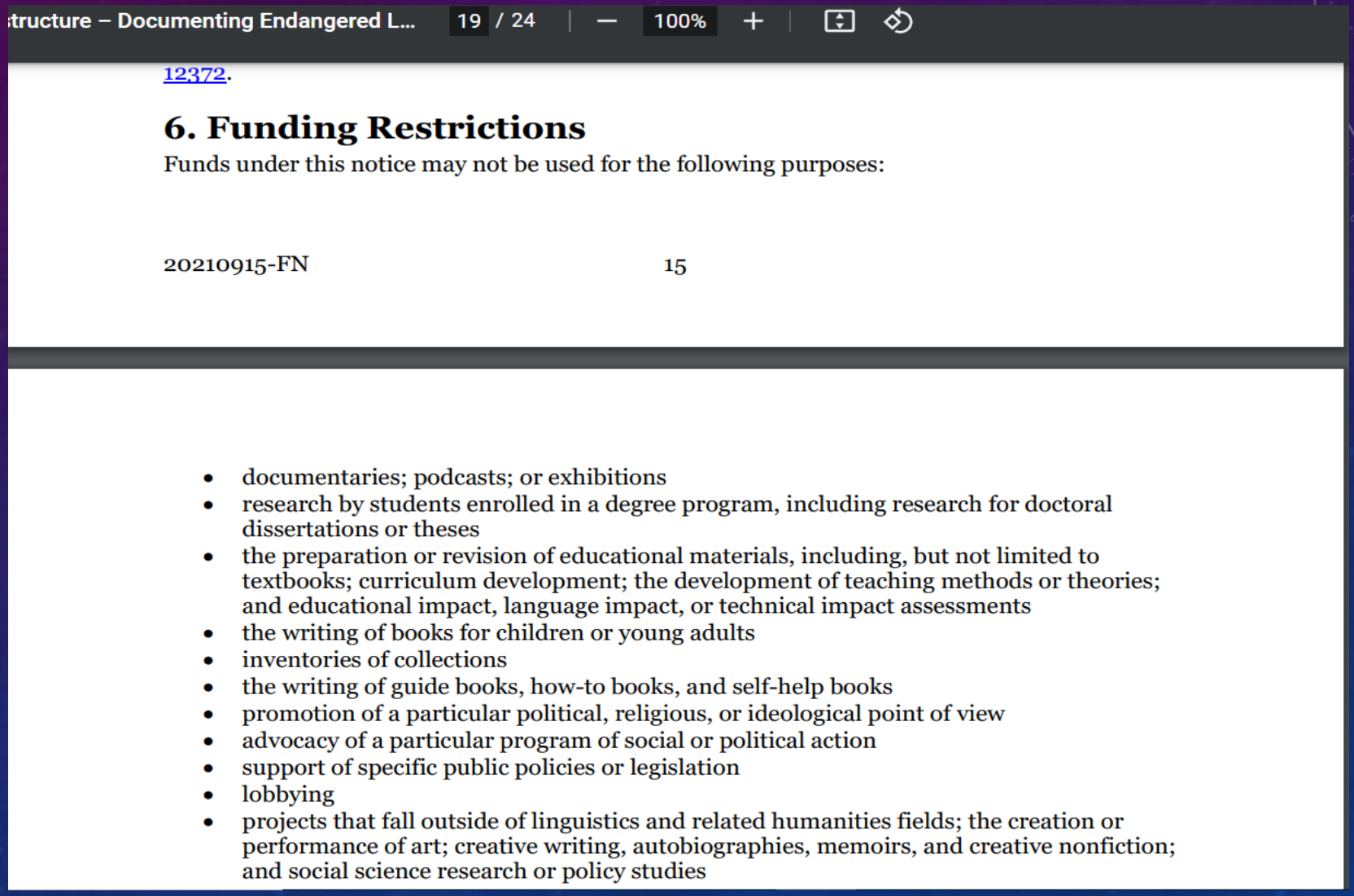
1. Review Criteria

Peer reviewers will use the following criteria to review applications in the DLI-DEL Fellowships program:

1. **Significance:** The intellectual merit and broader impact of the proposed project; its value to linguistics and humanities scholarship; and the level of endangerment of the language(s) to be studied.
2. **Methods and preparation:** The quality of the conception and description of the project's research design, including the depth of collaboration with speaker communities.
3. **Skills:** The quality or promise of quality of the applicant's work and the applicant's clarity of expression.
4. **Outcomes and dissemination:** The quality of the project's results; the soundness of the data management and publication plans; and the dissemination of and access to the project's outcomes.
5. **Work plan:** The feasibility and appropriateness of the proposed plan of work.

