



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Funding Opportunity Title: Humanities Initiatives
Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities
Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions
Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities
Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities
Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges

Funding Opportunity Number: 20200716-AA-AB-AC-AD-AE

Funding Opportunity Type: New

Federal Assistance Listing Number: 45.162

Application Due Date: July 16, 2020

**Ensure your SAM.gov and Grants.gov registrations and passwords are current.
NEH will not grant deadline extensions for lack of registration.
Registration in all systems, including SAM.gov and Grants.gov,
may take up to 1 month to complete.**

Division of Education Programs
Email: hi@neh.gov
TTY: 800-877-8399

OMB control number 3136-0134, expiration date June 30, 2021

Executive Summary

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Education Programs is accepting applications for the five Humanities Initiatives programs: Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities, Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges. The purpose of these programs is to strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities at institutions of higher education by developing new humanities programs, resources (including those in digital format), or courses, or by enhancing existing ones.

Funding Opportunity Title:	Humanities Initiatives
Funding Opportunity Number:	20200716-AA-AB-AC-AD-AE
Federal Assistance Listing Number (CFDA):	45.162
Application Due Date:	July 16, 2020, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time
Anticipated Announcement:	December 2020
Anticipated Total Annual Available FY 21 Funding:	\$3,000,000 (all five Humanities Initiatives programs combined)
Estimated Number and Type of Awards:	Up to 20 grants (all five Humanities Initiatives programs combined)
Funding Range:	Up to \$150,000
Cost Sharing/Match Required:	No
Period of Performance:	One to three years, starting as early as February 1, 2021
Eligible Applicants:	Each of the five Humanities Initiatives programs has distinct eligibility criteria. See Section C for additional information.
Program Resource Pages:	<p>Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities https://www.neh.gov/program/humanities-initiatives-colleges-and-universities</p> <p>Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/humanities-initiatives-hispanic-serving-institutions</p> <p>Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/humanities-initiatives-historically-black-colleges-and-universities</p> <p>Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/humanities-initiatives-tribal-colleges-and-universities</p> <p>Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/humanities-initiatives-community-colleges</p>
Pre-Application Webinar	Day and Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 Time: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2975533956177513485

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A. Program Description

1. Purpose

This notice solicits applications for the five Humanities Initiatives programs:

- [Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities](#);
- [Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions](#);
- [Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#);
- [Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities](#); and
- [Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges](#).

The purpose of these programs is to strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities at institutions of higher education by developing new humanities programs, resources (including those in digital format), or courses, or by enhancing existing ones.

Projects must be organized around a core topic or set of themes drawn from such areas of study in the humanities as history, philosophy, religion, literature, and composition and writing skills.

NEH welcomes applications for projects that are modest in scope, duration, and budget, as well as applications for expansive, long-term projects.

If applicable, projects may, but need not be, related to the cultural identity of the applicant institution. For example, it would be allowable for a Hispanic-Serving Institution to submit a proposal on ancient Greek drama.

The following is a partial list of activities the program may support:

- curricular planning and/or community and relationship building that support the institutional mission;
- bridge programs for freshmen, first-generation, at-risk, nontraditional, and/or secondary-school students;
- creation or revision of courses that focus on close reading, analytical writing, and/or effective speaking, including composition courses designed to help students write better;
- new or enhanced humanities programs, including new humanities majors, minors, certificates, or concentrations, honors programs, first-year seminars, culturally-relevant or place-based curricula, and capstone courses;
- creation of humanities-based curricular pathways towards graduation and/or transfer to four-year institutions, if applicable;
- opportunities for faculty members to study together, in order to improve their capacity to teach the humanities;
- creation or enhancement of humanities resources for the purpose of teaching, including oral histories, literature or film, teaching modules, or guidelines on how to use humanities resources in the classroom;
- development of curriculum-focused digital humanities projects, including podcasts, mapping tools, or digital resources for distance learning that can be used on- or off-line;
- partnerships and collaborative projects in the humanities (for example, dual-enrollment agreements in humanities-based courses for college or high-school students); and
- collaboration with regional museums, libraries, or historical societies to share resources for teaching and learning; or partnering with a school or school system to strengthen K-12 pathways to higher education.

Applicants are encouraged to read the sample project narratives of all five Humanities Initiatives programs, available on their respective program resource pages.

Unallowable activities are described in section [D6. Funding Restrictions](#).

2. Background

This program is authorized by 20 U.S.C. §956 *et seq.* Awards are subject to [2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#), and the [General Terms and Conditions for Awards to Organizations \(for grants and cooperative agreements issued December 26, 2014 or later\)](#).

According to the 1965 National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act, “The term ‘humanities’ includes, but is not limited to, the study of the following: language, 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.”

Examples of previously funded projects may be found by using the NEH's Funded Projects Query Form available online at <https://securegrants.neh.gov/publicquery/main.aspx>.

To learn more about the National Endowment for the Humanities, visit <https://www.neh.gov/about>.

NEH Areas of Interest

NEH is especially interested in supporting projects that advance humanities-related work in the following areas:

“A More Perfect Union”: NEH Special Initiative Advancing Civic Education and Commemorating the Nation’s 250th Anniversary

As our nation approaches its 250th anniversary in 2026, NEH encourages projects that promote a deeper understanding of American history and culture and that advance civic education and knowledge of our core principles of government. The agency-wide [“A More Perfect Union”](#) initiative will help Americans better understand the world’s oldest constitutional democracy and how our founding ideals are met in a modern, pluralistic society.

NEH welcomes consideration of diverse topics in American history, from Native American culture to rural life to the rise of the industrial city, from the Civil War to the Cold War to the Civil Rights movement, etc. We also seek projects that examine foundational documents in U.S. history, as well as projects that examine historical objects, places, traditions, events, and individuals who collectively shaped our states and nation. Applications about the contributions of under-represented communities are highly encouraged.

Standing Together

In recognition of the importance of the humanities both in helping Americans to understand the experiences of service members and in assisting veterans as they return to civilian life, NEH has launched a special initiative titled [Standing Together: The Humanities and the Experience of War](#). This special initiative draws on the power of the humanities 1) to support advanced

research in the humanities that explores war and its aftermath; 2) to promote discussion and deepened understanding of the experiences of those Americans affiliated with the armed services, whether active duty or veterans; and 3) to support returning veterans and their families.

Protecting our Cultural Heritage

In response to the destruction of cultural heritage materials worldwide, NEH encourages applications for projects that study, document, or create digital representations of lost or imperiled cultural heritage materials. Proposed projects should be based on scholarly work and follow standards and best practices. Projects must demonstrate the capacity to be sustained and must be widely accessible to the public. Learn more about [Protecting our Cultural Heritage](#).

B. Federal Award Information

1. Type of Application and Award

Type of applications sought: new.

NEH will provide funding in the form of grants.

2. Summary of Funding

Approximately \$3,000,000 is expected to be available to fund 20 recipients. You may apply for a ceiling amount of up to \$150,000.

The actual amount available will not be determined until enactment of the final FY 2021 federal budget. This program notice is subject to the appropriation of funds, and is a contingency action taken to ensure that, should funds become available for this purpose, applications can be processed and funds awarded in a timely manner.

