



Indiana Arts Commission Every County Funded Program Guidelines For Fiscal Year 2025

Program Overview

What is Every County Funded: Every County Funded (ECF) Community-based arts program is designed to increase access to arts funding for all Hoosiers by providing invitation-only based grant funding that directly serves. Counties where there is little to no state arts funding.

Invitation Only and Open to the Following Counties:

Blackford, Daviess, DeKalb, Franklin, Martin, Montgomery, Newton, Noble, Perry, Pike, Rush, Sullivan, Union, Washington and White Counties

Award Amount: Up to \$5,000

Key Dates:

- Apply By: Friday, March 14, 2025, at 11:59 PM EDT

- Grant Period: June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026

Who to Contact: For information about the application, eligibility, and guidelines, contact Lydia Campbell-Maher, lcampbellmaher@iac.in.gov or 317-618-1522.

Program Details

Program Goals

Every county funded is designed to identify allies, partners and stakeholders in target counties interested in bringing the arts to life in their communities, provide communities funding and technical support for creative initiatives, provide a simple process to succeed and grow, and connect communities through an informal cohort model.

Program Outcomes

- In every Indiana county, people and communities have access to arts experiences. § [IAC 2024 – 2028 Long-Term Strategic Framework Impact](#)

About Us

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) is an agency of state government, and its funding comes from the Indiana General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

A core component to the Indiana Arts Commission's commitment to investing in the state's vibrant and rich arts and culture sector are grants, which support people and communities through arts organizations and arts projects.

Program Contacts

This program is conducted by the Indiana Arts Commission

- **For questions about the application, eligibility, and guidelines:** Contact Lydia Campbell-Maher at lcampbellmaher@iac.in.gov or 317-618-1522.
- **For help or technical assistance with the Online Grant System:** Contact Austin Hendricks at auhendricks@iac.in.gov or 317-450-6717.
- **For accessibility accommodations or questions about accessibility at an organization or for a project:** Contact accessibility@iac.in.gov.
- **To apply:** [Log into the IAC online grant system](#). Only applications submitted online will be accepted, except in the case of ADA accessibility accommodations. Navigate to the Apply page and use the access code: **ECF2025**

Apply

Indiana Arts Commission

ECF2025

Enter Code

If you have been provided with an Access Code, you may enter it in the box at the top of the page.

Quick Search

Welcome to the Indiana Arts Commission apply page.
Don't see an "Apply" button next to the grant program you wish to apply for? Please click "Log On/ Create an Account".

Grant Award Amounts, Matching Funds and Grant Payment

Applicants may request up to \$5,000 in grant funding. No matching funds are required. Every County Funded grantees are eligible to be paid in full at the beginning of the grant period provided grantees are in good standing and supply required information in a timely manner.

What kinds of projects could this grant support?

The **Every County Funded Community-Based Arts Grant Program** allows communities to increase access to the arts for people in the county. These projects should be based locally and include an opportunity that is open to the public. Previous projects that have been supported include activities such as:

- **Arts-based Learning**
 - Example: Ongoing arts/performing arts classes or workshops that are open to the public for any age. Workshops employ local artists to support community and economic development.

- Example: A local 4-H club may wish to bring in a ceramic artist to provide a series of weekly classes for youth, resulting in a community exhibition that is open to the public and entries into the county fair.
- **Public Art or Creative Placemaking**
 - Example: Creating a mural that documents the history of your town and inviting local students to be involved in the painting process under the guidance of the mural artist.
 - Example: Hosting a concert series that is free and open to the public, featuring a variety of musical acts. This series is in combination with existing events, such as festivals or annual town celebrations.
- **Creative Interventions to Enhance Quality of Life**
 - Example: Providing arts-based classes at your library to support mental health and wellbeing of teenagers.
 - Example: Increasing access to arts programs for people with disabilities by purchasing adaptive art supplies (e.g. paint brush grips, wheelchair accessible chalk tools, magnifying glasses) and hosting an inclusive event.

Dates to Know

Program Opens for Applications	January 17, 2025
Project Planning Next Steps Virtual Meeting (Optional)	February 1, 2025, 12:00 p.m. ET
Draft Proposal Due (Optional)	February 21, 2025, 11:59 p.m. ET
Proposals Due	March 14, 2025 by 11:59 p.m. ET
Proposal Review	March 15 – April 10, 2025
Funding Notification*	April 11, 2025
*Application may be funded as is or a modification/clarification may be required	
State of Indiana Supplier Forms Complete (if applicable)	By April 30, 2025
Grant Period	June 1, 2025 – May 31, 2026
Grant Payment	Up to 90 days from contract signing
Final Grant Report Due	June 15, 2026 by 11:59 p.m. ET

Eligibility

Every County Funded Eligibility Requirements

Invited IRS-approved tax-exempt organizations (economic development corporation, arts council, colleges or universities, etc.), local or county units of government, public and private K-12 schools, libraries, and staff pre-approved fiscally sponsored entities. Applications are by invitation only and eligible to counties that have received no or little APS or AOS grants in FY2025. Eligibility for this program is fluid as communities move on and off the target list between grant periods.

