

New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)

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 for the Arts and Cultural Program Initiatives and up to \$5 million for the New York State Council on the Arts (REDC) Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program – Large Capital Fund.

Q2. Is there a regional breakdown for available funding?

A2. Not in summary form. However, you can look up all our past funded REDC projects by county and other criteria on our Past Grants Section: http://www.nysca.org/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 from NYSCA 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. NYSCA REDC Initiatives grants under \$50,000 are paid up front, while Initiatives grants over \$50,000 are paid in installments. Capital facilities grants are paid in installments, with the final portion of the grant paid once the majority of the work is completed.

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. What are the REDC Goals and does my application need to address them as related to my project?

A7. Successful projects may demonstrate significant economic and community development impact to serve:

- Develop workforce, engage new audiences
- Revitalize neighborhoods
- Generate collaborative projects
- Drive and support tourism
- Enhance resources for underserved communities

This is not an exhaustive list. Please also be sure to review the CFA Resource Manual and your specific regional council's priorities and goals.

Q8. What if the application does not fall into one of the three Initiatives categories? (Arts and Cultural Impact Programming, Council on the Arts – Workforce Investment, Council on the Arts – Workforce Readiness)

A8. You cannot apply to the Initiatives if your project does not fall into one of these categories, though organizations with facilities projects may also apply to the NYSCA Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program – Large Capital Fund (REDC) or the Mid-Size Capital Fund (Non REDC).

Q9. Are organizations only eligible to apply for one opportunity?

A9. Organizations may apply to NYSCA for one REDC initiatives category and one facilities fund.

More specifically:

Organizations may only apply to one of the three NYSCA- REDC Initiatives categories:

Council on the Arts – Arts and Cultural Impact Programming

Council on the Arts – Workforce Investment

Council on the Arts – Workforce Readiness

Organizations may serve as a partner on additional applications, but may only be the lead applicant on ONE application. Organizations that have received NYSCA-REDC Workforce Investment funding are not eligible to apply in the Workforce Investment category. Organizations that have received NYSCA-REDC Workforce Readiness funding are not eligible to apply in the Workforce Readiness category.

Additionally, applicants may also make one application in the NYSCA Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program – Large Capital Fund (REDC) or Mid-Size Capital Fund (Non REDC). Organizations that have already received 2017 Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program Funding are ineligible to apply for either of these facility opportunities.

Q10. Can I apply for an REDC-NYSCA grant to support a *project* that also receives support through another NYSCA program (or has an application pending)?

A10. No. Current and previous NYSCA grantees may apply for support through the REDC, but it must be for a project that has not already been funded by the agency.

Q11. Can we apply if the project has already started?

A11. You apply can if it is an ongoing multiyear program, however NYSCA funds can only cover expenses incurred during the grant contract period. Note - the proposed project cannot be part of any other current NYSCA program request or funded grant. Be sure the request submitted meets the specific requirements for the NYSCA REDC category you are applying under.

Q12. Do the matching funds have to be in place before we apply and can they be from other government sources?

A12. They do not need to be in hand, but commitments must already be secured.

Funds from any other state agency (e.g. I LOVE NY Matching Funds, ESD or other NYSCA funds) are not eligible to be used for the match. Other sources of government funding such as New York City grants can be used towards the match.

Q13. Is there funding available for past REDC Initiatives grant recipients?

A13. Organizations that have received NYSCA-REDC Workforce Investment or Readiness funding previously are not eligible to apply in the same category again, but are welcome to apply in a different category. Past recipients of Arts and Cultural Impact Programming awards may reapply to the Impact category, but may only do so with a different project.

Q14. Are there any legacy opportunities for past NYSCA REDC planning grant recipients?

A14. No.

Arts and Cultural Impact Programming

Q15. How close to the canal does the project need to be, to be considered for funding through the Erie Canal Bicentennial focus?

A15. This is a state-wide funding opportunity that only needs to tie-in to the broader canals celebration.

Q16. When is the Erie Canal Bicentennial Celebration?

A16. 2017 through 2025. The Council on the Arts will provide funding for one year, though aspects of the project can take much longer.

Q17. Is there grant money available for projects focusing on The Woman's Suffrage Movement when the project is executed at multiple sites?

A17. Yes. Submit a single request that speaks to all sites that are part of the proposed program.

Workforce Investment

Q18. What is the operating budget limit for organizations applying in the Workforce Investment focus area?

A18. For the administrative and artistic staff positions, the applicant's overall operational budget may not exceed \$1,000,000 (as determined by the audit or financial statement provided in the organization's Grants Gateway Document Vault at the time of application). There is no limit on the organizational budget size for applications submitted for the NYSCA Resident Artist focus area.

Q19. How what percent of a Workforce Investment grant should support salary?

A19. Grant awards in this category are ONLY to subsidize a hire's direct salary. All positions funded by a NYSCA-REDC Workforce Investment grant must be hourly or salaried employees of the organization (no contract-based or seasonal employment).

Q20. Is the list of positions supported by the Workforce Investment grants on the website exhaustive?

A20. No. You may apply for support for other positions beyond those listed here.

Q21. Can the Workforce Investment funds be used to support a part-time position?

A21. The funds can support the expansion of existing part-time to full-time, or the creation of new positions that are either part or full time.

Q22. Can the organization request funding for non-payroll staff, like consultants?

A22. 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.

Q23. Is there a minimum number of jobs that need to be created or expanded through the Workforce Investment category?

A23. A Workforce Investment grant is to fund a single position.

Q24. Does the organization have to apply with a particular individual for a resident artist position?

A24. Yes. If you are applying for a Resident Artist position you must have already engaged an artist with whom you will apply. If you are applying for new Administrative or Artistic Positions, you do not need to identify a candidate before applying

Q25. Would a project allowing an artist to educate and teach young children fall under a Workforce Investment grant?

A25. Yes, it would support this position.

Workforce Readiness

Q26. What is the minimum number of professionals that need to participate in The Workforce Readiness program?

A26. In every case the grant must cover direct costs associated with the proposed program intended to benefit *two or more* participants. The proposed program must provide training for all of the participants and/or mentorship for the fellows.

Q27. What do you mean by “underrepresented communities?”

A27. Underrepresented communities encompass minority populations and individuals from communities that have been historically underrepresented in arts organizations because of educational and economic disadvantage and ethnic background.

Q28. Is career training in the intended to be entry level?

A28. Yes, training opportunities are intended to be entry level in nature.

Q29. Is it possible to request Workforce Readiness funds for internships?

A29. Only if coupled with a well-articulated curriculum training component.