Each review criterion corresponds with specific sections of the narrative and the other

FUNDING RESTRICTIONS (PAGE 16 OF THE NOFO)



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6. Funding Restrictions

Funds under this notice may not be used for the following purposes:

- documentaries; podcasts; or exhibitions
- research by students enrolled in a degree program, including research for doctoral dissertations or theses
- the preparation or revision of educational materials, including, but not limited to textbooks; curriculum development; the development of teaching methods or theories; and educational impact, language impact, or technical impact assessments
- the writing of books for children or young adults
- inventories of collections
- the writing of guide books, how-to books, and self-help books
- 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
- projects that fall outside of linguistics and related humanities fields; the creation or performance of art; creative writing, autobiographies, memoirs, and creative nonfiction; and social science research or policy studies

THE LIFE OF YOUR APPLICATION AT NEH (HTTPS://WWW.NEH.GOV/GRANTS/APPLICATION-PROCESS)

NSF DLI-DEL SENIOR RESEARCH GRANTS

- Joint initiative between the National Science Foundation (NSF) and NEH's Division of Preservation and Access
- At NSF, the DLI-DEL program is within the Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences division of the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences directorate
- Institutional grants support research and infrastructure that digitally records and documents languages - with an emphasis on endangered languages - through the preparation of lexicons, grammars, text samples and databases, advancing linguistic theory and the study of language
- Projects are from 1-3 years and up to $450,000

NSF DLI-DEL SENIOR RESEARCH GRANTS

beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/nsf-dynamic-language-infrastructure-neh-documenting-endangered-languages-dli

- Eligibility:
  - Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) - Two- and four-year IHEs (including community colleges) accredited in, and having a campus located in the US, acting on behalf of their faculty members.
  - Non-profit, non-academic organizations: Independent museums, observatories, research labs, professional societies and similar organizations in the US associated with educational or research activities.
  - Tribal organizations

NSF DLI-DEL SENIOR RESEARCH GRANTS

- Proposals are submitted to NSF for peer review. Two annual due dates:
- September 15 (note: October 14 in 2022) and February 15
- Note: FastLane is being decommissioned in favor of Research.gov; you can also submit via Grants.gov
- NSF reviews your 15-page proposal with a minimum of three reviews

- Note: DLI-DEL does not fund language revitalization on its own, but many projects include revitalization as part of Broader Impacts
- Grants are awarded to institutions and organizations, not individuals (unlike Fellowships)

NSF DLI-DEL SENIOR RESEARCH GRANTS

NSF-wide criteria:

- **Intellectual Merit**: the potential to advance knowledge
- **Broader Impacts**: the potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes

DLI-DEL specific criteria: (https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20603/nsf20603.pdf)

- Discussion of the degree of endangerment and urgency of the need for documentation
- Description of the level, quality, and accessibility of any existing documentation
- Discussion of any special linguistic, historical, cognitive, cultural, or social significance of the language(s)
- Discussion of collaborations and other arrangements made with the speaker community which may include reference to the training of native speakers in the practice of linguistics and to the production of resources useful to the community of native speakers

HOW TO PREPARE A STRONG FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION ?

- Check the application's webpage:
  - Read the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) carefully.
    - Listen to the posted webinar, and posted transcripts or notes.
  - Check the FAQ page
  - Go over the posted sample narratives of funded projects, and follow their example. Make sure you emulate recent samples because evaluating criteria and guidelines change periodically
  - Check the list of funded projects.

APPLICATION TIPS FOR NEH

1. Start early: it takes time to make contacts on campus, sign up for grants.gov, etc.
2. Choose a grant and read the guidelines and samples.
3. Contact a program officer to discuss your ideas (or even share a draft)
4. Submit your application
5. Get feedback and repeat

—Maria Biernik/NEH

Q&A PERIOD

QUESTIONS?

HOW TO CONTACT US:

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