

CO CARES Act Grant



The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act recognizes that the nonprofit arts and culture industry is an important sector of America's economy. Colorado Creative Industries, on behalf of the National Endowment for the Arts, will award funds to nonprofit arts organizations in Colorado to help these entities and their employees endure the economic hardships caused by the forced closure of their operations due to the spread of COVID-19. These funds are intended to help save jobs in the arts sector and keep the doors open to the hundreds of organizations that add value to Colorado's economy and the creative life of our communities.

This program will be carried out through one-time grants to eligible nonprofit arts organizations. Grants will be made to organizations to support salaries or facilities costs.

Colorado Creative Industries and the National Endowment for the Arts intend to make awards that will impact a broad constituency. This includes a wide geographic range and organizations that serve underserved populations such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.

DEADLINE

Applications must be submitted online by 4:00PM on Friday, May 15, 2020.

ELIGIBILITY

- Open only to Colorado-based, arts-focused 501 (c) 3 organizations with a primary purpose to support the arts as reflected in their organizational mission. Organizations that have other goals but include some arts programming are not eligible.
- Applicants must have been in business (with its primary business location in Colorado) and registered as a business in good standing with the Colorado Secretary of State for at least one year.
- Applicants may not apply using a fiscal agent.
- Applicants must have a cash operating budget between \$25,000–250,000 for their last completed fiscal year.

ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS

- Organizations who have received funding directly from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) within the last five years are **not** eligible.
- Certified Colorado Creative Districts are **not** eligible.
- Organizations who are 2019 awardees from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) are **not** eligible.

***GUIDELINES UPDATE:** CCI is allowing organizations to apply for funding if they have applied for the NEA direct funding. However, if awarded CCI funds, they will be held until notifications from the NEA awards have been released. If an organization is awarded NEA funding, their CCI awarded funding will be reallocated.*

FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

Support is limited to any or all of the following:

- Salary support, full or partial, for one or more positions that are critical to an organization's artistic mission.
- Fees for artists and/or contractual personnel to maintain or expand the period during which such persons would be engaged.
- Facilities costs such as rent and utilities.

TIMELINE

April 17–May 15	Grant information & staff support available
May 15, 2020 4PM	Online application submit deadline
May 16–May 31	CCI staff review
June 1	Council reviews recommendations; funding announced
June 2–June 30	Grantee award documents returned to CCI
July 1, 2020–December 31, 2020	Funding period

GRANT AMOUNTS

Grant awards are a flat amount of \$5,000.

REVIEW PROCEDURES

The grants will be reviewed by CCI staff with the following criteria considered during the review of applications:

- Significance of the organization to its community and stakeholders.
- Potential to have a significant and immediate impact on the arts workforce.
- Significance of the relief funding to the mission and core work of the organization.
- The organizational ability (or capacity) to manage the award under the grant terms and conditions.
- Extent to which the organization serves underserved populations such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.

Staff recommendations are not final until approved by the Creative Industries Council.

Applicants will be notified via email of the result of the funding recommendations.

ONLINE APPLICATION

Applicants are required to log into the online grant portal (<https://co-cci.smapply.org>) and complete the application. If you haven't logged into the new portal, you will need to register for an account. Your login for the previous grant portal will not work in the new portal.

For additional help on using the online grant portal, contact Sami Wells at Sami.Wells@state.co.us.

REQUIRED SUPPORT MATERIALS

- A statement of your organization's cash operating revenues for *your most recently completed fiscal year*, signed by your board president or treasurer. **(Please do not send**

a balance sheet) Acceptable documents are a profit and loss statement or a signed list of expenditures from your financial system.

- Current (within the last 3 months) Certificate of Good Standing from the Colorado Secretary of State.
- IRS Determination Letter stating 501 (c) 3 status

GRANTEE REPORTING

Grant recipients will be required to submit a final report at the end of the funding period.

OTHER CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

As a condition of the grant, Colorado Creative Industries requires the recipient of public funds to comply with all state and federal laws and regulations.

STAFF CONTACT

Applicants seeking assistance are advised to contact CCI staff well in advance of the application deadline. For questions about the grant or about using the online grant portal contact:

Sami Wells: Sami.Wells@state.co.us

COLORADO CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Colorado Creative Industries (CCI) is a division of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade. Established to capitalize on the immense potential for our creative sector to enhance economic growth in Colorado, the mission of Colorado Creative Industries is to promote, support and expand the creative industries to drive Colorado's economy, grow jobs and enhance our quality of life. www.coloradocreativeindustries.org