



New Jersey State Council on the Arts Individual Artist Recovery (IAR) Fiscal Year 2021 Grant Program Guidelines

ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts is a division of the New Jersey Department of State, created in 1966 by Public Law Chapter 214 and consists of 17 Governor-appointed members, and three ex-officio members representing the New Jersey Secretary of State, the Senate, and the Assembly. The Council's volunteer members are supported by a professional staff who carry out the Council's programs and services from the State Capital in Trenton.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe the arts are central to every element we value most in a modern society including: human understanding; cultural and civic pride; strong communities; excellent schools; lifelong learning; creative expression; and economic opportunity.

OUR MISSION: GIVEN TO US BY THE PEOPLE OF NEW JERSEY

In 1966, the Legislature passed, and the governor signed, a bill creating the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and directing us to do all that is necessary and appropriate to: support, encourage, and foster public interest in the arts; enlarge public and private resources devoted to the arts; promote freedom of expression in the arts; and facilitate the inclusion of art in every public building in New Jersey.

HOW WE ARE FUNDED

Public support for the arts in New Jersey comes from a dedicated, renewable revenue source - the Hotel/Motel Occupancy Fee - established in 2003. Under this law, a percentage of the fees collected are annually allocated to the State Arts Council. Additionally, the Council receives an annual, competitive grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

As the largest funder of the arts in New Jersey, the Council is committed to providing annual and multi-year grants to New Jersey's nonprofit arts organizations and artists. Strategic, responsive, and responsible grantmaking is the Council's highest priority, ensuring programs and services are equitable, accessible, and have the greatest possible statewide impact.

ACCESSIBILITY

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts is committed to making all of its programs accessible to all people. For accessibility services related to filing this application, please contact Accessibility Coordinator, Mary Eileen Fouratt at 609-984-6815 (NJ Relay 711) or maryeileen.fouratt@sos.nj.gov.

WHAT ARE INDIVIDUAL ARTIST RECOVERY GRANTS

Individual Artist Recovery Grants (IAR grants) are awarded to practicing New Jersey professional artists to assist with financial recovery from the COVID-19 crisis. These grant awards are based solely upon demonstrated financial need, and awardees will be randomly selected from all eligible applications received. Artists may use IAR grant awards for basic living expenses, like housing, groceries, and bills; or to pursue work in their artistic discipline, including purchasing supplies, studying in a workshop situation, or renting studio space. Artist recovery funds may not be used for travel out of the country, study as a matriculated student in either a graduate or undergraduate program, or to purchase permanent equipment (equipment with a resale value exceeding \$350 or having a life span over three years).

ADMINISTRATION

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts will administer the application and selection process for these grants, and the post-award process will comply with the State of New Jersey's payment process. This includes registering in NJ START, the State's payment processing system, and providing any required documentation to prove eligibility.

Learn more about NJ START here: <https://www.njstart.gov/bs/>

GRANT AMOUNTS

The Individual Artist Recovery grants will be for \$5,000.

We expect the need in the field to be extremely high, and for this program to be highly competitive.

While we wish that we could provide funding to every artist in need, our available funds are limited. For this reason, we also encourage artists to seek and apply for every other funding opportunity available to them. We maintain two regular opportunities newsletters for artists: [Opportunities for the Field](#) and [COVID Resources for the Field](#).

The NJ Department of Labor website offers employment options for temporary or permanent income during and after the COVID-19 crisis: <https://jobs.covid19.nj.gov>.

Artists with a recent history of employment (regular, contract, and "gig") will likely qualify for [unemployment benefits](#).

Successful application for Unemployment and/or Pandemic Unemployment benefits are a requirement of this program, demonstrating the applicants' financial need and history of arts-based income.

Artists who have maintained other employment during the COVID-19 crisis (for instance, College or K-12 Teachers) and do not therefore demonstrate high financial need resulting from the loss of art-generated income are not eligible for this grant program.

GRANT PERIOD

Grants available through this application are for the period March 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES SUPPORTED

Artists who can confirm that at least \$5,000.00 of their 2019 taxable income was generated from artistic practice in the visual, performing and/or literary arts are eligible, provided their income generating artistic work fits within the following categories:

Visual Arts: Painting, photography, works on paper, crafts, sculpture, interdisciplinary visual art, media (including film), digital and electronic art

Performing arts: Choreography, music composition- including noise/experimental sound artists, interdisciplinary performance art

Literary Arts: Prose, poetry and screen/playwriting literary artists

Folk and culturally specific art forms: all generative art forms that are considered folk arts or culturally specific, that **also** fit into one of the eligible visual, performative or literary art forms listed above. For example, composing music for Afro-Cuban Percussion, a culturally specific form of music composition, is a *performing art* in the category of *music composition*, as listed above. Oya, or Turkish Lace making, a culturally specific visual art form, is a *visual art* in the category of *craft* as listed above.

Teaching Artists: who work in K-12 schools or community art centers teaching your generative art form (as listed above), for short-term residencies, as independent contractors, who are also generating new work in your generative art form that is one of the eligible visual, performative or literary art forms listed above, are eligible to apply for this grant program. Arts teachers, whether full-time or part-time, that are on the payroll of an educational institution are not eligible.

ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES THAT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE

The eligibility for this grant is limited to *generative artists whose work is in the disciplines listed above*. We understand that dancers, actors, musicians and other artists and those involved in the arts are also experiencing high need for funds at this time. However, we estimate that we will be able to provide only 100 grants, so eligibility is limited to artists who work in the artistic categories that fall into the genres eligible for the Council's [Individual Artist Fellowship Awards](#).

