DIGITAL HUMANITIES ADVANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM WEBINAR

National Endowment for the Humanities
Office of Digital Humanities
Webinar for 2020 Funding Cycle
TOPICS COVERED

• What does the Digital Humanities Advancement Grant program fund?
• Who is eligible to apply?
• Planning your application
• Review criteria
• Resources
• Application & review process
• Key dates
• Contact information
DHAGs support:

- Projects that lead to innovative work that can scale to enhance scholarly research, teaching, and public programming in the humanities.
  - Experimental
  - Computationally challenging

- DHAG Awards in the NEH public database
- 84 DHAGs awarded since 2017
- White papers of all past ODH awardees
DEADLINES & ELIGIBILITY

**DHAG Deadlines:**
- January 15, 2020
- June 30, 2020

**Eligibility:**
- US & territorial institutions **only**
- Non-US institutions ineligible as sub-awardees
  - Project directors and Co-Project Directors may only submit 1 DHAG application per deadline.
- Individuals may apply for [fellowships in the NEH'S Research Division](#)
Since creation of ODH in 2008, complementary grant programs have expanded while others emerged across the NEH to support digital work.

- Division of Education
- Division of Preservation and Access
- Division of Public Programs
- Division of Research
- Office of Challenge Grants

Digital projects are funded across the NEH:

Which program fits my digital project? (link)
ACTIVITIES WE DO NOT FUND

Detailed in the NOFO:

• projects that mainly involve digitization, unless the applicant is proposing an innovative method for digitization;

• the creation or conversion of a scholarly journal (although the implementation of new modes of scholarly publication is permitted);

• recurring maintenance costs that would support only the day-to-day operations of existing projects rather than substantive changes or upgrades;

• recurring or established conferences or professional meetings;

• acquisition of computer equipment or software in excess of 20% total NEH award;

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

• promotion of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view; advocacy for a particular program of social or political action; support of specific public policies or legislation; and lobbying.
LEVELS OF FUNDING & PROJECT STAGE

Level I: $10,000 to $50,000 ≤ 24 months
Level II: $50,001 to $100,000 ≤ 24 months
Level III: $100,001 to $325,000 ≤ 36 months
Level IIIs only: $50,000 available with third-party matching funds

Level I: small projects that are experimental, that involve research, convenings, or planning sessions including planning to revitalize older DH projects. (Read some tips for writing a strong Level I application.)

Level II: projects that have completed a planning or exploratory phase and will develop working prototypes or code, sample data sets or models, methodological workflows, and/or documentation by the end of the grant period.

Level III: scaling up and expanding established projects with a demonstrated track record of success and strong user community or demand for the project’s outputs.
FUNDING RATIOS

Estimated Funding for FY 2020: 25-35 grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017-19</th>
<th>Total funds</th>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Funded</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level I</td>
<td>$826,793</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level II</td>
<td>$4,763,337</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level III</td>
<td>$3,736,742</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
PLANNING: START WITH THE DHAG RESOURCE PAGE

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

DHAG Program Resource Page: Everything you need!

http://neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-advancement-grants
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 are required to apply online through Grants.gov Workspace using the Standard Form 424 (SF-424) application package associated with the funding opportunity and following the instructions provided by Grants.gov unless otherwise noted below.

To request a paper copy of this announcement, contact odh@neh.gov. 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, budget, budget justification, and other required forms and components described below.
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 may be rejected from further consideration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application component</th>
<th>Naming convention</th>
<th>Page limits</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SF-424 Short (Org or Individual)</td>
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<td>Project/Performance Site Location Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachments Form</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attachment 1: List of participants</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 2: Narrative</td>
<td>narrative.pdf</td>
<td>Level I: 4 pages Level II: 6 pages Level III: 10 pages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 3: Biographies</td>
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<td>1 paragraph per person</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 4: Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 5: Budget justification</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 6: Appendices</td>
<td>appendices.pdf</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 7: Letters of commitment and support</td>
<td>letters.pdf</td>
<td>10 pages</td>
<td>Optional; maximum of 2 letters of support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 8: Data management plan</td>
<td>datamanagement.pdf</td>
<td>2 pages</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<td>Attachment 9: Sustainability plan</td>
<td>sustainability.pdf</td>
<td>3 pages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 10: Federally-negotiated indirect cost rate agreement</td>
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<td>Conditionally required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment 11: Certificate regarding lobbying</td>
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<td>Required for Level III</td>
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Application Components Table is on page 12 of the NOFO
Six Review Criteria for Evaluation Proposals:

1. The intellectual significance of the project for the humanities

2. The quality of the overall conception, organization, and description of how the proposed work sits within a broader context, and quality of the argument for new (or further) work in this area

3. The feasibility of the work plan, proposed methodology, and use of technology, and the project’s plans for mitigating risk and addressing accessibility for its intended audiences

4. The qualifications, expertise, and levels of commitment of the project director and key project staff or contributors

5. The reasonableness of the proposed budget in relation to the proposed activities, the anticipated results, products, and dissemination.

