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On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator

2024 Guidelines

About the Program

On-Ramp is an accelerator for Indiana creative entrepreneurs to take charge of their career. Participants explore a community-engaged approach to apply their creative strengths and build a sustainable practice based on business concepts.

On-Ramp empowers creatives to work out a realistic, individualized, and motivating vision for their creative career—and provides access to funds to help make it happen.

On-Ramp includes:

- *Creative Entrepreneur Course: A three-day intensive entrepreneurship and community engagement training course.*
- *One-To-One Coaching: A follow up session with an arts business pro.*
- *Fellowship: A funding opportunity for special funds to put Creative Entrepreneur Course lessons into action.*

Cohort Selection and Accelerator Timeline	
Program application deadline	1/4/2024
Cohort approved (QBM)/Invitations sent	Week of 3/11/2024
Central accelerator course (Terre Haute, IN)	5/8/2024 - 5/10/2024
Fellowship Timeline	
Fellowship application deadline	6/13/2024
Fellowship period	9/9/2024 – 9/4/2025
Fellowship final report due	9/11/2025

To learn more about the 2024 On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator course dates and locations, curriculum, facilitators, past participants, and the On-Ramp Fellowship, visit the web page:

<https://www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/training/on-ramp-creative-entrepreneur-accelerator/>

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact the IAC's accessibility coordinator Stephanie Haines at shaines@iac.in.gov.

Who is On-Ramp for?

While any artist or creative that meets the eligibility requirements may apply, early career or emerging artists who have generated enough works to articulate their own creative voice and practice will get the most out of this experience.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be an individual. Organizations may not apply.
- Must be 18 years or older
- Must be a US Citizen
- Must be an Indiana resident and remain a full time Indiana resident through the end of the fellowship period (September 4, 2025)
- May not have been a past On-Ramp participant
- Artist's primary discipline must be one of the following:
 - Dance
 - Music
 - Opera/Music Theatre
 - Theatre
 - Visual Arts
 - Design Arts, including architecture, fashion, graphic, industrial, interior, landscape architecture, and urban/metropolitan
 - Crafts – including clay, fiber, glass, leather, metal, paper, plastic, wood and mixed media
 - Photography
 - Media Arts – including film, audio, video, and work created using technology or experimental digital media
 - Literature
 - Multidisciplinary – art forms that integrate more than one arts discipline listed above to form a single practice
 - Folklife/Traditional Arts – oral, customary, material and performance traditions informally learned and transmitted in contexts characteristic of ethnic, religious, linguistic, occupational, and/or religious groups. Does not include folk-inspired forms.

Selection Priorities

Applications will be reviewed and recommended by an admissions committee of peers and professionals. Up to 30 individual artists will be selected to participate in the cohort.

Applicants that are the best fit for On-Ramp:

- show commitment to their creative work based on artistic training, artistic experience, and artistic work sample relevant to their discipline.
- are currently actively working in their creative practice. They have a long-term goal that shows commitment to their creative work. They are confident, excited, and aspirational.
- are actively connecting their work with others, or thoughtfully considering possible ways their work may connect with others. Their expectations for On-Ramp demonstrate an open-mindedness for

learning and moving their career forward (as an artist/creative small business, not a nonprofit administrator), not just looking for one thing (i.e., marketing plan, Quick Books training, etc.)

Further, the admissions committee will use these priorities to create a cohort that has:

- Variety of artistic career experience
- Statewide representation
- Variety of creative disciplines
- Diverse racial/ethnic representation
- Representation of underserved populations

Full Program Expectations

If selected to participate in the On-Ramp, applicants are expected to:

- Attend all three of the in-person days of the accelerator course (unless other arrangements are approved)
- Submit a fellowship project proposal for review and approval in order to receive the accompanying \$2,000 grant
- Carry out the proposed project within the fellowship period
- Submission of reports within the online system
 - Grant Modification Request in the event there is a significant change to the proposed project
 - Final Grant Report at the conclusion of the project.

What does On-Ramp cost?

There is no cost to participants. Funding for this program is provided by taxpayers through the Indiana General Assembly.

On-Ramp Fellowship

On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Course participants who receive a Certificate of Completion are eligible and encouraged to apply for the On-Ramp Fellowship. Applicants may request up to \$2,000 for a project that takes place one year following their workshop, puts the Creative Entrepreneur Course to use for their creative career and explores community engagement. The proposal must meet the review criteria and will be reviewed by a conflict-free panel of creatives. Read more at <https://www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/training/on-ramp-creative-entrepreneur-accelerator/>.

Ready to apply?

Apply online by the deadline at www.in.gov/arts/apply.

Program Contact

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