



# Choosing a Funding Opportunity for FY 2023

Office of Museum Services

Pre-recorded Webinar

August 2022

Welcome to the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Office of Museum Services informational webinar, “Choosing a Funding Opportunity for the Fiscal Year 2023.” Our goal in this presentation is to provide basic information to help you decide which IMLS funding program is most likely to be the best fit for your project idea and your institution.



## Grant Program Webinars

### Available September 2022

- Museums for America
- Museums Empowered
- Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
- National Leadership Grants for Museums
- Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
- Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

Accessible at: <http://www.ims.gov/webinars>

This is one of a series of pre-recorded webinars designed to help you find the information you need to create a competitive application for IMLS museum funding.

Once you decide on a grant program, we encourage you to watch the specific webinar for that program. These webinars will be available in September and can be accessed at <https://www.ims.gov/webinars>, then click On-Demand Webinars.



## Presentation Overview

1. IMLS Vision, Mission, and Strategic Plan
2. Eligibility
3. Funding Programs and Opportunities
4. Finding Information Online
5. Registering
6. Contacts
7. Summary

In this presentation, we will be addressing these topics:

First, we'll consider the IMLS vision, mission, and strategic plan. Becoming familiar with them will help you understand why our grant programs are structured the way they are and why we ask you as an applicant to address certain issues in your application.

Second, we'll address basic institutional eligibility criteria to help you make good preliminary decisions about which program to pursue.

Next, we'll present basic information about our funding programs and opportunities.

We'll show you where to find specific information on the IMLS website.

Then, we'll talk about the two registrations you must have in place in order to apply for a grant, and we'll stress how important it is to get this done well in advance of the grant deadline.

Finally, we'll share where to find our contact information and invite you to get in touch with us with any questions you might have or simply to talk about your project ideas.



**VISION:** A nation where individuals and communities have access to museums and libraries to learn from and be inspired by the trusted information, ideas, and stories they contain about our diverse natural and cultural heritage

**MISSION:** The mission of IMLS is to advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development.

IMLS's vision and mission statements were adopted as part of the agency's current strategic plan. Both emphasize that IMLS is here to support museums and libraries in their work of serving their communities.

IMLS's vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities.

Our mission is to advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development.



# IMLS Strategic Plan

**Goal 1:** Champion Lifelong Learning

**Goal 2:** Strengthen Community Engagement

**Goal 3:** Advance Collections Stewardship and Access

- FY 22-26 IMLS Strategic Plan available at:  
<https://www.imls.gov/about-us/strategic-plan>

Much like your own institution's strategic plan, IMLS identifies goals that help us achieve our vision and accomplish our mission. There are three programmatic goals that drive our grantmaking, and you will see these concepts referenced in much that we will talk about today as well as in the guidance for preparing grant applications.

Goal 1 makes it clear that IMLS supports engaging learning experiences in museums for people of all ages and interests.

Goal 2 specifies that IMLS helps strengthen the capacity of museums to improve the well-being of their communities by exploring methods of and implementing new approaches to community collaboration.

Goal 3 confirms that IMLS supports the stewardship of museum collections at institutions of all types and invests in tools, technology, and training that enable people of all backgrounds and abilities to discover and use museum collections and resources.

The IMLS strategic plan covering the period FY2022-2026 is available on our website at <https://www.imls.gov/about-us/strategic-plan>



# OMS Funding Opportunities

## Grant Programs

- Museums for America
- Museums Empowered
- Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
- National Leadership Grants for Museums
- Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
- Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

The Office of Museum Services offers funding through six grant programs:

- Museums for America
- Museums Empowered
- Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
- National Leadership Grants for Museums
- Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
- Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

We will go into each program in more detail later, so just keep the different programs in mind as we go through the basic eligibility requirements.



## Funding Eligibility Requirements

**All IMLS grant applicants must be either:**

- a unit of State, local, or tribal government or
- a private nonprofit organization

Let's begin with funding eligibility requirements for IMLS grants. All IMLS applicants must be either:

- a unit of State, local, or tribal government or
- a private nonprofit organization that has tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code



## What is a “Museum”?

- Aquariums
- Arboretums
- Art museums
- Botanical gardens
- Children’s/youth museums
- General museums
- Historic houses/sites
- History museums
- Natural history/anthropology museums
- Nature centers
- Planetariums
- Science/technology centers
- Specialized museums
- Zoological parks

Several of our grant programs specify “museum” as an eligible type of organization. To answer the question, “What types of institutions are included in the term ‘museum,’” we share this list. However, the list is NOT exhaustive. Even if your organization’s name does not include the word “museum,” you may still be eligible if you meet the requirements as set out in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Please take note that museums as defined here may stand alone as independent organizations or they may be administered by a governing body, such as a college, university, tribe, or a state or local government.





## Other Museum Requirements

### To be eligible for funding as a “museum,” you must:

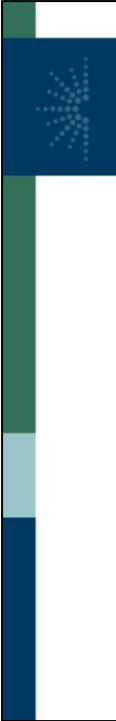
- use a professional staff;
- be organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational or aesthetic purposes;
- own or use tangible objects;
- care for these objects;
- exhibit these objects to the general public on a regular basis, at least 120 days a year and
- conduct these activities in facilities that it owns or operates.

