



CARES Act Grant Guidelines

The Maine Humanities Council is honored to distribute \$424,000 of rapid-response funding to non-profit humanities and cultural organizations that are facing financial hardship resulting from the coronavirus. These grants are provided as part of the \$2.2 trillion CARES Act economic stabilization plan, via the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Funds

- Grants of up to \$7,500 for non-profit organizations across Maine who provide humanities and cultural programming and are facing financial hardship due to the coronavirus.
- Applies to losses or unforeseen expenses due to the coronavirus incurred between March 16 and June 15, 2020.
- Grants are available for general operating expenses.
- No funding match or cost-share is required.

Priorities

- Intended to support cultural organizations who provide humanities programming who are facing hardship due to economic impacts related to the coronavirus.
- Organizations serving and led by members of communities traditionally under-represented in the humanities are encouraged to apply.
 - These groups include people of color, people who identify as LGBTQ+, people who live in rural areas, people with disabilities, people who identify as immigrants or refugees, and people whose first (or only) language is not English. (Please note that this is not an exhaustive list.)
- It is the aim of the Maine Humanities Council to maximize the impact of available CARES Act funding.

Eligibility

- 501(c)(3) organizations registered in Maine.
- Maine tribal organizations.
- Maine public libraries.

- Organizations experiencing financial hardship due to the effects of the coronavirus. Hardship includes, but is not limited to:
 - permanent closure
 - loss of paid staff
 - loss of venue or workspace
 - loss of significant revenue
 - new expenses incurred due to the corona virus
- Not eligible: individuals; for-profit organizations; organizations solely focused on the arts; political or advocacy organizations; government agencies; universities, colleges, academic departments; public, private, or parochial schools; entities with significant public funding. Organizations may not apply through a fiscal sponsor to meet eligibility requirements.

Application Review

- Applications are due on May 15, 2020.
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel made up of staff and Board members of the Maine Humanities Council.
- Applications will be evaluated based on demonstrated need and humanities focus.
- Grant notifications will be made starting on June 8th.

To Apply

- The application period will open Friday, May 1.
- Application deadline is Friday, May 15.

As required by federal guidelines, applicants must have a DUNS number in order to receive funds. Apply for this as early as possible, as a DUNS number can take some time to receive. While not required to apply, funds cannot be dispersed without this registration. More information on DUNS numbers: support.dnb.com/?CUST=GOVTDUNS

- Apply online at mainehumanities.org/relief
 - You will apply through a simple application that will take about 30 minutes to complete.

Further Information

- [FAQs and information session recording](#)
- Please email questions to grants@mainehumanities.org



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HUMANITIES