

## New York State Council on the Arts – Arts and Culture Initiatives

**Q1. What is the total amount of funding available?**

A1. Up to \$5 Million.

**Q2. Is there a regional breakdown for available funding?**

A2. Funding is not pre-designated by region. Upon reviewing and scoring applications, funds are allocated statewide with a focus on regional equity and proportional distribution. However you can review all our past funded REDC projects by county and other criteria on the Past Grants Section of our website: [http://www.arts.ny.gov/grant\\_app/org\\_search.cfm](http://www.arts.ny.gov/grant_app/org_search.cfm)

**Q3. If an organization eliminated a position due to budget costs, can they apply for a grant with the NYS Council of Arts and use the funding to fund a new position?**

A3. Yes. But the organization will have to make a strong case for how it will sustain that position into the future once the subsidy has been spent.

**Q4. If we receive general operating support can we apply?**

A4. Yes, as long as the proposed activity is above and beyond the organization's regular, ongoing programming.

**Q5. Does the grant pay through a reimbursement process?**

A5. No. NYSCA REDC grants are paid out during the contract period. Depending on size of the award, you may receive an upfront, lump payment or smaller payments allocated throughout the contract period.

**Q6. Are there limits to the grant amount?**

A6. Yes. Grant award limits vary by category. Please review our guidelines to verify grant limits for each category.

**Q7. How close to the canal does the project need to be, to be considered for coordination with the Canal Corporation grants?**

A7. This is a state-wide funding opportunity that only needs to tie-in to the broader canals celebration.

**Q8. Is there grant money available for projects focusing on The Woman's Suffrage Movement when the project is at multiple sites?**

A8. Yes. Submit a single request that speaks to all sites that are part of the proposed program.

**Q9. When is the Erie Canal Bicentennial Celebration?**

A9. 2017 through 2025. Projects will start in 2017. The Council of the Arts will provide funding for one year. However, projects can take much longer. Support for implementation is branded and connected to the heritage.

**Q10. What do underrepresented communities encompass?**

A10. Underrepresented communities encompass minority populations. NYSCA Arts and Career Development Fellowships for Underrepresented Communities focus areas have no limit on the budget size for applications submitted. You may only apply for one request to cover a single position. There are also many other areas Workforce Investment supports such as Resident Artist positions, Administrative and Artistic positions.

**Q11. Would a project allowing an artist to educate and teach young children fall under this grant?**

A11. Yes, it would support this position.

**Q12. What if the application does not fall into three categories? (Arts, Culture Heritage New Initiatives-Planning, Arts, Culture Heritage New Initiatives-Implementation, Workforce Investment)**

A12. You cannot apply if you do not fall into one of these categories.

**Q13. What is the maximum operational budget for the Workforce Investment category?**

A13. The budget limit for the Workforce Investment category may not exceed \$750,000. Exception: There is no limit on the organizational budget size for applicants submitted for the NYSCA Arts Career Development Fellowships for Underrepresented Communities focus area.

**Q14. What is the difference between Art & Culture Mapping and Arts & Culture Master plan?**

A14. **Arts & Cultural Mapping:** A comprehensive inventory and mapping of a community's artistic and cultural assets and resources, including artists, artisans, tradition bearers and other local cultural activity and culturally significant public spaces, facilities and organizations.

**Arts and Cultural Master Plan:** A community's articulated strategy for new partnerships and approaches that cultivate, deepen, and support area arts and artists as the foundation for vital community, civic, social and overall quality of life to in turn further spur economic development and tourism.

**Q15. Do we need conservation easements on any property prior to applying for the grant?**

A15. No. Parks will do that for you. You will have to accept the language as part of it so check with your attorney

**Q16. Will fellowships be paid for?**

A16. Grant award is to subsidize a fellow's salary. All positions funded by a NYSCA-REDC Workforce Investment grant must be hourly or salaried employees of the organization.

**Q17. Can organization be funded for more than one category?**

A17. Applicants are allowed to submit a single proposal under one category within the NYSCA-REDC grant opportunities. However, applicants may be a partner in multiple projects requesting funding. Applicant organizations may also submit applications to other REDC participating agencies.

**Q18. Is the list of positions on the website exclusive? Is it for existing positions only?**

A18. No, it is just to give you an idea of the types of positions that might be covered. It is for existing positions that are part-time which will expand into full-time or it can be for new positions either part or full time.

**Q19. Regarding eligibility, can the nonprofit request funding for non-payroll staff, like consultants?**

A19. No. The request can only be for staff that is on payroll, not independent contractors and/or seasonal staff. It can be for a staff that is new and will be on payroll.

**Q20. Can you define planning vs. project implementation?**

A20. Please read our REDC-NYSCA guidelines for the particular grant opportunities available under each category.

**Q21. Can a project apply if the project has already started?**

A21. It can if it's an ongoing multiyear program, however NYSCA funds can only cover expenses incurred during the grants contract period. Note - the proposed project can't be part of any other current NYSCA program request or funded grant. Make sure the request submitted meets the specific requirements for the NYSCA REDC category you are applying under.

**Q22. Is there a minimum number of jobs that need to be created through the Workforce Investment?**

A22. A Workforce Investment grant is to fund a SINGLE position.

**Q23. Can a project apply if it had previously received funding from NYSCA?**

A23. Yes, as long as NYSCA is not CURRENTLY funding that project.

**Q24. Do the match funds have to be in place before we apply?**

A24. They can be expected, but must be realistically accounted for via viable sources.

**Q25. Are there any legacy opportunities for past NYSCA REDC planning grant recipients?**

A25. Yes, there is a legacy opportunity for those previously funded REDC NYSCA planning grant recipients that have successfully concluded their planning phase as outlined in the original planning grant and whose project's plans and programs are ready for implementation.

**Q26. Can the fellowship opportunity be used for the administration or design of an arts organization's fellowship program and how long does a fellowship need to exist in the company?**

A26. The funds can be used for the base salary for one employee in one position. The fellowship must provide training and mentorship as the part of the fellow's career development and employment with the organization and NYSCA has the expectation the position will continue beyond the subsidy and grant period as a sustainable fellowship opportunity.

**Q27. Is there funding available for past Workforce Investment grant recipients?**

A27. Yes, past Workforce Investment grant recipients whose contract period has ended by the request year (FY 2017) may apply for one additional year of support for the same original position. Organizations who have already received two grant awards in this category are not eligible to apply.

**Q28. My project does not fall into one of the three focus areas under the Implementation category. Can we still apply?**

A28. No. Projects must focus on the Erie Canal Bicentennial or Women's Suffrage Celebrations or stem from a past NYSCA REDC Planning grant. Any projects outside of those scopes are not eligible to apply.