The period of performance is one to three years, with a start date as early as February 1, 2021.

Successful applicants will be awarded outright funds.

C. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

The Humanities Initiatives programs are for U.S. accredited public or 501(c)(3) private institutions of higher education. Each of the five programs has distinct eligibility criteria as outlined below.

Institutions may apply for more than one Humanities Initiatives program, but cannot submit the same proposal to more than one of the five HI programs. Applicant institutions that are eligible to submit a proposal to Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities, or Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges are encouraged to do so.

Individuals, foreign, and for-profit entities are not eligible to apply.

Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities

U.S. accredited public or 501(c)(3) private institutions of higher education are eligible to apply.

Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions

U.S. accredited public or 501(c)(3) private Hispanic-Serving Institutions of higher education are eligible to apply.

To determine whether your institution is eligible, begin by consulting the most recent Eligibility Matrix, compiled by the Department of Education and available [here](#). Scroll down to the middle of the webpage; then click on “Eligibility Matrix 2020.”

The Eligibility Matrix is a read-only Excel worksheet that lists data for all potentially eligible postsecondary institutions. First, locate your institution’s name in column A (“Institution Name”). Next, scroll across to look at column AS (“HSI Elig”). If the row for your institution in that column appears green and has a number 5 or 6, you are affiliated with an eligible institution.

Another way to establish the institution’s eligibility is by visiting the [Department of Education’s Office of Postsecondary Education Institutional Service website](#). Click on “Application for Designation as an Eligible Institution.” Then click on “Check Main Campus Eligibility.” Enter the name of your institution or OPE ID number. Select your institution and click on “View Eligibility.”

Finally, you may establish the institution’s eligibility with a 2019 or 2020 letter or other document from the Department of Education, certifying Title V eligibility. Attach a PDF of this as [Attachment 8](#).

Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

U.S. accredited public or 501(c)(3) private Historically Black Colleges and Universities, as defined by Executive Order 13532, are eligible to apply. Eligible institutions are those included in the [Department of Education’s list of HBCUs](#).

Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities

U.S. Tribal Colleges and Universities, as defined by Executive Order 13592, whether they are tribally controlled or a nonprofit with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, are eligible to apply. Eligible institutions are those recognized by the Department of Education and listed at <http://www.aihec.org/who-we-serve/TCUmap.cfm>.

Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges

U.S. accredited public or 501(c)(3) private community colleges and post-secondary two-year institutions of higher education are eligible to apply.

2. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing is not required in this program. Applicants may, however, use voluntary cost sharing for projects in which the total costs exceed the amount awarded by NEH.

Cost sharing or matching is the portion of the project costs not paid by NEH funds. Cost sharing will not be considered in the evaluation of applications.

Voluntary cost sharing consists of the cash contributions made to a project by the applicant, including unrecovered indirect costs, and by third parties as well as third-party in-kind contributions. Third-party in-kind contributions means the value of non-cash contributions (such as property or services) that benefit the funded project, and are contributed by non-federal third parties, without charge, to the recipient of the federal award.

Recipients are responsible for maintaining auditable records of cost sharing contributions. See [2 CFR §200.306](#) for additional information.

3. Other Eligibility Information

Applicant institutions may submit applications for multiple separate and distinct projects under this announcement but may not submit multiple applications for the same project.

Collaboration with other organizations is welcome, but the project director must be currently employed by the applicant institution. Project directors may not simultaneously hold a full-time NEH individual award.

Two or more applications for federal funding and/or approved federal award budgets are not permitted to include overlapping project costs.

An institution whose project has received NEH support may apply 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 current competition. In addition, these proposals must be substantially updated and must include a description of the new activities and a justification of the new budget.

NEH does not make awards 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 funds from, or sites and materials controlled by, other federal entities in their projects. Such resources may not, however, be used as gifts to release NEH matching funds.

NEH does not provide financial assistance to foreign institutions or organizations. Nevertheless, otherwise eligible American institutions may apply for collaborative projects involving U.S. and foreign organizations provided they do not use NEH funds for the purpose of issuing subawards to any foreign organization, as defined by [2 CFR §200.92](#) and [2 CFR §200.330\(a\)](#). This limitation does not preclude American institutions from obtaining the services of foreign individuals and consultants to carry out various programmatic activities on a fee-for-service basis, as specified in [2 CFR §200.459](#); it also does not preclude vendor contracts such as in-country transportation services. If you are interested in submitting an application for a project involving international collaboration, please consult beforehand with the division staff.

All application materials must be received by the application deadline. Late, incomplete, or ineligible applications will not be considered for funding under this notice. Applications that exceed specified page limits will not be reviewed. See the [Application Components Table](#).

D. Application and Submission Information

1. Application Package

You must apply electronically, using either [Grants.gov Workspace](#) or your organization's system-to-system software. Use the Standard Form 424 - Short Organizational (SF-424 Short)

application package associated with the funding opportunity, and follow the instructions provided by Grants.gov unless otherwise noted below.

The Humanities Initiatives notice of funding opportunity has **five** application packages available in Grants.gov, each associated with one of the Humanities Initiatives programs. Select the appropriate package based upon the program to which you are applying:

AA2020: Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities

AB2020: Humanities Initiatives at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

AC2020: Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions

AD2020: Humanities Initiatives at Tribal Colleges and Universities

AE2020: Humanities Initiatives at Community Colleges

To request a paper copy of this announcement, please contact hi@neh.gov or 202-606-2334. Applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing (TTY users) can contact NEH via Federal Relay at 800-877-8399.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Your application will consist of a narrative, and other required forms and components described below.

i. Project Narrative

The narrative provides a comprehensive framework and description of all aspects of the proposed project. It should be succinct, self-explanatory, well organized, and free of technical terms and jargon so that peer reviewers can understand the proposed project.

You must limit the narrative to ten double-spaced pages with one-inch margins and a font size no smaller than twelve points.

NEH has aligned each section of the narrative with a corresponding review criterion. Refer to [Section E1. Review Criteria](#) for full descriptions.

Successful applications will contain the information below. Use the following section headings for the narrative.

Intellectual rationale (corresponds with review criterion “[Intellectual quality](#)”)

Identify the core topic or set of themes that the project will address, and the intended audience that it will reach, including the estimated size of that audience (for example, the number of students and faculty members). Explain why the topic is important, and how the project will improve the quality of humanities teaching and learning at your institution.

Content and activities (corresponds with review criteria “[Design quality](#)” and “[Feasibility](#)”)

Describe the project’s humanities content in detail, discussing the topics that will be explored. Describe the project activities and the texts and resources to be used, and explain why they were chosen.

Project personnel (corresponds with review criteria “[Design quality](#)” and “[Feasibility](#)”)

Identify the project director(s), members of the project team, and any external contributors to the project, such as visiting scholars, and consultants participating in the project. Define their roles and state their qualifications.

Institutional context (corresponds with review criteria “[Feasibility](#)” and “[Potential for significant impact](#)”)

Briefly situate the humanities at your institution. Describe its humanities programs, curricular history, students, faculty, and resources (for example, library, archival, or museum holdings) available for humanities study. Briefly show how the resources support the project.

