

# NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS (NYSICA)

## RECOVERY GRANTS



Application due:  
September 1, 2021  
at 4PM

[www.arts.ny.gov](http://www.arts.ny.gov)



Top image: Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival,  
Photo Credit: T Charles Erickson  
Bottom Image: Alvin Ailey American Dance  
Theatre, photo courtesy of Ailey

Please review the guidelines for the **two** recovery fund opportunities:

**(1) starting at page 1, guidelines for organizations with Total FY19 Expenses Between \$100,000-\$10,000,000**

**(2) starting at page 8, guidelines for organizations with for Organizations with FY19 Total Expenses Less than \$100,000.**

Note that there is one combined online application that applies to both opportunities.

See our 8/5/21 FAQ on demonstrating revenue loss here:

<https://arts.ny.gov/FAQforApplicants#8>

# Recovery Grants (for Organizations with Total FY19 Expenses Between \$100,000-\$10,000,000)

## Introduction

Recovery grants support arts and cultural nonprofit organizations negatively affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The streamlined grant program is designed to get funds into the hands of organizations quickly, with the intention that all eligible organizations who apply will receive funding. If there are more requests than the budget can fund, priority will be given to organizations that align with listed program priorities (see below).

### Award Size:

Grants will be a minimum of \$10,000.

**Application Deadline:** September 1, 2021

### Use of Grant Funds:

Funding is meant to be flexible, to be spent where organizations need it most (except for ineligible activities, listed below). No match is required.

For questions, please contact Program Staff in the discipline area most aligned with your organization's work. View contact information here: <https://arts.ny.gov/contact>

### Ineligible Expenses:

- New York State law and NYSCA policy restrict the types of activities and expenditures that NYSCA may fund. NYSCA is unable to award funding for the following:

- Costs that are funded by another government or private grant or loan source, including but not limited to the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loans and Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) programs from the Federal Small Business Administration (SBA).
- Accumulated deficits and debt reductions
- Activities not open to the public, for example, activities restricted to an organization's membership. Funded activities must be open to the public and promoted as such
- Competitions and contests
- Components of an organization's budget that are not directed towards programs in New York State
- Entertainment costs for receptions, openings, and fundraising benefits/events
- Major expenditures for the establishment of a new organization
- Costs of lobbying activity
- Operating expenses and fellowships at professional training schools that are not open to the general public
- Administrative overhead or fees charged by an affiliated institution or university
- Operating expenses of privately-owned facilities (such as homes and studios) • Out-of-state travel expenses
- Programs of public school districts or their components or affiliates
- Programs that are essentially recreational, rehabilitative, or therapeutic
- Programs of New York State agencies or departments
- Programs of public colleges and universities except under limited circumstances. Entities with close public college or university affiliations will be examined on a case-by-case

## Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply:

- Are a New York-based nonprofit organization with arts and culture as a central part of its purpose or mission.
- Have a significant track record of publicly available arts and cultural programming.
- Will be providing publicly available arts and cultural programming in the next 12 months.
- Have **not** received \$150,000 or more from the Shuttered Venue Operating Grant (SVOG) program (those intending to apply for SVOG may still apply for NYSCA Recovery funds, but must withdraw from consideration if they accept SVOG funding of \$150,000 or more).
- Show “Total Expenses” between \$100,000 – \$10,000,000 on their 2019 IRS Form 990 (excluding capital expenses).
- Demonstrate a decrease in annual revenue of at least \$10,000 since 2019, as evidenced by comparing financial documents from before and after the beginning of the pandemic, as follows:
  - *Total annual revenue (excluding restricted capital income) from before the pandemic can be shown by uploading either:*
    - 2019 IRS Form 990; or Board-approved financial statements that include financial data prior to March 2020.
  - *Total annual revenue (excluding restricted capital income) from after the beginning of the pandemic can be shown by uploading:*
    - 2020 IRS Form 990 (if it includes financial data after March 2020); or

2021 IRS Form 990; or Board-approved financial statements that include financial data after March 2020.

See our 8/5/21 FAQ on demonstrating revenue loss here:

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**Please Note:**

- All NYSCA applicants must be prequalified to do business with New York State in the Grants Gateway by the application due date and time to be eligible for funding. For more information, see <https://arts.ny.gov/FAQforApplicants#2A> or section 8 of the [Application Manual](#).
- Previous funding by NYSCA is not required. Current and prior NYSCA grantees, as well as first-time applicants to NYSCA are eligible to apply.
- Receipt of Restart NY grant funding will not affect eligibility for the Recovery Grant program.
- Applications from fiscally sponsored organizations are not eligible.