Arts workers from other disciplines/crafts, unfortunately, are not eligible for this grant program. This includes those who work in the fields of tattoo art and body modification, lighting and stage design, fashion and costume design, curating, floral design, full or part-time university faculty, arts instructors and school teachers, martial arts, technical writing and journalism, graphic design/advertising, culinary, comedy, event DJ or entertainment, radio, box office, ushers, or other arts administrative workers.

REVIEW PROCESS

All Individual Artist Recovery grant applications received by the deadline will be reviewed against the listed criteria for eligibility by Council staff. Once eligibility has been confirmed, applications will be entered into a pool, from which award recommendation selections will be made by a random lottery process. Grant recommendations will then be approved by the Council at a public business meeting in February 2021.

NOTIFICATION

All applicants will be notified in writing of the Council's decision no later than March 1, 2021. The decisions of the Council are final and may not be appealed.

RECOVERY FUND AWARD PAYMENTS

The State Arts Council will provide digital contracts for selected artists to complete and at that time will verify artists' eligibility and necessary residency and compliance documents. Artists must register in [NJ START](#) to receive payment. Once contract documents have been signed, registration in NJ START is completed, compliance documents submitted, and a permanent New Jersey address has been verified, the total award amount of \$5,000 will be released. Payments can be expected within 4-6 weeks.

WHO MAY APPLY

Artists who meet the discipline criteria outlined above, who are current permanent residents of the State of New Jersey, and have lived in the state at least one year, are age 18 or older, who are not currently enrolled in a degree-granting program (high school, undergraduate or graduate program), and will not be enrolled in one as of March 2, 2021. All awards are subject to verification of New Jersey residency for the last 12 months.

Applicants must have reported taxable income related to earnings in 2019 as an individual artist and/or as an individual teaching artist in your generative art form that represents at least \$5000 in income in 2019. (This must be demonstrated through tax returns, 1099s, or other tax reporting forms.)

Because we have limited funds and the focus of this program is recovery for New Jersey artists who have lost art-derived income due to the COVID-19 crisis, all applicants must have already applied for Regular Unemployment and/or Pandemic Unemployment Insurance Compensation to help make up for art-generated revenue lost due to the COVID-19 crisis.

WHO MAY NOT APPLY

Collaborating New Jersey artists, partnerships, or any business *other than a sole proprietorship of the artist* are not eligible to submit an application based on collaborative or business losses. The applicant artist must have 1099s, contracts, receipts, etc. for previous arts-based income solely in their name.

The State of New Jersey has grants and loans available to small business and business owners, you can learn more about those [HERE](#).

Artists who maintained regular employment during the COVID-19 crisis, artists who cannot demonstrate a loss of significant income in 2020 due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Artists who have not relied upon art-generated income for at least \$5000 or more of their taxable income in 2019.

Artists who have not demonstrated financial need and a history of arts-based employment by successfully applying for New Jersey Unemployment and/or Pandemic Unemployment compensation.

ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS

Eligible applicants may submit one application for this funding opportunity.

Work undertaken while the applicant was a matriculated student in a graduate, undergraduate, or high school program is not considered eligible taxable income for purposes of this grant.

Artists who primarily earn their income in other states may not apply to this program.

HOW TO APPLY

The application for this funding opportunity must be completed via [this online survey](#).

The application must be completed in its entirety online. Applications or requests for funding that are mailed as hard copies or emailed to the Council will not be considered, except in cases where artists with disabilities request assistance to submit and are instructed to do so. Applicants must provide their digital consent to the terms and conditions of the program in order to submit an application for consideration. Late applications will not be considered.

Submission of the application indicates that you have completed all required fields in the online application form but does not guarantee eligibility or that all guideline requirements have been met.

APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

The [Council staff](#) are currently all working remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Virtual Office Hours are offered for drop-in help with your questions about the process and the application. These

ZOOM meetings are available on December 1st from 11 am to 12 noon, December 2nd from 2-3 pm, and December 4th from 9-10 am.

For details on joining one of the zoom meetings, [click here](#).

APPLICATION INFORMATION

The application for this program must be completed in its entirety [via this online survey](#).

You will be asked to provide your contact information, reply to the narrative prompts, and confirm your eligibility for the program.

You must verify your New Jersey Residency from March of 2019.

You will be required to provide information from your 2019 Federal Tax return, showing arts-based income, and other income source totals.

You will be required to provide your NJ Unemployment Compensation claim number.

You must provide a 250 word or less narrative response to the following prompt:

Tell us about your art career- what discipline do you specialize in, how long have you worked in this field?

You will need to provide how much income you earn on average from your art, per year, and how much income from your art you reported on your 2019 Federal Income Tax return.

Applicants must provide a 500 word or less narrative responses to the following prompt:

List the Contracts/Opportunities/Gigs, Exhibitions or Art Engagements that you have had cancelled due to COVID-19 From March 2020 through October 2020. Please list the Name, Date(s) and opportunities you have lost due to the cancellation(s).

You will need to provide the total amount of estimated art-based income lost in 2020 due to the COVID crisis.

DEADLINE

4:00 PM EST on December 15, 2020

All 2021 Artist Recovery Grant applications must be successfully submitted by that time. No exceptions will be made to the deadline.