

National Endowment for the Arts FAQs and Information for Applicants and Grantees in response to COVID-19

Please know that the National Endowment for the Arts is focused on and closely monitoring COVID-19 and its effect on the arts community. We stand ready to assist our applicants and awardees in the coming weeks and months.

For more information regarding COVID-19, please visit the [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)'s website \[cdc.gov\]](https://www.cdc.gov).

Updates

(3/24) **Research Awards application deadline extension.** The Research Awards application deadline has been extended to help applicants dealing with the effects of COVID-19. See the [Research Awards guidelines](#) for more information.

(3/20) **Budget Revisions.** You may transfer among direct cost line items in your budget without prior written approval from us. This means if your approved budget included salaries/wages or artist fees in your budget, you can direct your grant award money toward those costs. You must maintain documentation of all costs charged to the award. **Allowability of Costs not Normally Chargeable to Awards.** If your organization incurs costs related to the cancellation of events, travel, or other activities necessary and reasonable for the performance of the award due to the COVID-19 pandemic, you may charge these costs to your award. Awardees are required to maintain appropriate records and cost documentation to substantiate the charging of any cancellation or other fees related to interruption of operations or services. If you have contracts with artists or other vendors, you must adhere to terms of the contract's cancellation clause(s), as appropriate.

(3/19) **Grantees can request funds to cover approved project costs *incurred to date* AT ANY TIME in the period of performance.** You do not have to wait until the project is over.

Closing out your award prior to the end of your period of performance. If you have already incurred enough costs to cover the amount of your Arts Endowment award plus the required cost share/match, you may choose to close out your award early. **This is possible even if you have not accomplished everything that you planned. Reduction of the scope of the project is allowable.** This enables you to request all of your grant funds and submit your final reports even if some of your project activities are postponed or canceled.

(3/18/2020) The Arts Endowment is administratively extending the due date for submission of final report material for all grantees who have yet to submit their final reports for the 3/30/2020 deadline. This extension is for grants with periods of performance that ended on 12/31/2019. **The new deadline for submission of final reports will be 5/31/2020**, which should give organizations time to assess submission options or request an alternative amendment from the Office of Grants Management. Impacted organizations will not receive formal notice of this change to your reporting

requirements. For more information, contact the Office of Grants Management at grants@arts.gov.

Applicants

Will the upcoming 2020 application deadlines be changed?

The National Endowment for the Arts will continue to accept grant applications, but we're evaluating our grant application deadlines and may adjust them to help applicants dealing with the effects of COVID-19. All applications are submitted electronically through systems that are unaffected by the COVID-19 situation. See [here](#) for the most up-to-date information.

Will my application be reviewed on schedule?

Yes. All of our application review panels are virtual. Panelists work and meet remotely. Staff conducts panel reviews through our electronic systems and can do so at our offices and remotely.

What if our organization applied to the February 2020 Grants for Arts Projects deadline and we need to make a change to our project as a result of COVID-19?

Applicants should notify National Endowment for the Arts discipline staff of any significant changes in their project that occurs after they have submitted their application. Our staff will work with you to determine the appropriate course of action.

Awardees

We might have to cancel our grant project (or part of our grant project). What options are there?

You can request a Period of Performance extension if you think you may be able to complete the project activities by a later end date. You also can request a change in the scope of the grant project. Depending on the change, you may be able to draw down funds for the costs and activities you've already completed.

We might be able to accomplish some of our grant project, but what if our budget costs need to change?

You can submit a revised budget request that includes why changes are needed. Generally, budget items will still need to be allowable and allocable to the grant project.

IMPORTANT: You can discuss potential changes with appropriate program staff, but only the Office of Grants Management has the authority to formally approve changes. The Office of Grants Management will confer with program and other staff as necessary during the review process.

General

Will I be able to contact Arts Endowment staff?

Yes. Whether working at our offices or remotely, our staff will be available to answer your questions. It is possible, however, that your regular contact may be unavailable. If you don't get a response within a reasonable period of time, feel free to reach out to someone else in

your **regular contact's office**. Current Arts Endowment awardees can reach the Office of Grants Management at **grants@arts.gov**.

Quick Links

Apply for a Grant. This is where to find grant opportunity Guidelines and application instructions.

Manage Your Award. Bookmark this page for links to resources and information about the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures to manage and administer a grant or cooperative agreement (award), including forms, guidance, and reporting requirements that govern your award. **This is where you'll find detailed information about requesting changes to your award.**