Describe any previous efforts to address the objectives of the project. If the proposal is related to a project previously funded by NEH, describe how the current effort builds on past work.

If you plan to cooperate with other institutions and community partners, briefly describe their role and how the resources of the participating institution(s) support the project. Describe any previous collaboration with each of them.

Follow-up and dissemination (corresponds with review criterion “[Potential for significant impact](#)”)

Describe the anticipated long-term impact of the project (including quantitative information, such as the expected increase in student enrollment) and any follow-up activities planned to take place after the period of performance. If digital materials will be developed, describe arrangements for maintaining them beyond the period of performance.

Show how you will disseminate project outcomes to a wider audience at or beyond your institution: for example, by sharing your curricular model with campus colleagues or with other faculty at a local/regional workshop, making a professional conference presentation, or publishing your findings in a digital or print format.

Evaluation (corresponds with review criterion “[Design quality](#)”)

Explain how you will assess the project both during and after the period of performance. Define the benchmarks for evaluating ongoing activities and the criteria for assessing the outcomes of the project. Incorporate quantitative measures, such as the number of new or revised courses, student participation in new humanities majors or minors, extent of student engagement, enrollment data, and faculty development results.

External evaluation is not required for Humanities Initiatives projects.

NARRATIVE GUIDANCE	
To ensure that you fully address the review criteria, this table provides a crosswalk between the narrative language and where each section falls within the review criteria.	
<u>Narrative Section</u>	<u>Review Criteria</u>
Intellectual rationale	Intellectual quality
Content and activities	Design quality and Feasibility
Project personnel	Design quality and Feasibility

Institutional context	Feasibility and Potential for significant impact
Follow-up and dissemination	Potential for significant impact
Evaluation	Design quality

ii. Research and Related Budget

Applicants must submit a project budget using the Research and Related Budget Form found in the Grants.gov application package, and attach a [Budget Justification in section L of this form](#).

Complete a single detailed budget for the period of performance. The form will generate a cumulative budget for the period of performance.

Required fields are indicated in yellow. You must round to the nearest whole dollar amount in all dollar fields.

All of the items listed must be reasonable, necessary to accomplish project objectives, allowable in terms of [2 CFR 200 Subpart E - Cost Principles](#), auditable, and incurred during the period of performance. All costs are subject to audit, record retention, and other requirements set forth in [2 CFR 200 Subpart F](#).

The inclusion of a cost category on the Research and Related Budget Form does not automatically indicate that an expense is allowable in this program. See section [D6. Funding Restrictions](#) for a list of unallowable costs. Carefully review these instructions to ensure that costs are not disallowed.

When indirect costs are charged to the project, ensure that expenses included in the organization's indirect cost pool are not charged to the project as direct costs. For further information, see [Section H. Indirect Costs](#).

Introductory Fields

If not pre-populated, indicate your organization's D-U-N-S® number, the name of your organization, and the period of performance start and end dates. The period of performance start and end dates should be the same as your [SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance - Short Organizational](#). Check "Project" for budget type.

Section A. Senior/Key Person

Include the names of the project director and other senior/key persons who are employed by the applicant organization and who are involved in the project.

For each senior/key person, indicate their name and project role. Enter the annual compensation and identify the number of months the senior/key person will devote to the project in the applicable box (i.e., calendar, academic, summer). Use either calendar months OR a combination of academic and summer months.

If level of effort does not change throughout the year, you may use only the calendar months column. You may use both the academic and summer months columns if your institutional business process requires noting each separately even if effort remains constant. If effort varies between academic and summer months, leave the calendar months column blank and use only the academic and summer months columns. If your institution does not use a 9-month academic year or a 3-month summer period, indicate your institution's definition of these in [Section L. Budget Justification](#).

Regardless of the number of months being devoted to the project, indicate the salary and amount of fringe benefits being requested for the senior/key person. Per [2 CFR §200.431](#), fringe benefits are allowances and services provided by employers to their employees as compensation in addition to regular salaries and wages. Fringe benefits include, but are not limited to, the costs of leave (vacation, family-related, sick, or military), employee insurance, pensions, and unemployment benefit plans. The sum of requested salary and fringe benefits will automatically calculate for each senior/key person.

The form can accommodate up to eight senior/key persons. If you are requesting funds for more senior/key persons than the form allows, you must include an attachment listing the additional senior/key person(s) in the "Additional Senior/Key Persons" field. Use the same format as the budget form and include all the information identified in this section. If you have attached a file with additional senior/key persons, enter the total funds requested for everyone listed in the attachment in the "Total Funds requested for all Senior/Key Persons in the attached file" field.

All salaries and wages claimed must be in compliance with [2 CFR §§200.430](#) and [466](#). All fringe benefits claimed must be in compliance with [2 CFR §200.431](#).

As a matter of programmatic policy, the cost of replacement teachers or compensation for faculty members performing their regular duties is not allowed.

Do not list details of collaborators at other institutions or consultants here, as they will be included in [Section F. Other Direct Costs](#).

Section B. Other Personnel

For each project role category described below, identify the number of personnel proposed, the total number of months, the total salary, and total fringe requested as described in [Section A. Senior/Key Person](#). Totals will be automatically calculated.

Post-doctoral associates, graduate students, and undergraduate students

For all post-doctoral associates, graduate students, and undergraduate students, individually list names, roles, associated months, and requested salary and fringe benefits in [Section L. Budget Justification](#).

As a matter of programmatic policy, tuition remission is not allowable in the Humanities Initiatives programs.

Secretarial/Clerical

In most circumstances, the salaries of administrative, secretarial, or clerical staff at educational institutions and nonprofit organizations are included as part of indirect costs ([Section H. Indirect Costs](#)). However, examples of situations where direct charging of administrative or clerical staff salaries may be appropriate may be found at [2 CFR §200.413 \(c\)](#).

Inclusion of such costs may be appropriate only if **all** of the following conditions are met:

1. Administrative or clerical services are directly involved in a project or activity (for example, a project coordinator)
2. Individuals involved can be specifically identified with the project or activity
3. Such costs are explicitly included in the budget or have prior written approval of the federal awarding agency
4. The costs are not also recovered as indirect costs

Requests for direct charging for secretarial/clerical personnel (i.e., administrative and clerical staff) must be appropriately justified in [Section L. Budget Justification](#). For all individuals classified as secretarial/clerical, provide a justification (in the Budget Justification) documenting how they meet all four conditions. NEH may request additional information for these positions in order to assess allowability.

Other Project Roles

List any additional project role(s) in the blank(s) provided. Identify the number of each personnel proposed.

You may include up to six named roles. If you have more than six, you must combine project roles here and add an explanation about the named roles in [Section L. Budget Justification](#).

All salaries and wages claimed must be in compliance with [2 CFR §§200.430](#) and [466](#). All fringe benefits claimed must be in compliance with [2 CFR §200.431](#).

Do not list details of collaborators at other institutions or consultants here, as they will be included in [Section F. Other Direct Costs](#).

Section C. Equipment Description

List each item of equipment to be purchased with federal funds and its estimated cost (including shipping and maintenance), and justify each in [Section L. Budget Justification](#).