**IAC staff may follow up to request documentation or additional information and will make the final determination on eligibility.*

NOTE: An applicant may not use funding from two different IAC grant programs to support a single project.

Use of Grant Funds

Eligible Uses of IAC Funds

Every County Funded grants support eligible project expenses which can include artist fees, production costs, program supplies, facility rental, technology, marketing, or equipment.

Ineligible Uses of IAC Funds

IAC funds may not be used on food and beverage (including alcoholic beverages); cash awards or prizes (including gift cards); and fundraising costs and events. **This is not an exhaustive list of ineligible expenses.** [Consult Requirements and Policies for Indiana Arts Commission Grantees for additional information on eligible and ineligible uses of IAC funds.](#)

IAC funds **may** be used for the following context-specific purposes. Consult the Program Manager to discuss:

- Costs related to business entity filing.
- Project-specific hospitality supplies.
- Staffing, technology, or facilities costs related to retail activities

Evaluation and Review Process

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated for completeness, feasibility, evidence of sound project planning, and community impact.

Final Eligibility Review

Post application deadline, applications receive a final eligibility review to ensure the applicant is eligible to apply for the program and all required information is submitted. Incomplete or missing information may deem the application ineligible to advance for funding.

Application Review*

A qualified internal review committee of arts and cultural professionals, educators, artists, and other community members will review and evaluate eligible proposals. Reviewers will leave comments and feedback on each proposal. IAC staff will compile feedback and work directly with applicants to integrate feedback and revise the proposal as required.

Grant Recipient Requirements

Final Report Requirements

Grantees will be required to report on their activities at the end of the grant period. This reporting includes qualitative and quantitative information and an accounting of how IAC funds were used. Collected information is shared with the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and State of Indiana to determine trends and funding impact. Grantees should be engaged in participant tracking throughout both years of the grant period. Final reports include but are not limited to:

- What occurred and the outcomes because of the funding (narrative/multiple choice)
- A participant quote that captures the project experience
- Address(es) where the activity(ies) occurred
- Number of participants who are adults, children, and artists
- Participants by age and distinct groups
- Photo documentation of the project
- Actual cash income, actual cash expenses, and in-kind contributions. **A detail of expenditures will be required.**

Final grant reports submitted after the due date may be subject to penalty. Read the [Not in Good Standing policy](#).

Additional Requirements

IAC grants come with additional requirements such as acknowledgement of public funding, compliance with applicable state and federal law and policies, and other requirements. [Consult Requirements and Policies for Indiana Arts Commission Grantees for additional information.](#)

To Apply

Application Checklist

1. **Identify who will be responsible for accessing the IAC's [online grant system](#)** to complete and submit the proposal and final grant report.
2. **Identify who will be responsible for signing the grant contract** and receiving, managing, and dispersing funds for the project. This is the authorized signatory for your grant contract.
3. **Develop the Project Proposal Components.** Having an understanding of the project proposal components in advance will help you answer application questions. The application is located in the IAC's online grant system.

Project Proposal Components

1. Project Summary – Write a brief (3-5 sentence) summary of your community-based arts project and what you will use the grant to support.
2. Project Importance
 - a. Outline why the project is important in your community right now.
 - b. Briefly describe the change you hope to make as a result of your project and who will benefit.
3. Describe your project team.
4. Community Partners - which people or groups will you work with to better understand the need or opportunity?
 - a. Why did you select these particular people or groups?
 - b. What role will these particular people or groups have in your project?
5. What are the ways you plan to engage your community throughout the project and make activities open to the public?
6. What's your project budget? Be sure to include the grant request in the income section.
7. How will you evaluate your project?

How to Apply in the IAC Online System

1. Log in to the [IAC's online grant system](#). Once logged in, go to the apply page (use the Access Code: **ECF2025**) to access and complete the project proposal application. Submit when finished.
 - a. IAC staff will review your project proposal and may be in touch to request revisions.
 - b. IAC will notify you when your project is approved for funding.
2. Log in to the IAC's online grant portal to accept the award.
3. Sign your grant contract electronically via DocuSign.
4. Start your project!

Proposals Due: March 14, 2025 by 11:59 p.m. ET