



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities

DIVISION OF PUBLIC PROGRAMS

**PROGRAMMING GRANTS
TO ACCOMPANY NEH ON
THE ROAD EXHIBITIONS**

Deadline: December 26, 2018 (with earlier deadlines on May 9, 2018, and September 12, 2018; see the “Award Administration Information” section below for additional information)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 45.164

Item referred to in this document needed to complete your application:

- Grants.gov application package

Also see the **application checklist** at the end of this document.

Questions?

Contact the staff of NEH’s Division of Public Programs at 202-606-8269 and publicpgms@neh.gov. Applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing can contact NEH via Federal Relay (TTY users) at 800-877-8399.

Submission via Grants.gov

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

System for Award Management Entity records

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

I. Program Description

These grants support ancillary public humanities programs to accompany NEH on the Road traveling exhibitions.

Typical formats involve lectures, reading and discussion programs, film discussion programs, Chautauqua presentations by scholars, family programs, exhibition tours, and other appropriate formats for reaching the general public.

Programming Grants to Accompany NEH on the Road Exhibitions may not be used for

- 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; or
- projects that fall outside of the humanities (including the creation or performance of art; creative writing, memoirs, and creative nonfiction; and empirically based social science research or policy studies).

II. Award Information

Successful applicants will be awarded a grant of \$1,000.

A grantee organization with a federally negotiated indirect-cost rate agreement may apply a percentage of its grant (the percentage stipulated in its indirect-cost rate agreement) to defray its indirect costs.

NEH has determined by cost comparison that it is cost prohibitive to negotiate an indirect-cost rate for this program. Organizations that wish to include overhead charges but do not have a current federally negotiated indirect-cost rate or have not submitted a pending indirect-cost proposal to a federal agency have the option of charging a de minimis rate of 10 percent of modified total direct costs (MTDC).

The grant period should not exceed three months, including the period of time in which the exhibition is actually on display at the host institution.

Cost sharing

Cost sharing is not required in this program.

III. Eligibility

An institution is eligible to apply only if it is a nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status and has already received a confirmed booking for one of the NEH on the Road exhibitions through Mid-America Arts Alliance.

Information on how to apply for bookings can be found [here](#).

Late, incomplete, or ineligible applications will not be reviewed.

IV. Application and Submission Information

Register or Verify Registration with Grants.gov

Applications for this program must be submitted via [Grants.gov](#). Before using Grants.gov for the first time, each organization must register with the website to create an institutional profile. Once registered, your organization can then apply for any government grant on the Grants.gov website.

If your organization has already registered and you have verified that your registration is still valid, you may skip this step. If not, Grants.gov explains how to register your organization [here](#). **NEH strongly recommends that you complete or verify your registration at least two weeks before the application deadline, since it takes time to process your registration.** If you have problems registering with Grants.gov, call the Grants.gov help desk at 1-800-518-4726.

As part of the Grants.gov registration process, applicants are required to register with the [System for Award Management](#) (SAM). You can find additional details above, near the start of these guidelines.

Download the Free Adobe Reader Software

Using Grants.gov Workspace to prepare your application, you may complete the applications forms online without using the Adobe Acrobat Reader software. You will, however, need the software if you download the application forms as PDFs. You will in any case need to convert the files that you will attach (to the Attachments Form and the Budget Narrative Attachment Form—see below for information about these forms) into PDFs.

The latest version of the Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is designed for use with PCs and Macintosh computers, is available at no charge from [Adobe](#). Click on “PDF & E-Signatures” on the top of the page, then on “Reader DC.”

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.

Access the Application Forms Online, or Download the Forms as PDFs

Using Grants.gov Workspace, you may either complete the application forms online or download the forms as PDFs. Information about Workspace is available [here](#). The NEH website provides a link to the application package on the [program resource page](#). You can access the forms online or download the PDFs at any time. (You do not have to wait for your Grants.gov registration to be complete.)

The application package contains four forms that you must complete in order to submit your application:

1. **Application for Federal Domestic Assistance - Short Organizational**—this form asks for basic information about the project, the project director, and the institution.
2. **Supplementary Cover Sheet for NEH Grant Programs**—this form asks for additional information about the project director, the institution, and the budget.
3. **Attachments Form**—this form allows you to attach the rest of your application as a single file.
4. **Budget Narrative Attachment Form** (also known as the **Budget Narrative File**)—you must attach to this form **only** a copy of the applicant institution’s current federally negotiated indirect-cost rate agreement (or an explanation why you are not attaching such an agreement).

When you fill out the forms, use normal punctuation and do not type using only capital letters.