Equipment may be purchased for a project if an analysis demonstrates that purchasing is more economical and practical than leasing (equipment rental/user fees should be included in the budget in [Section F. Other Direct Costs](#)). Equipment is defined as nonexpendable personal property costing \$5,000 or more and having a service life of more than one year (unless the organization has established a lower level). See [2 CFR §§200.313](#) and [439](#).

Consistent with [Executive Order 13788](#) ("Buy American and Hire American"), recipients and subrecipients who purchase equipment and products costing \$10,000 or more per unit with grant funds should purchase only American-made equipment and products. This encouragement does not apply to commercial information technology.

You may add up to ten equipment items to this list. If you request funds for more equipment than the form allows, you must include an attachment listing the additional equipment items in this "Additional Equipment" field. Enter the information in a separate file and attach it as a PDF. List each additional item and the funds requested for each individual item. If you have attached a file with additional equipment, enter the total funds requested for all the equipment listed in the attachment.

Total equipment costs will be automatically calculated based on the sum of the "Funds Requested" column and the "Total funds requested for all equipment listed in the attached file" field.

Section D. Travel

Enter the total funds requested for both domestic (both local and long-distance) and foreign travel. In [Section L. Budget Justification](#), include the purpose, destination, dates of travel (if known), and the names and number of travelers for each trip. If the dates of travel are not known, specify the estimated length of trip (e.g., 3 days). **All trips—both foreign and domestic—must be justified individually.**

For local travel, outline the mileage rate, number of miles, reason for travel and staff member/consumers completing the travel. For long-distance travel, calculate per diem amounts for meals and lodging using written institutional policy. The lowest available commercial fares for coach or equivalent accommodations must be used. Any arrangements made on a non-refundable basis are at the risk of the recipient if the services must be cancelled for any reason. All travel costs claimed must be in compliance with [2 CFR §200.474](#), and foreign travel must comply with article 10 of the [General Terms and Conditions for Awards to Organizations](#).

NEH funds may not be used to support attendance at regularly-occurring professional meetings unless the purpose of attending is to disseminate project-related findings. The cost of travel associated with scholarly research unrelated to the project is not allowed.

Total travel costs will automatically calculate based on domestic and foreign travel costs. Travel to Canada and Mexico is considered foreign travel.

Section E. Participant/Trainee Support Costs

Per [2 CFR §200.75](#), participant support costs are direct costs for expenses such as stipends, travel allowances, subsistence allowances, and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with conferences or training projects.

Per [2 CFR §200.432](#), a conference is defined as a meeting, retreat, seminar, symposium, workshop or event whose primary purpose is the dissemination of technical information beyond the non-federal entity and is necessary and reasonable for successful performance under the federal award.

Justify participant/trainee support costs in [Section L. Budget Justification](#).

Total participant support costs will be automatically calculated based on the sum of the Funds Requested column.

1. Tuition/Fees/Health Insurance

Leave this field blank.

2. Stipends

List the total funds requested for Participant/Trainee stipends.

3. Travel

List the total funds requested for Participant/Trainee travel. In [Section L. Budget Justification](#), name the travelers (if possible) and reflect the travel expenses for each (e.g., roundtrip airfare, mileage or public transportation, related parking, etc.). Any arrangements made on a non-refundable basis are at the risk of the recipient or participant if the services must be cancelled for any reason.

4. Subsistence

List the total funds requested for Participant/Trainee subsistence. Subsistence expenses include:

- (a) lodging and service charges;
- (b) meals, including taxes and tips; and
- (c) incidental expenses (fees and tips given to porters, baggage carriers, hotel staff, etc.).

5. Other

Describe any other Participant/Trainee support costs (e.g., local ground transportation to various venues, admission fees, bottled water, etc.) and list the total funds requested for all other Participant/Trainee costs described.

Number of Participants/Trainees

List the total number of proposed Participants/Trainees. The value of this field cannot exceed 999.

Section F. Other Direct Costs

Total Other Direct Costs will be automatically calculated based on the sum of the Funds Requested column.

1. Materials and Supplies

List the total funds requested for materials and supplies. Include the total funds requested for materials and supplies to be used in the project costing the lesser of the capitalization level established by the applicant or \$5,000, regardless of the length of its useful life. See [2 CFR §§200.314](#) and [453](#).

In [Section L. Budget Justification](#), indicate general categories, including an amount for each category. Categories with amounts less than \$1,000 are not required to be itemized.

2. Publication Costs

List the total funds requested for publication costs. The proposed budget may request funds for the costs of documenting, preparing, publishing, or otherwise making available to others, the findings and products of the work conducted under the award. Include supporting information in [Section L. Budget Justification](#).

3. Consultant Services

List the total funds requested for all consultant services. Identify the following items in [Section L. Budget Justification](#), as applicable:

- each consultant, the services he/she will perform, total number of days, travel costs, and the total estimated costs; and
- persons who are confirmed to serve on external advisory committees to the project. Describe the services to be performed.

All consultant fees claimed must be in compliance with [2 CFR §200.459](#).

4. Automated Data Processing (ADP)/Computer Services

List the total funds requested for ADP/computer services. The cost of the applicant's computer services, including computer-based retrieval of scientific, technical, and education information may be requested. In [Section L. Budget Justification](#), include the established computer service rates at the proposing organization, if applicable. If such services are provided by a third-party, include them in line 5 Subawards/Consortium/Contractual Costs.

5. Subawards/Consortium/Contractual Costs

List the total funds requested for project activities to be undertaken by third-party subrecipients. This includes subawards and other contractual costs proposed for the project. A complete itemization of the cost comprising the charge should be provided in [Section L. Budget Justification](#) organized using the same categories present on the Research and Related budget.

If there is more than one subrecipient, each must be justified separately in the budget justification. See [2 CFR §§200.330 and 331](#) for additional information.

Per [2 CFR §§200.92](#) and [330\(a\)](#), *subaward* means an award provided by a pass-through entity (the recipient) to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor (as defined in [2 CFR §200.23](#)) or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.

This line item should include both direct and indirect costs for all subrecipients. If a subrecipient is claiming indirect costs, include their federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement as part of [Attachment 10: Federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement](#).

Contractual costs, as defined in [2 CFR §§200.22](#) and [330\(b\)](#), are occasionally sufficiently high to warrant a categorical breakdown of costs. When this is the case, provide detailed information as part of [Section L. Budget Justification](#).

6. Equipment or Facility Rental/User Fees

List the total funds requested for equipment or facility rental/user fees. In [Section L. Budget Justification](#), identify and justify each rental/user fee.

Applicants may charge depreciation in compliance with [2 CFR §200.436](#). If the equipment was purchased with federal funds under another award, user fees may be appropriate (see [2 CFR §200.313 \(c\)\(2\)](#)). The applicant may not charge both depreciation and user fees.

Per [2 CFR §200.432](#), allowable conference costs may include rental of facilities. However, the rental of recreational facilities and costs related to social events such as banquets, receptions, and entertainment is not allowed.

The Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-391) states that federally funded meetings and conferences cannot be held in properties that do not comply with the law. The Act is applicable to all places of public accommodation affecting commerce, and requires that such properties are equipped with:

- hard-wired, single-station smoke detectors in each guestroom in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard 72;
- an automatic sprinkler system, with a sprinkler head in each guest room in compliance with NFPA standards 13 or 13R. Properties three stories or lower in height are exempt from the sprinkler requirement.