6. The quality and appropriateness of project plans for data management and (if applicable) sustainability
I. The intellectual significance of the project for the humanities

What is your big idea?
Who is your targeted audience?
What is the innovation in your project?

• Convince reviewers that your project advances digital methodologies and workflows.
• Describe your experimentation & innovation for the humanities.
• Define users or audiences – it probably isn’t everyone!
• Identify ways of making the grant products available beyond the funded activities through outreach activities, open access publications, or free and open source software.
2. The quality of the overall conception, organization, and description of how the proposed work sits within a broader context, and quality of the argument for new (or further) work in this area.

- Write for colleagues who know nothing about your work—watch for jargon and esoteric language.
- Justify your decisions to build something, to convene, or to experiment with specific methods.
- Assess other projects in this area of practice to situate this proposed work.
- Discuss the impact of your work, especially for Level II and IIIs.

How does this project fit within the broader body of humanities & digital humanities scholarship?
Have you clearly justified the need for this project?
3. The feasibility of the work plan, proposed methodology, and use of technology, and the project’s plans for mitigating risk and addressing accessibility for its intended audiences

- Provide concrete information about what you’re going to do and how you will do it.
- Detail what the activities are who will do that work—include a detailed work plan in the appendix, if necessary.
- Describe your methods and technology choices for doing the work, and talk about the risks.

Have you set realistic goals to accomplish in the period of performance?

How are you addressing risks involved in tackling this project? (risk is okay!)
4. The qualifications, expertise, and levels of commitment of the project director and key project staff or contributors

- Describe the roles and responsibilities for all project team members.

- Write biographies that identify individuals’ experiences and skills that prepare them to do the work assigned to them.

Do you have the right team in place to accomplish the work?

Does the budget reflect the commitments?
5. The reasonableness of the proposed budget in relation to the proposed activities, the anticipated results, products, and dissemination

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

Have you adequately allocated staff and resources to accomplish proposed tasks?
6. The quality and appropriateness of project plans for data management and (if applicable) sustainability

How will you manage your data and/or plan for sustaining your project?

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

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

NOFO, p. 8 contains guidance that matches each section with relevant criteria

Narrative (Attachment 2):
- Enhancing the Humanities: 1
- Environmental Scan: 2
- History of the Project: 2
- Work Plan: 3, 4, and 5
- Final Product and Dissemination: 1 and 3

Biographies (Attachment 3): 4

Budget and Budget Justification: (Attachments 4 & 5): 5

Data Management Plan (Attachment 8): 6

Sustainability Plan, Level IIIs (Attachment 9): 6
Resources

DHAG Program Resource Page
Sample Applications
FAQs
Blog Posts

Sample Application Narratives

Level I
- University of Georgia, Freedom's Movement: Mapping African American Space in War and Reconstruction
- Ball State University, Library Circulation Histories Workshop
- Shift Design, Redesigning Historypin for Open-Source Digital Humanities
- University of Virginia, The Development of Digital Documentary Editing Platforms

Level II
- Temple University, Developing the Data Set of Nineteenth-Century Knowledge
- University of Richmond, Distant Viewing Toolkit (DVT) for the Cultural Analysis of Moving Images
- College of William and Mary, Transkribus and the Georgian Papers Programme Tabular-Formatted Manuscripts
- James Madison University, Circulating American Magazines, Level II Grant

Level III
- South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, SnowVision: A Machine Learning-Based Image Processing Tool for the Study of Archaeological Collections
- St. John's University, Ensuring Access to Endangered and Inaccessible Manuscripts

Most Recent from the Office of Digital Humanities

Blog
Planning your next DHAG Idea, Audience, Innovation, Context
November 3, 2019

Blog
Planning Your Digital Humanities Advancement Grant: Activities, People, & Costs for Doing the Work
November 4, 2019

Blog
Planning: Managing and Sustaining the Project Assets
November 4, 2019
REVIEW PROCESS

- Review for eligibility & completeness
- Peer review & panel meeting
  - Panelists have 6-8 weeks to evaluate, then meet to discuss
- Staff make recommendations after peer review process complete
- National Humanities Council review recommendations
  - Meetings in March, July, November
- NEH Chairman Jon Parrish Peede makes final decisions on awards
- Applicants notified

Decision notifications: 6-7 months after submission date
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>App Deadlines</th>
<th>Draft Deadlines</th>
<th>Notifications</th>
<th>Start Dates</th>
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<td>May 19, 2020</td>
<td>December 2020</td>
<td>January 2021</td>
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CONTACT ODH

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