HOW TO FILL OUT THE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE—SHORT ORGANIZATIONAL

Please provide the following information:

1. **Name of Federal Agency:** This will be filled in automatically with “National Endowment for the Humanities.”
2. **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:** This will be filled in automatically with the CFDA number and title of the NEH program to which you are applying.
3. **Date Received:** Please leave blank.
4. **Funding Opportunity Number:** This will be filled in automatically.

5. **Applicant Information:** In this section, please supply the name, address, employer/taxpayer identification number (EIN/TIN), DUNS number, website address, and congressional district of the institution. Also choose the “type” that best describes your institution (you only need to select one).

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).

All institutions applying to federal grant programs are required to provide a DUNS 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 DUNS number. Federal grant applicants can obtain a DUNS number free of charge by calling 1-866-705-5711. ([Learn more](#) about the requirement.)

6. **Project Information:** The project title should be: Public Programming to Accompany Traveling Exhibition, followed by the name of the exhibition that you have booked.

Under *Project Description*, indicate that the request is for funds to support humanities programs that will supplement the exhibition. You need not describe the programs in detail.

List the starting and ending dates for your project. Generally, it is best to have the starting date begin about a month before your scheduled booking and to have the ending date be shortly after the exhibition closes. (This allows for sufficient time to hold programs before the exhibition is actually installed and to wrap things up quickly, once it is dismantled.)

7. **Project Director:** Provide the name, title, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone and fax numbers for the project director.

8. **Primary Contact/Grants Administrator:** Provide the contact information for the official responsible for the administration of the grant (that is, ensuring compliance with the terms and conditions of the award). This person is often a grants administrator, research officer, or sponsored programs official. Normally, the Primary Contact/Grants Administrator is not the same person as the Project Director. If the project director and the grants administrator are the same person, skip to Item 9.
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. In order to become an AOR, the person must be designated by the institution’s E-Business Point of Contact. For more information, please consult the [Grants.gov Online User Guide](#).

HOW TO FILL OUT THE SUPPLEMENTARY COVER SHEET FOR NEH GRANT PROGRAMS

Please provide the following information:

1. **Project Director:** Use the pull-down menu to select the major field of study for the project director.
2. **Institution Information:** Use the pull-down menu to select your type of institution.
3. **Project Funding:** Enter your project funding information. You should request \$1,000 in outright funds, with no federal match. The total from NEH will be \$1,000. There is no cost sharing, so the total project costs will come to \$1,000.
4. **Application Information:** Indicate whether the proposal will be submitted to other NEH grant programs, government agencies, or private entities for funding. If so, please indicate where and when. NEH frequently cosponsors projects with other funding sources. Providing this information will not prejudice the review of your application.

For **Type of Application**, check “new” if the application requests a new period of funding, whether for a new project or the next phase of a project previously funded by NEH. Check “supplement” if the application requests additional funding for a current NEH grant. If you are requesting a supplement, provide the current grant number. Before submitting an application for a supplement, applicants should discuss their request with an NEH program officer.

List the primary project discipline. You may also list a secondary project discipline and a tertiary project discipline.

HOW TO USE THE ATTACHMENTS FORM

You will use this form to attach the file that makes up your application. This file is the PDF file that you received from Mid-America Arts Alliance that contains your original application to it

for a booking for the NEH on the Road exhibition. That entire application (that is, the original cover sheet, description of programs, and budget) should be a single PDF file, saved on your computer as “applicationandbudget.pdf.” No other attachments are required.

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

When you open the Attachments Form, you will find fifteen attachment buttons, labeled “Attachment 1” through “Attachment 15.” You will be using only “Attachment 1.” By clicking on this button, you will be able to choose the file from your computer that you received from Mid-America Arts Alliance that you wish to attach. Please name the file “applicationandbudget.pdf”.

Note that Grants.gov will reject applications with files whose names include any character **other than numbers, letters, underscores (_), hyphens (-), spaces, and periods.** If you include any other character (for example, a comma) in a filename, Grants.gov will reject your application.

HOW TO USE THE BUDGET NARRATIVE ATTACHMENT FORM (ALSO KNOWN AS THE BUDGET NARRATIVE FILE)

The only thing that you should attach to this form is a copy of the applicant institution’s current federally negotiated indirect-cost rate agreement (or an explanation why you are not attaching such an agreement).

If you are not attaching an indirect-cost rate agreement, you must instead attach a brief statement explaining why. As appropriate, use one of the following explanations:

1. The applicant institution is not claiming indirect costs.
2. The applicant institution does not currently have a federally negotiated indirect-cost rate agreement.
3. The applicant institution’s charge for indirect costs will not exceed the government-wide rate of up to 10 percent of direct costs.