Note: 'places of public accommodation affecting commerce' are inns, hotels, or other establishments not owned by the Federal Government that provides lodging to transient guests, except that such term does not include an establishment treated as an apartment building for purposes of any State or local law or regulation or an establishment located within a building that contains not more than five rooms for rent or hire and that is actually occupied as a residence by the proprietor of such establishment.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) is charged with carrying out FEMA's responsibilities with respect to the Hotel and Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990. In addition to compiling, maintaining, and publishing the National Master List, USFA is also responsible for taking steps to encourage states to promote the use of automatic sprinkler systems and automatic smoke detection systems.

7. Alterations and Renovations

Do not include any expenses under 7. Alterations and Renovations. Per [2 CFR §200.462](#), costs incurred for ordinary and normal rearrangement and alteration of facilities are allowable as indirect costs.

8-10. Other

Include items not previously listed under other budget categories or in the indirect cost pool in lines 8-10. Use [Section L. Budget Justification](#) to further itemize and justify. “Miscellaneous” and “contingency” are not acceptable budget categories.

Per [2 CFR §200.432](#), allowable conference costs may include speakers’ fees, costs of meals and refreshments, and other items incidental to such conferences. Conference hosts/sponsors must exercise discretion and judgment in ensuring that conference costs are appropriate, necessary and managed in a manner that minimizes costs to the NEH award. If incidental food items and/or meals are provided at no charge during meetings, conferences, training, or other events attended while on NEH-supported travel, the per diem charged to the award must be reduced accordingly. Alcoholic beverages are unallowable and may not be included in your budget.

Section G. Total Direct Costs

This total will be automatically calculated based on the sum of the Total funds requested for all direct costs (sections A-F).

Section H. Indirect Costs

Indirect costs (sometimes referred to as Facilities and Administration or “F&A”) are costs that are incurred for common or joint objectives and therefore cannot be readily identified with a specific project or activity of an organization. Items that would typically be regarded as indirect costs include the depreciation on buildings, equipment and capital improvement, operations and maintenance expenses, salaries of executive officers, accounting, and legal services.

Indirect costs are computed by applying a federally negotiated indirect cost rate to a distribution base (usually the modified total direct costs of the project).

For applicants seeking reimbursement for indirect costs: carefully review your institution’s negotiated indirect cost rate(s) to make sure you are using the most appropriate rate in your application budget. Many institutions of higher education negotiate multiple rates—for example, “Research,” “Instruction,” and “Other Sponsored Activities.” With rare exceptions, your institution’s “Research” rate will **not** be the appropriate rate for inclusion in your NEH project budget, as the use of this rate is reserved for projects involving scientific research, not scholarly inquiry of the type most often supported by NEH.

Note: Except as provided in paragraph (c)(1) of [2 CFR §200.414](#), federal agencies must use the negotiated rates in effect at the time of the initial award throughout the life of the federal award. Award levels may not be adjusted in future years as a result of changes in negotiated rates. Except as provided in [2 CFR §200.414](#), when an educational institution does not have a negotiated rate with the federal government at the time of an award (because the educational institution is a new recipient or the parties cannot reach agreement on a rate), the provisional rate used at the time of the award must be adjusted once a rate is negotiated and approved by the cognizant agency for indirect costs. If the recipient fails to negotiate an indirect cost rate applicable to the period of performance within the period of performance, indirect costs may be disallowed.

Organizations that wish to include indirect costs in the budget but have **never** had a federally negotiated indirect cost rate may choose one of the following options:

- direct cost all expenses;
- submit an indirect cost proposal to their cognizant federal agency to negotiate a rate with the federal government within three months of the effective date (period of performance start date) of the award (subrecipients may negotiate a rate with the recipient consistent with the requirements outlined in [2 CFR §200.414](#)); or
- per [2 CFR §200.414\(f\)](#), the applicant may charge a de minimis rate of 10 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC).

Per [2 CFR §200.68](#), modified total direct costs are all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and up to the first \$25,000 of each subaward (regardless of the period of performance of the subawards under the award). Modified total direct costs excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs, and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$25,000. If you choose one of these three options, indicate on the budget form which option you are choosing.

Indirect Cost Type

Enter the type of indirect cost (e.g., Other Sponsored Activities (OSA), All Programs, Instruction, 10% de minimis, etc.) and base (e.g., Salaries, Salaries & Fringe, MTDC, etc.) and whether the activity and rate are off-site or onsite. If more than one rate or base is involved for a given type of indirect cost, then list them as separate entries. If you do not have a current indirect rate(s) approved by a federal agency but intend to (re)negotiate, indicate "None--will negotiate." Use [Section L. Budget Justification](#) if additional space is needed.

Indirect Cost Rate (%)

Enter the most recent indirect cost rate(s) established with the cognizant federal agency. This field should be entered using a rate such as "32.5."

Indirect Cost Base (\$)

Enter the amount of the base for each indirect cost type. Use [Section L. Budget Justification](#) to explain any exclusions applied to the base calculation.

Funds Requested (\$)

Enter the funds requested for each indirect cost type.

Total Indirect Costs

This total will be automatically calculated from the "Funds Requested" column in [Section L. Budget Justification](#).

Cognizant Federal Agency

Enter the name of the cognizant federal agency.

Section I. Total Direct and Indirect Costs

This total will be automatically populated from the sum of Total Direct Costs (from [Section G. Direct Costs](#)) and the Total Indirect Costs (from [Section H. Indirect Costs](#)).

Section J. Fee

Do not include any expenses under Section J. Fee.

Section K. Total Costs and Fee

This total will be automatically calculated from the sum of Total Direct Costs and Fee (from sections "I. Total Direct and Indirect Costs" and "J. Fee"). Since there is no fee, this should be the same amount as in [Section I. Total Direct and Indirect Costs](#).

Section L. Budget Justification

The "Budget Justification" attachment is required. Attach only one PDF file named justification.pdf.

Use the Budget Justification to provide the additional information requested in each budget category identified above and any other information the applicant wishes to submit to support the budget request. The budget justification must specifically describe how each item will support the achievement of proposed objectives. If you have a quote(s), you may include it here. The following budget categories must be justified, where applicable: equipment, travel, participant/trainee support, and other direct cost categories.

Also use the budget justification to explain any exclusions applied to the F&A base calculation.

If your project includes voluntary cost share, describe it here. However, these costs should not be included on the Research and Related budget form.

Do not use the budget justification to expand the project narrative.

iii. Application Components

In addition to the standard forms included in the Grants.gov application package, your application also consists of a narrative and other required attachments. You will upload these components into the [Attachments Form](#).

The Application Components Table below will help you prepare a complete application. Applications missing any required documents or conditionally required documents from this list will be considered incomplete and will be rejected from further consideration.

Proposals that exceed page limits or violate format instructions will be considered nonresponsive and will be rejected from further consideration.