## Recovery Grants Priorities

The intention of this program is that all eligible organizations who apply will receive funding. However, due to a limited amount of funding and the high volume of applications expected, NYSCA will consider the following criteria to guide funding decisions, including grant approval and grant size:

- Organizations based in regions with lower concentrations of arts organizations
- Organizations with annual expenses under \$5 million (based on 2019 financial data)
- Organizations whose primary public activities take place in economically distressed business areas, as defined by the most recent census data.
- Organizations that are within, and serve, historically underrepresented communities.
- Organizations that have a significant track record of producing/presenting live, in-person performing arts (including but not limited to theatre, dance, and music), and who have confirmed plans to offer, live, in-person performing arts programming in New York State between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

## Review Process

Scoring will be conducted by panelists and/or staff for eligibility and priority thresholds. Due to expected volume of applications, NYSCA will not provide individual feedback to any applicant on panel scoring. Because this opportunity is provided through one-time relief funding, the NYSCA appeals process will not apply to this grant opportunity.

If your IRS Forms 990 show three consecutive years of more than 10% decline in net assets between FY2017-2019, we may require additional information in order to determine your eligibility for the program.

Committee and Council meetings are announced in advance and made available to the public on the NYSCA website. The Freedom of Information Law, N.Y. Public Officers Law §§ 84–90, grants the right of access to many public documents, including those of NYSCA.

## Application Questions

### Part 1: Organizational information

Organizational information from your FY22 NYSCA Application Portal registration will appear at the top of the application.

### Part 2: Application Questions

1. Organization Type: [Will already be asked in registration, will prepopulate]
2. Mission or Purpose of your organization: [Will already be asked in registration, will prepopulate]
3. Have you received more than \$150,000 from the Shuttered Venue Operating Grant (SVOG)?
4. List your organization's total expenses, as reported in your 2019 IRS Form 990 (excluding any expenses for capital projects).
5. Provide evidence of your organization's track record of publicly accessible programming.
  - a. If your organization's website has a list of programs and previous events, please provide it here:
  - b. Please summarize your organization's publicly accessible programming in FY2019. This list does not need to be exhaustive but should include a general estimate of how many events/programs your organization provided to the public and how many people you served. [Limit 1,500 characters]

Questions 6-8 ask questions about your organization's total annual revenue before and after the beginning of the pandemic. Please make sure your answers match the information included in the uploaded documents.

**UPLOAD 1 (Pre-Pandemic Annual Revenue)** - *Total annual revenue from before the pandemic can be shown by uploading either:*

- 2019 IRS Form 990; or
- Board-approved financial statements that include financial data prior to March 2020.

6. What was your organization's total annual revenue from before the pandemic, as shown on the documentation submitted above (excluding any income restricted for capital projects)?

**UPLOAD 2 (Pandemic-Impacted Annual Revenue)** - *Total annual revenue from after the beginning of the pandemic can be shown by uploading:*

- 2020 IRS Form 990 (if it includes financial data after March 2020); or
- 2021 IRS Form 990; or
- Board-approved financial statements that include financial data after March 2020.

7. What was your organization's total annual revenue from after the beginning of the pandemic, as shown on the documentation submitted above (excluding any income restricted for capital projects)?