Note that you may not leave the Budget Narrative Attachment Form blank. Instead you must attach either the applicant institution’s indirect-cost rate agreement or one of the three explanations provided above.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION TO GRANTS.GOV

When you have completed all four forms, perform validation checks on the application as needed, and fix any errors. After you have done so, you are ready to submit your application to Grants.gov.

During the registration process, your institution designated one or more AORs (Authorized Organization Representatives). These AORs typically work in your institution’s Sponsored Research Office or Grants Office. When you have completed your application, you must ask your

AOR to submit the application, using the special username and password that were assigned to him or her during the registration process.

To submit your application, your computer must have an active connection to the Internet. To begin the submission process, click the “Submit” button. A page will appear, asking you to sign and submit your application. At this point, your AOR will enter his or her username and password. When you click the “Sign and Submit Application” button, your application package will be uploaded to Grants.gov. Please note that it may take some time to upload your application package, depending on the size of your files and the speed of your Internet connection.

After the submission is complete, a confirmation page will appear. This page, which includes a tracking number, indicates that you have submitted your application to Grants.gov. Please print this page for your records. The AOR will also receive a confirmation e-mail message.

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

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

DEADLINES

Applications must be received by Grants.gov by December 26, 2018. Grants.gov will date- and time-stamp your application after it is fully uploaded. Applications should normally be submitted approximately four to five months before the arrival of the exhibition at your institution, in order to allow for processing time.

V. Application Review

Applications will be evaluated on the degree to which the public programs involve humanities experts and increase audience engagement with the themes of the exhibition.

Review and selection process

The staff of Mid-America Arts Alliance—which administers the NEH on the Road program under a cooperative agreement with NEH—reviews applications (to ensure that they meet the eligibility and review criteria) and advises the agency about the applications. NEH staff then presents a slate of recommendations to the National Council on the Humanities. The National Council meets at various times during the year to advise the NEH chairman on grants. The chairman takes into account the advice provided by the review process and, by law, makes all funding decisions. More details about NEH’s review process are available [here](#).

All other considerations being equal, preference will be given to projects that provide free access to materials produced with grant funds.

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

VI. Award Administration Information

Applicants will be notified by e-mail. Applicants submitting applications by May 9, 2018, will be notified in September 2018; applicants submitting applications by September 12, 2018, will be notified in December 2018; and applicants submitting applications by December 26, 2018, will be notified in May 2019. Institutional grants administrators and project directors of successful applications will also receive award documents by e-mail at the relevant notification time.

Award documents will identify the relevant terms, conditions, and administrative requirements that pertain to successful applications. The [Grant Management](#) section of the NEH website outlines all the responsibilities of award recipients, including anti-lobbying restrictions, in great detail.

Award recipients will be required to submit a final report to Mid-America Arts Alliance on the activities under this award.

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

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

VII. Points of Contact

If you have questions about the program, contact

Division of Public Programs
National Endowment for the Humanities
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20506
202-606-8269
Publicpgms@neh.gov

If you need help using Grants.gov, refer to

Grants.gov: www.Grants.gov
Grants.gov help desk: support@grants.gov
Grants.gov training documents and videos:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-training.html>
Grants.gov support line: 1-800-518-GRANTS (4726)

VIII. 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. The principal purpose for which the information will be used is to process the grant application. The information may also be used for statistical research, analysis of trends, and Congressional oversight. Failure to provide the information may result in the delay or rejection of the application.

Application completion time

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

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

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- **Verify and if necessary update your institution’s Entity record, or create an Entity record for your institution, at the System for Award Management (SAM).** Complete at least four weeks before the deadline.
- **Verify your institution’s registration or register your institution with Grants.gov.** Complete at least two weeks before deadline.
- **Using Grants.gov Workspace, fill out the application forms online or download and fill out the PDFs of the forms.** The [program resource page](#) on NEH’s website has a direct link to the package. You can also search Grants.gov for this program.
- **Complete the following forms contained in the Grants.gov application package.**
 1. Application for Federal Domestic Assistance - Short Organizational
 2. Supplementary Cover Sheet for NEH Grant Programs
 3. Attachments Form—Using this form, attach your application as described in the guidelines:

ATTACHMENT 1: Application and budget (name the file “applicationandbudget.pdf”)

4. Budget Narrative Attachment Form (also known as the Budget Narrative File)—Using this form, attach **only** a copy of the applicant institution’s current federally negotiated indirect-cost rate agreement (or an explanation why you are not attaching such an agreement). (For additional information, see above for the instructions for this form.)

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

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