

## New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)

### NYSCA-REDC Arts & Cultural Facilities Improvement Program – Mid-Size Capital Project Fund

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

A1. Up to \$1.75 million for the Arts & Cultural Facilities Improvement Program – Mid-Size Capital Project Fund.

**Q2. Are organizations only eligible to apply for one project?**

A2. Organizations may only apply to the Mid-Size Capital fund for one project.

Additionally, organizations may make one request in one of these three REDC NYSCA initiatives categories:

Council on the Arts – NY State Arts Impact Awards

Council on the Arts – Workforce Investment

Council on the Arts – Workforce Fellowship Program

Organizations may serve as a partner on additional applications but may only be the lead applicant on ONE application for a capital grant and/or initiatives grant.

**Q3. Can organizations that have already received 2017 or 2018 Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program funding apply for Arts & Cultural Facilities Improvement Program – Mid-Size Capital Project Fund?**

A3. No. Organizations that have already received 2017 or 2018 Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program Funding are ineligible to apply.

**Q4. Can organizations apply if they have received general NYSCA facilities support in the past (not through the 2017 or 2018 REDC ACFIP)?**

A4. Yes, as long as they do not have a current application pending, and the current request is different from any previously funded projects.

**Q5. Can an applicant apply for the NYSCA Facilities Program, and/or the Midsize Capital Project Fund opportunity for the same project?**

A5. No. Applicants may only apply to EITHER the Mid-Size funds or NYSCA Facilities Program for the same project. If you have a Facilities Program application pending that you would like to withdraw, please email Facilities Program Director Christine Leahy.

**Q6. What is the project contract timeline for the Arts & Cultural Facilities Improvement Program?**

A6. The grant contract will be three years (March 2020 through February 2023)

**Q7. What are the minimum and maximum amounts for the grant request and the total project costs?**

A7. Only request amounts between \$49,500 and \$150,000 will be considered.

**Q8. What are the matching conditions associated with this grant?**

A8. Organizations must match the grant amount on a 1:1 basis (secured) and secure 50% of the financing for the total project from non-state sources. In-kind matches and/or staff time is not eligible for the match requirement. In no case will the grant award cover more than 50% of the total project cost. Funds from any other state agency (e.g. I LOVE NY Matching Funds, ESD or other NYSCA Fund) are not eligible to be used for the match.

**Q9. Are there facilities grant opportunities which do not require a match?**

A9. No – all capital grants through NYSCA-REDC require a match.

**Q10. Do matching funds have to be in place before applying? Can they be from other government sources?**

A10. For the total project cost, they can be expected, but must be realistically accounted for via viable sources. For the grant request, the 1:1 cash match must 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.

**Q11. Is there a minimum length that a lease agreement must be to qualify?**

A11. There must be a minimum of 10 years remaining on a lease to qualify (this requirement excludes capital equipment requests).

**Q12. Are structural improvements to a building eligible under the Arts & Cultural Facilities Improvement program?**

A12. Yes.

**Q13. Are not-for-profit schools eligible for grants?**

A13. No. The applicant organization must be primarily an arts and cultural organization. Additionally, public school districts, public universities, state agencies, and arts organizations leasing their facility from such an entity are ineligible for funding.

**Q14. Are religious institutions eligible to apply for funding?**

A14. No.

**Q15. Are we required to undertake a bidding process or RFP before hiring contractors for the project?**

A15. No. It is up to the organization to determine if their project necessitates soliciting multiple estimates, and it may be useful to describe the plan for this in your application. That being said, applicants should keep in mind that capital project grants will be subject to NYS regulations associated with meeting targets for hiring certified MWBE vendors.

**Q16. Do organizations need conservation easements on any property prior to applying for the grant?**

A16. No. NY State Parks will develop these elements with the applicant. Organizations are encouraged to consult an attorney for specific language related to conservation easements.

**Q17. How many organizations received capital facilities improvement grants in the last round?**

A17. 51 organizations received grants through the Arts and Cultural Facilities Improvement Program in FY19. However, prospective grantees should keep in mind that the total amount of the grant pool, the structure of the program, and the minimum and maximum request amounts have all changed since the previous round of grants was awarded, and the number of previous awards is not necessarily indicative of the number of grants expected in the current round.