Application component	Naming convention	Page limits	Notes
SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance - Short Organizational	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
Supplementary Cover Sheet for NEH Grant Programs	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
Research and Related Budget	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
Certification Regarding Lobbying	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Conditionally required
Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities"	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Conditionally required
Attachments Form	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
Attachment 1: Narrative	narrative.pdf	10	Required

Attachment 2: Work plan	workplan.pdf		Required
Attachment 3: Reading List	readings.pdf	2	Required
Attachment 4: Résumés for key personnel	resumes.pdf	2 pages per person	Required
Attachment 5: Letters of commitment	letters.pdf		Required
Attachment 6: Institutional letter of support	support.pdf		Required
Attachment 7: Institutional profile	profile.pdf	1	Required
Attachment 8: Letter certifying Title V eligibility	titleV.pdf		Conditionally required
Attachment 9: Other supporting documentation	other.pdf	20	Optional
Attachment 10: Federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement	agreement.pdf		Conditionally required
Attachment 11: Explanation of delinquent federal debt	delinquent debt.pdf		Conditionally required

SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance – Short Organizational

This form asks for basic information about the project, the project director, and the institution. Items 1, 2, and 4 will be automatically filled in; item 3 should be left blank. Provide the following information:

5. Applicant Information

Provide your organization’s legal name, address, employer/taxpayer identification number (EIN/TIN), D-U-N-S® number, website address, and congressional district of the institution.

If your institution is located, for example, in the 5th Congressional District of your state, put a “5.” If your institution doesn’t have a congressional district (for example, it is in a state or U.S. territory that doesn’t have districts or is in a foreign country), put a “0” (zero).

Also choose the “type” that best describes your institution (you only need to select one).

All institutions applying to federal programs are required to provide a D-U-N-S® number, issued by Dun & Bradstreet, as part of their application. Project directors should contact their institution’s grants administrator or chief financial officer to obtain their institution’s D-U-N-S® number.

6. Project Information

a. Provide the title of your project. Your title should be brief (no more than 125 characters, including spaces), descriptive, and substantive. Successful applications will typically have titles that are descriptive of the project, substantive, and free of specialized language. Most importantly, your title should be easily understood by the general public. NEH reserves the right to retitle funded projects for clarity when announcing its funding decisions and in its own reports and communications, but recipients are permitted to use their preferred title for any award products.

b. Provide a brief (no more than one thousand characters) description of your project. The description should be written for a nonspecialist audience and clearly state the importance of the proposed work and its relation to larger issues in the humanities.

c. List the starting and ending dates for your project. All starting dates are on the first day of a month. All ending dates are on the last day of a month.

7. Project Director

Provide the name, title, mailing address, email address, and telephone and fax numbers for the project director. The project director is responsible for the programmatic aspects and day-to-day management of the proposed project. Because the project director's involvement in the proposed project is critical to its success, applicants must notify NEH immediately if the project director listed in the application changes.

8. Primary Contact/Grants Administrator

Provide the contact information for the official responsible for the administration of the NEH award (that is, negotiating the project budget and ensuring compliance with the terms and conditions of the award). This person is often a grants administrator or sponsored programs official.

As a matter of NEH policy, the Project Director listed in section 7 may **not** be the same individual listed as the Primary Contact/Grants Administrator listed in section 8. The role of the project director must be distinguished from that of the institutional grant administrator, who functions as the representative of the recipient organization with authority to act on the organization's behalf in matters related to the administration of the award. All financial reports and prior approval requests such as budget revisions, extensions of the period of performance, and changes in key personnel must be signed or countersigned by the institutional grant administrator. Similarly, official correspondence from NEH to a recipient (for example, an offer letter, the award document, an extension, a supplement or amendment) is addressed to the institutional grant administrator and copied to the project director.

9. Authorized Representative

Provide the contact information for the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) who is submitting the application on behalf of the institution. This person, often called an "Authorizing Official," is typically the president, vice president, executive director, provost, or chancellor. To become an AOR, the person must be designated by the institution's E-Business Point of Contact. For more information, consult the [Grants.gov Online User Guide](#).

Supplementary Cover Sheet for NEH Grant Programs

Provide the following information:

1. Project Director

Use the pull-down menu to select the major field of study for the project director.

2. Institutional Information

Select the appropriate institution type from the drop-down menu.

3. Project Funding

Enter your project funding information. [Learn more about different funding types.](#)

4. Application Information

Indicate whether the proposal will be submitted to other NEH programs, government agencies, or private entities for funding. If so, indicate when and to whom. NEH frequently cosponsors projects with other funders. Providing this information will not prejudice the review of your application.

For Type of Application, check “new.”

Enter the primary project discipline (and, if you like, the project’s secondary and tertiary disciplines as well).

Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form

Provide the primary location and any other locations where the project activity will occur **during the period of performance**. This form allows for the collection of multiple performance sites. If you need to add more project/performance site locations than the form allows, enter the information in a separate file and add it to the "Additional Locations" section. Instructions for each requested data element may be viewed by positioning your cursor over the blank field.

Research and Related Budget Form

Refer to prior instructions on preparing the [Research and Related Budget](#).

Certification Regarding Lobbying

Applicants requesting awards greater than \$100,000 must complete and submit the Certification Regarding Lobbying.

Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities”

If non-federal funds have been or will be used for lobbying, you must also complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.” See [2 CFR §200.450](#) for additional information.

Attachments Form

Attach your narrative, budget, and the other application components to this form. Consult the [Application Components Table](#) to learn about the required application components, how to name each attachment, and the order in which to attach them. You must name and attach your files in the proper order so that NEH can identify them.

When you open the Attachments Form, you will find fifteen attachment buttons, labeled “Attachment 1” through “Attachment 15.” By clicking on a button, you will be able to choose the file from your computer that you wish to attach.

Your attachments must be in Portable Document Format (.pdf). Make sure that all files in formats other than PDF (images, Word or Excel files, etc.) have been properly saved as PDF files. Do not simply rename your non-PDF files with PDF extensions. If an attachment contains multiple documents, you must merge those documents into a single PDF. Do not attach a zip file containing multiple PDFs.

Visit [Grants.gov’s Adobe Software Compatibility page](#) to verify the compatibility of your current software or to download the appropriate version. If you have a problem installing Adobe Reader, it may be because you do not have permission to install a new program on your computer. Many organizations have rules about installing new programs. If you encounter a problem, contact your system administrator.

Note the following Grants.gov file naming conventions: limit file names to 50 or fewer characters. Do not attach any documents with the same name. All attachments should have a unique name. Use only the following UTF-8 characters when naming your attachments: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore, hyphen, space, period, parenthesis, curly braces, square brackets,

ampersand, tilde, exclamation point, comma, semi colon, apostrophe, at sign, number sign, dollar sign, percent sign, plus sign, and equal sign. Attachments that do not follow this rule may cause the entire application to be rejected or cause issues during processing.

Grants.gov may accept and validate your submission even if required components are missing. This may result in NEH rejecting your application as incomplete. It is your responsibility to ensure that all required components are properly attached and submitted.

iv. Attachments

Provide the following items in the order specified below to complete the content of the application. Each attachment must be saved as a PDF and named in accordance with naming conventions outlined in the [Application Components Table](#).

Attachment 1: Narrative (required)

Refer to the prior instructions on preparing your [narrative](#). Name the file narrative.pdf.