8. In 2 - 4 sentences, briefly describe how the COVID-19 pandemic (including COVID-19 health and safety protocols which resulted in business modifications, interruptions, or closures) negatively affected your organization's total annual revenues (e.g. "Our organization was unable to stage live music performances last year, which resulted in a significant loss of earned income.") [Limit 500 Characters]

### Part 3: Program Priority Questions (Optional)

*Note: Data Related to Budget Size and Organization Location will be drawn from previously entered application data.*

*Questions 9-10 ask questions about activity location. Location data will be cross referenced with a list of economically distressed business areas, as identified in the most recent US Census data.*

9. If your organization provides arts and culture public programming in a physical place, what is the primary location (address) of those activities
10. Does your organization currently own, rent, or otherwise control this venue? (y/n)
  - a. If no, does your organization currently have plans in place to provide public programming in that location in FY2022? (y/n)

*Questions 11-12 refer to historically underrepresented communities. NYSCA embraces the widest spectrum of cultural expression and artistic pluralism and encourages funded organizations to demonstrate a holistic and comprehensive DEIA (diversity, equity, inclusion, and access) commitment. To that end, organizations have the option of sharing in the application whether they are within, and serve, historically underrepresented communities. These questions are not mandatory. NYSCA will prioritize organizations that serve these communities, although every organization, regardless of the answers to these questions, is eligible for funding. NYSCA views underrepresented communities broadly, including, but not limited to, African American/Caribbean, Latino/Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, Native American/Indigenous communities; people in geographically remote areas; disabled communities; LGBTQIA communities; neurodiverse communities; vulnerable aging populations; veterans; low income and homeless populations; as well as justice-involved juveniles and adults.*

11. Briefly describe your organization's audience, noting whether it primarily is formed of members of a historically underrepresented community. (500 characters)
12. Briefly describe your organization's cultural programming, noting whether it is created by people within a historically underrepresented community. (500 characters)

*Questions 13-16 refer to organizations that have a significant track record of producing/presenting live, in-person performing arts and are currently offering, or have confirmed plans to offer, live, in-person programming between July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022.*

13. Are the Performing Arts (including but not limited to Theatre, Dance, Music, and Presenting) a central part of your organization's mission or purpose?

14. Please summarize your organization's live, in-person performing arts programming in FY2019. This list does not need to be exhaustive but should include a general estimate of how many events/programs your organization provided to the public and how many people you served. (\*Note: This response may be the same as the track record of publicly accessible programming listed earlier in the application) [Limit 1,500 characters]
15. Briefly **describe your organization's confirmed plans to offer live, in-person performing arts programming** between *July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022*. This should include a basic description of the program(s), anticipated number of performances, where performances will take place, and if agreements with performing artists have already been made. [Limit 1,500 Characters]
16. Approximately how much does your organization anticipate spending on artist compensation (including artist fees and salary expenses for artists on staff) between *July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022*?

**Part 4: Proposed Use of NYSCA Funds**

*Should your request be funded, tell us how the award will be allocated by percentage. Awards are not restricted to a specific project or program and are meant to provide support for the ongoing operation of the organization.*

*Fill out the table below so that the numbers add up to 100%.*

*Please remember that NYSCA cannot fund out of state travel or entertainment costs. For further ineligible expenses, please refer to the Guidelines. You may select one or more categories below. This information will be used to complete contracts for funded requests.*

	Percentage (%) of award to allocate to expense	Notes on expense
Personnel (staff on payroll)	0	
Outside Artistic Fees & Services	0	
Other Outside Fees & Services	0	
Regrants	0	
Space	0	
Equipment	0	
Travel (In-State Only)	0	
Marketing/Advertising	0	
Remaining Operating Expenses	0	
<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>	<b><u>Sum of all lines above; Must equal 100%</u></b>

*If you allocated a percentage to Personnel IN THE TABLE, please describe in the NOTES COLUMN the title/estimated salary of each staff person proposed to be funded. (Reminder: Personnel generally means salary and fringe payments to staff or other individuals paid through a payroll/W-2 and not contracted staff)*

# Recovery Grants (for Organizations with FY19 Total Expenses Less than \$100,000)

## Introduction

Recovery grants support arts and cultural nonprofit organizations negatively affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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### Award Size:

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Marketing/Advertising	0	
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<b><u>Total</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>	<b><u>Sum of all lines above; Must equal 100%</u></b>

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