



Frequently Asked Questions

Individual Artist Relief Grant

Updated November 16, 2020

1. Who can apply for the individual artist COVID-19 relief grants?

- Must be a current practicing artist with a sustained commitment to creating work and to a public-facing career in your artistic discipline;
- Must be an individual artist; collectives and/or artistic groups are not eligible for this grant program;
- Must have loss of artistic income in 2020 due to COVID-19 (cancelled performances, residencies, workshops, gallery shows, etc);
- Must have a permanent home address / residence located within the Municipality of Anchorage since January 2019;
- Must be at least 18 years old;
- Must be able to provide a Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).

2. Do I need to have earned income from my artistic practice prior to the COVID-19 pandemic?

Yes. Examples include income earned from the sales of art, for artistic performance, for the production of media, for artistic instruction, etc.

3. If I received funding from the Alaska Arts & Culture Emergency Relief COVID Grant administered by the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation, am I eligible to receive this grant?

Yes.

4. If I have questions about my application, who do I contact?

Kristin DeSmith can be reached at kristin.desmith@anchorageak.gov

5. If I'm having technical issues with submitting my application, who do I contact?

Erin Baca can be reached at erin.baca@anchorageak.gov

6. Are collectives, collaborative arts groups, arts nonprofits or groups eligible for these grants?

No, these grants are for individual artists only.

7. If I don't have documentation of my artistic practice or achievements, can I still apply?

If we are unable to verify that you are a current practicing artist with a sustained commitment to creating work and to a public-facing career in your artistic discipline, your application may be declined.

8. How can I use this money?

- Funds may assist with loss of income due to mandatory shutdown measures or voluntary precautions taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19, as well as any additional expenses incurred to address the direct impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. These grant funds may be used to cover costs already incurred.
- Funds may NOT be used for lobbying or to support any effort to influence government action.

9. What if my art form isn't included in the list of artistic practices on the application?

The list of artistic practices on the application includes many of the artistic disciplines that qualify for this grant. If you don't see a description that accurately reflects your artistic discipline, please select "other" and explain how your work fits into this grant program. In addition, a list of creative practices that will not be reviewed are included in the application.

10. What happens if there are more applicants than awards available?

If more applicants apply than grants available, a random selection from pool of applicants will be used to determine awardees.

11. Do I have to claim this grant on my 2020 income taxes?

Yes, you will receive a 1099 from Cook Inlet Lending Center.

12. If I am awarded a grant, when will I be notified?

Notifications may begin as early as December 4, 2020, depending on the volume of applications.

13. If I am awarded a grant, when can I expect the check to arrive?

We have partnered with Cook Inlet Lending Center (CILC), a local nonprofit Community Development Financial Institution, to administer artist awards. You will need to provide them some information in order to receive a check or direct deposit transfer of your award. The timing largely depends on receipt of your forms.

14. Will my name be made public as part of the award process?

Yes, the Municipality of Anchorage will name the recipients of the individual artist COVID-19 grants.

15. Do I need to file a grant report with the Municipality of Anchorage detailing the use of the grant funds?

No, you do not need to file a grant report. Though this is a grant made possible through the use of federal CARES Act funds, so may be asked to provide proof of cancelation or loss of income should this federal grant be audited.

16. Do I need to propose a particular project for the use of these funds?

No, this is not a project grant. The purpose of this grant program is to help support practicing individual artists who have experienced economic hardship and loss of income from canceled events/sales, residences, workshops, gallery shows, terminated contracts or job loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related emergency orders and/or closures.