Attachment 2: Work plan (required)

Describe the activities or steps that you will use during the period of performance to achieve each of the objectives proposed. Use a timeline that includes each activity and identifies responsible staff. Explain how outcomes from one activity will carry over into the next. For each activity, specify the project team members involved. For multi-institutional collaborative projects, discuss the distribution of responsibilities across each institution. As appropriate, identify meaningful support and collaboration with key stakeholders in planning, designing, and implementing all activities. Name the file workplan.pdf.

Attachment 3: Reading list (required)

Provide a list of common readings and other resources that project personnel will consult. The reading list should not exceed two single-spaced pages. Name the file readings.pdf.

Attachment 4: Résumés for key personnel (required)

Include résumés for persons occupying the key positions described in the [budget](#), not to exceed two pages in length per person. Name the file resumes.pdf.

Attachment 5: Letters of commitment (required)

Provide any documents that describe working relationships between your organization and other individuals, entities, and programs cited in the proposal. Letters of commitment must be signed and dated. Letters from the applicant's Congressional Representatives or Senators and members of the National Council on the Humanities should not be included. Name the file letters.pdf.

Attachment 6: Institutional letter of support (required)

Provide a letter indicating long-term support for the project from a member of the leadership at your institution, such as the president, a provost, or a dean. Name the file support.pdf.

Attachment 7: Institutional profile (required)

Provide a one-page overview of your institution, including key institutional data, such as the number of faculty, the number of departments, associate's degrees as a percentage of total degrees awarded (if applicable), graduate programs (if applicable), student enrollments, etc. Name the file profile.pdf.

Attachment 8: Letter certifying Title V eligibility (conditionally required for applicants of the Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic-Serving Institutions program)

If applicable, provide a 2019 or 2020 letter or other document from the Department of Education, certifying Title V eligibility. Name the file titleV.pdf.

Attachment 9: Other supporting documentation (optional)

Include any other documents that are directly relevant to your application, such as course descriptions, sample syllabi, or screenshots or mockups of digital products. This attachment is limited to 20 pages. Name the file other.pdf.

Attachment 10: Federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (conditionally required)

If the applicant institution is claiming indirect costs and has a current federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, submit a copy of the agreement. Name the file agreement.pdf.

Attachment 11: Explanation of delinquent federal debt (conditionally required)

If you are delinquent in the repayment of any federal debt, provide explanatory information on a separate page or pages. Also provide evidence that you have entered into a repayment agreement with the Internal Revenue Service, and that you are current on all payments due. Examples of relevant debt include delinquent payroll or other taxes, audit disallowances, and benefit overpayments. See [OMB Circular A-129](#).

Name the file deliquentdebt.pdf.

3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management

All organizations must submit their applications for NEH funding using [Grants.gov Workspace](#) or a Grants.gov system-to-system solution. Before using Grants.gov for the first time, each organization must have an Employer Identification Number (EIN) and register with Grants.gov.

The Grants.gov registration process requires completing information in three separate systems:

1. Dun and Bradstreet (<https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>)
2. System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://www.sam.gov/SAM/>)
3. Grants.gov (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html>)

Organizations must obtain a Unique Entity Identifier, currently a valid Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S®) number. Organizations must also register with the System for Award Management (SAM) and continue to maintain active SAM registration with current information at all times during which you have an active federal award or an application or plan under consideration by an agency (unless the applicant is an individual or federal agency that is exempted from those requirements under [2 CFR §25.110\(b\) or \(c\)](#), or has an exception approved by the agency under [2 CFR §25.110\(d\)](#)).

If you have not already done so, SAM.gov will require entities to create a Login.gov user account. Applicants renewing or updating their registrations are strongly advised to know the email address associated with their current SAM.gov user account. Using the same email address

allows SAM.gov to automatically migrate your roles. If a different email address is provided, your roles will need to be reassigned. This could cause delays in renewing or updating your SAM.gov registration. As of February 2, 2019, you will be required to review and agree to the Financial Assistance Representations and Certifications when registering or renewing in SAM.gov. These are a common set of certifications and representations required by federal statutes or regulations in accordance with Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations. You can review your organization's SAM registration [here](#).

NEH may not make an award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable D-U-N-S® and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time NEH is ready to make an award, NEH may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as the basis for making an award to another applicant.

If you have already completed Grants.gov registration for NEH or another federal agency, confirm that the registration is still active and that the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) has been approved.

If you fail to allow sufficient time to complete registration with SAM or Grants.gov, you will not be eligible for a deadline extension or waiver of the online submission requirement.

4. Submission Dates and Times

Program officers will review brief project summaries submitted by June 18, 2020. Program officers cannot review summaries submitted after this deadline. Although this optional preliminary review is not part of the formal review process and has no bearing on the final outcome of the proposal, previous applicants have found it helpful in strengthening their applications. If you choose to submit a summary, send a 1-2-page concept paper and optional one-page work plan, as attachments to hi@neh.gov.

The due date for applications under this announcement is July 16, 2020 at 11:59 pm Eastern Time.

Applications must be complete, within the specified page limits, and validated by Grants.gov under the correct funding opportunity number prior to the deadline to be considered under this notice.

[Confirm that you successfully submitted your application](#). It is your responsibility as an applicant to confirm that Grants.gov and subsequently NEH have received your application.

NEH will assign a tracking number beginning with AA, AB, AC, AD, or AE - to your application when it has been received by the agency. The assignment of a tracking number does not guarantee that the application is free of technical problems (such as missing attachments or failure to convert attachments to PDFs). If NEH's system detects a technical problem with your application after retrieving it from Grants.gov, NEH will send you an email notification.

Once an applicant formally submits an application, NEH will not comment on its status except with respect to issues of completeness and eligibility.

5. Intergovernmental Review

This funding opportunity is not subject to intergovernmental review under [Executive Order 12373](#).

6. Funding Restrictions

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

- projects that center on pedagogical theory and strategies, or on research on educational methods, tests, or measurements
- teaching of basic foreign language skills
- the cost of replacement teachers or compensation for faculty members performing their regular duties
- the rental of recreational facilities and costs related to social events such as banquets, receptions, and entertainment
- tuition fees for participants (tuition remission)
- individual research
- work undertaken in pursuit of an academic degree
- the cost of travel associated with scholarly research unrelated to the project
- 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 the humanities and the humanistic social sciences (including the creation or performance of art; creative writing, autobiographies, memoirs, and creative nonfiction; and quantitative social science research or policy studies)

All program income generated as a result of awarded funds must be used for approved project-related activities. The program income alternative applied to the award(s) under the program will be addition. Post-award requirements for program income can be found at [2 CFR §200.307](#).

E. Application Review Information

1. Review Criteria

Peer reviewers will use the following criteria to review applications in the Humanities Initiatives programs:

Intellectual quality (corresponds with narrative section “[Institutional rationale](#)”)

The extent to which the proposal:

- centers on a significant topic in the humanities, engaging important humanities texts and other resources, and drawing on sound scholarship in the humanities;
- effectively addresses the pertinent issues of teaching and learning in a way that is clear, free of jargon, and accessible to nonspecialists;
- refrains from proposing advocacy and other activities not supported by NEH (listed above); and
- indicates that a project incorporating composition and writing aims to enhance the abilities associated with the study of the humanities, such as critical and analytical thinking and the clear expression of complex ideas.

