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

DIGITAL HUMANITIES ADVANCEMENT GRANTS (DHAG)

Partnership with
Institute of Museum and Library Services (link)

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](#)

IS THIS PROJECT A DHAG?

Digital projects are funded across the NEH:

Which program fits my digital project? (link)

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

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

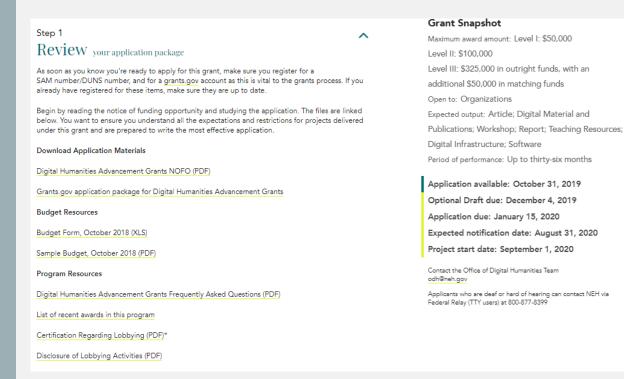Estimated Funding for FY 2020:
25-35 grants

2017-19	Total funds	Awards	Applications	Funded
Level I	$ 826,793	20	170	12%
Level II	$4,763,337	43	263	16%
Level III	$3,736,742	21	144	15%

DHAG Program Resource Page: Everything you need!

**PLANNING:
START WITH THE
DHAG RESOURCE PAGE**

The NOFO is formerly known as the application "guidelines."

Step 1

Review your application package

As soon as you know you're ready to apply for this grant, make sure you register for a SAM number/DUNS number, and for a grants.gov account as this is vital to the grants process. If you already have registered for these items, make sure they are up to date.

Begin by reading the notice of funding opportunity and studying the application. The files are linked below. You want to ensure you understand all the expectations and restrictions for projects delivered under this grant and are prepared to write the most effective application.

Download Application Materials

Digital Humanities Advancement Grants NOFO (PDF)

Grants.gov application package for Digital Humanities Advancement Grants

Budget Resources

Budget Form, October 2018 (XLS)

Sample Budget, October 2018 (PDF)

Program Resources

Digital Humanities Advancement Grants Frequently Asked Questions (PDF)

List of recent awards in this program

Certification Regarding Lobbying (PDF)*

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (PDF)

Grant Snapshot

Maximum award amount: Level I: $50,000

Level II: $100,000

Level III: $325,000 in outright funds, with an additional $50,000 in matching funds

Open to: Organizations

Expected output: Article; Digital Material and Publications; Workshop; Report; Teaching Resources; Digital Infrastructure; Software

Period of performance: Up to thirty-six months

Application available: October 31, 2019

Optional Draft due: December 4, 2019

Application due: January 15, 2020

Expected notification date: August 31, 2020

Project start date: September 1, 2020

Contact the Office of Digital Humanities Team
odh@neh.gov

Applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing can contact NEH via Federal Relay (TTY users) at 800-877-8399

http://neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-advancement-grants

READ & FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

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.

REVIEW CHECKLIST

Application Components Table is on page 12 of the NOFO

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.

Application component	Naming convention	Page limits	Notes
SF-424 Short (Org or Individual)	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
NEH Supplemental Cover Sheet	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
Project/Performance Site Location Form	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
Attachments Form	Not applicable (Grants.gov form)		Required
Attachment 1: List of participants	participants.pdf		Required
Attachment 2: Narrative	narrative.pdf	Level I: 4 pages Level II: 6 pages Level III: 10 pages	Required
Attachment 3: Biographies	biographies.pdf	1 paragraph per person	Required
Attachment 4: Budget	budget.pdf		Required
Attachment 5: Budget justification	justification.pdf		Required
Attachment 6: Appendices	appendices.pdf	10 pages	Optional
Attachment 7: Letters of commitment and support	letters.pdf		Optional; maximum of 2 letters of support
Attachment 8: Data management plan	datamanagement.pdf	2 pages	Required
Attachment 9: Sustainability plan	sustainability.pdf	3 pages	Required for Level III
Attachment 10: Federally-negotiated indirect cost rate agreement	agreement.pdf	Conditionally required	Conditionally required
Attachment 11: Certificate regarding lobbying	certification.pdf		Required for Level III

REVIEW CRITERIA & PROPOSAL PLANNING

Read these 3 blog posts on planning a DHAG:

Post 1 (link)

Post 2 (link)

Post 3 (link)

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

1. 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 you 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

How does this project fit within the broader body of humanities & digital humanities scholarship?

Have you clearly justified the need for this project?

- 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.

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

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!)

- 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.

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

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

Does the budget reflect the commitments?

- 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.

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

Have you adequately allocated staff and resources to accomplish proposed tasks?

- 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.

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 (link)

Sample Applications

FAQs

Blog Posts (link)

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 4, 2019

Blog
Planning Your Digital Humanities Advancement Grant 2: Activities, People, & Costs for Doing the Work
November 4, 2019

Blog
Planning 3: Managing and Sustaining the Project Assets
November 4, 2019

REVIEW PROCESS

Decision notifications:
6-7 months after submission date

- 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

KEY DATES

App Deadlines	Draft Deadlines	Notifications	Start Dates
January 15, 2020 11:59 pm Eastern	December 4, 2019	August 2020	September 2020
June 30, 2020 11:59 pm Eastern	May 19, 2020	December 2020	January 2021

CONTACT ODH

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