Design quality (corresponds with narrative sections “[Content and activities](#),” “[Project personnel](#),” and “[Evaluation](#)”)

The extent to which the proposal:

- provides evidence of well-planned activities described in adequate detail;
- includes personnel qualified to carry out their responsibilities;
- incorporates an appropriate evaluation plan; and
- provides a reasonable budget suitable to the scope of the project.

Feasibility (corresponds with narrative sections “[Content and activities](#),” “[Project personnel](#),” and “[Institutional context](#)”)

The extent to which the proposal:

- demonstrates the institution’s capacity to carry out the project successfully; and
- shows clear evidence of support for the project by the proposed scholars, consultants, and institution(s) through signed letters of commitment.

Potential for significant impact (corresponds with narrative sections “[Institutional context](#)” and “[Follow-up and dissemination](#)”)

The extent to which the proposal:

- demonstrates that the project would lead to opportunities for enhanced humanities teaching and learning at the institution;
- demonstrates impact appropriate to project goals and institutional context beyond the period of performance and indicates, in the narrative and supporting documentation, long-term institutional support for the project;
- describes a project scope appropriate to the intended audience; and
- includes robust plans for dissemination to a wider audience, as appropriate.

2. Review and Selection Process

NEH staff review applications for eligibility and completeness. NEH uses a peer review process to evaluate all eligible and complete applications. Peer reviewers are experts in the field with relevant knowledge and expertise in the types of project activities identified in the applications. NEH instructs reviewers to evaluate applications according to the review criteria outlined in this notice of funding opportunity. Peer reviewers must comply with federal ethics and conflicts of interest requirements.

Each of the five Humanities Initiatives programs will be reviewed by a separate panel. NEH staff comments on matters of fact or on significant issues that otherwise would be missing from peer reviews, then makes recommendations to the National Council on the Humanities. Highly rated proposals from each of the five panels will be recommended to the Council for funding. The National Council meets at least twice annually to advise the NEH Chairman. The Chairman considers the advice provided by the review process and, by law, makes all funding decisions. [Learn more about NEH’s review process.](#)

3. Assessment of Risk and Other Pre-Award Activities

NEH may elect not to fund applicants with management or financial instability that affects their ability to implement the terms and conditions of the award ([2 CFR §200.205](#)).

Applications that have received a favorable objective review are reviewed for other considerations that include past performance, as applicable; cost analysis of the project budget; assessment of management systems; continued applicant eligibility; and compliance with any public policy requirements. You may be asked to submit additional programmatic or administrative information (such as an updated budget or supporting documentation) or to

undertake certain activities (such as negotiation of an indirect cost rate) in anticipation of an award. However, even at this point in the process, such requests do not guarantee that an award will be made. Following review of all applicable information, NEH's approving and grant management officials will determine whether an award can be made, if special conditions are required, and what level of funding is appropriate.

Award decisions are discretionary and are not subject to appeal to any NEH official or board.

4. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by email in December 2020. For successful applicants, this notification is not an authorization to begin performance or incur related costs. Applicants may request evaluations of their applications by emailing hi@neh.gov.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

1. Federal Award Notices

Institutional grant administrators and project directors of successful applications will receive award documents from the NEH Office of Grant Management by email in January 2021.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Awards are subject to [2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#), and the [General Terms and Conditions for Awards to Organizations \(for grants and cooperative agreements issued December 26, 2014 or later\)](#), and the specific terms and conditions in the Notice of Award.

Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion Certification

You must comply with [2 CFR §§180.335](#) and [180.350](#) with respect to providing information regarding all debarment, suspension, and related offenses information, as applicable.

- 1) The prospective recipient certifies, by submission of this application, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.
- 2) Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in [2 CFR §200.338](#), including suspension or debarment. (See also 2 CFR parts [180](#) and [3369](#)).
- 3) Where the prospective recipient is unable to attest to the statements in this certification, an explanation must be included in [Attachment 11: Explanation of delinquent federal debt](#).

Providing access to NEH-funded 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. All other considerations being equal, NEH gives preference to those that provide free access to the public.

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

Copyright information

NEH recipients may copyright any work that is subject to copyright and was developed, or for which ownership was acquired, under an award. In accordance with [2 CFR §200.315 \(b\)](#), NEH reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use the work for federal purposes, and to authorize others to do so. NEH has typically exercised this right in consultation with recipients to publish an excerpt from resulting grant product(s) in *Humanities* magazine or on the NEH website.

Acknowledging NEH support

All materials publicizing or products resulting from NEH-funded activities must contain an acknowledgment of NEH support. Consult the [Acknowledgment and Publicity Requirements for NEH Awards](#) and [Publicizing Your Project](#) pages on the NEH website for guidance on acknowledging NEH support and promotion.

Eliminate Waste, Fraud, and Abuse

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](#).

3. Reporting

Recipients must comply with the following reporting and review activities:

- 1.) **Federal Financial Report(s)**. Recipients must submit the Federal Financial Report (SF-425) on an **annual** basis. It must be completed online in eGMS Reach. Further information will be provided in the Notice of Action.
- 2.) **Performance Progress Report(s)**. Recipients must submit a performance progress report to NEH on an **annual** basis. It must be completed online in eGMS Reach. Further information will be provided in the Notice of Action.
- 3.) **Final Reports**. Recipients must submit a final financial report and a final performance report within 90 calendar days after the period of performance ends. The final performance report collects information relevant to program specific goals and progress on strategies; impact of the overall project; the degree to which the recipient achieved the mission, goal and strategies outlined in the approved application; recipient objectives and accomplishments; barriers encountered; and responses to summary questions regarding the recipient's overall experiences during the entire period of performance. The final reports must be submitted online in eGMS Reach. Further information will be provided in the Notice of Action.

Learn more about [Performance Reporting Requirements](#) and [Financial Reporting Requirements](#).

G. Agency Contacts

If you have questions about the program, contact:

Division of Education Programs
National Endowment for the Humanities
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20506

202-606-2324
hi@neh.gov

If you have questions about registering or renewing your registration with login.gov or [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov), contact the Federal Service Desk Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time at:

Federal Service Desk: [FSD.gov](https://federal.service.gov)
U.S. calls: 866-606-8220
International calls: +1 334-206-7828

For assistance in registering with or submitting your application through [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov), contact [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, excluding federal holidays at:

[Grants.gov](https://grants.gov) Applicant Support
Telephone: 1-800-518-4726
International Calls: 606-545-5035
Email: support@grants.gov
[Grants.gov Support](#)
[Self-Service Knowledge Base](#)

Always obtain a case number when calling for support.

H. Other Information

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 et seq.](#) The principal purpose for which the information will be used is to process the 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 on average it takes fifteen hours to complete this application. This estimate includes time for reviewing instructions, researching, gathering, and maintaining the information needed, and completing and reviewing the application.

You may 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 Funding Opportunity Officer at grantmanagement@neh.gov. 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. The OMB Control Number for this notice of funding opportunity is 3136-0134, expiration date June 30, 2021.