To explore that point just a bit further, in addition to meeting governance and geographic requirements, to be eligible for funding as a “museum,” an organization must also:

- use a professional staff – An institution uses a professional staff if it employs at least one staff member, or the full-time equivalent, paid or unpaid, primarily engaged in the acquisition, care, or exhibition to the public of objects owned or used by the institution.
- be organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational or aesthetic purposes;
- own or use tangible objects, either animate or inanimate;
- care for these objects;
- exhibit these objects to the general public on a regular basis, at least 120 days a year; and
- conduct these activities in facilities that it owns or operates.

For the FY2023 deadline, due to closures resulting from COVID-19, applicants have three ways in which to meet the 120 days open eligibility requirement. First, you can measure the 120 days in the time period immediately before submitting your application, second, you can measure the 120 days in the previous calendar year or, third, you can measure 120 days in a year that ends the day of your shutdown.

For more details on each of these points, please look at the Eligibility Information in any given grant program's Notice of Funding Opportunity.



## Who else may be eligible to apply for museum grants?

### Other eligible organizations include:

- colleges and universities
- organizations that serve museums
- federally recognized Native American tribes
- organizations that serve Native Hawaiians

Depending on the grant program, other organizations that may be eligible for funding include:

- colleges and universities
- organizations that serve museums
- federally recognized Native American tribes
- organizations that serve Native Hawaiians

Be sure to check the specific Notice of Funding Opportunity for details on eligibility requirements which vary among grant programs.

	<b>MFA</b>	<b>ME</b>	<b>Inspire</b>	<b>NLG</b>	<b>AAHC</b>	<b>NANH</b>
Museum	X	X	X	X		
Nonprofit institution or state agency operating a museum	X	X	X	X		
Museum whose primary purpose is African American life, art, history, and/or culture					X	
Museum service organization that supports museums devoted to African American life, art, history, and/or culture					X	
Historically Black College or University					X	
Federally recognized Indian Tribe or Alaskan Native Village or Corporation						X
Non-profit organization that primarily serves and represents Native Hawaiians						X
Organization that advances the well-being of museums and the museum profession				X		
Institution of higher education				X		

So, who is eligible to apply for an IMLS grant? Each of our grant programs has a slightly different set of eligibility criteria. Some of these relate to governance systems, some relate to geography, and some relate to institutional mission. It's crucial, therefore, that you check the Notice of Funding Opportunity for each program in which you are interested. To get you started, however, we are making some very broad suggestions here.

Find your institution type in the column on the left, and then check out the grant programs corresponding to the X's in the columns on the right.

When you have identified a grant program of interest, take time to explore the eligibility criteria that are presented in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.



## Ineligible Organizations

You are *not* eligible to apply if you are:

- ⊖ Federally funded institution
- ⊖ For-profit organization
- ⊖ Foreign country or organization
- ⊖ Individuals

There are some organizations that cannot apply for IMLS grants.

These include federally funded institutions, for-profit organizations, and foreign countries or organizations. It also includes individuals.

While these entities cannot apply for an IMLS grant, there is no rule against their participating as partners or providing services to a grant-funded project.



# OMS Funding Opportunities

Assessment Programs and Grant Programs

Let's turn to the funding programs we offer.



# Funding Programs and Opportunities

## Assessment Programs

- Museum Assessment Program
- Collections Assessment for Preservation

## Grant Programs

- Museums for America
- Museums Empowered
- Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
- National Leadership Grants for Museums
- Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
- Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

The Office of Museum Services offers two assessment programs: the Museum Assessment Program (MAP) and the Collections Assessment for Preservation (CAP) program, and six grant programs:

- Museums for America
- Museums Empowered
- Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
- National Leadership Grants for Museums
- Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
- Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program



## Assessment Programs

- Technical assistance programs can help you strengthen operations and plan for the future.
- Participating in an assessment program may be a great place to start.
- Open to small and mid-sized museums

Through cooperative agreements, IMLS supports two main assessment programs, MAP and CAP. Assessment programs are technical assistance programs that can help museums strengthen operations and plan for the future. Participating in an assessment program is a great starting point for small and mid-sized museums and the resulting documents can be used as supporting documents in future IMLS grant applications.



# Museum Assessment Program (MAP)

**Goal:** To help small and mid-sized museums of all types strengthen operations, plan for the future, and meet professional standards

**Categories:** Organizational; Collections Stewardship; Education & Interpretation; Community & Audience Engagement; and Board Leadership

**Deadline:** February 1, 2023

**Administered by:** American Alliance of Museums

**Visit:** <https://www.aam-us.org/map>

The Museum Assessment Program, or MAP, is funded by IMLS and managed by the American Alliance of Museums in Washington DC. It is available to small and mid-sized museums of all types, and its purpose is to help organizations strengthen their operations, plan for the future, and meet professional standards through self-study and a consultative site visit from an expert peer reviewer. MAP participants can choose from five assessment types.

This basic strategic and holistic **Organizational Assessment** helps a museum look at its operations primarily from the perspective of how well activities, resources, and mission align with each other, and with professional ethics, practices, and standards.

The **Collections Stewardship Assessment** focuses on practical, ethical, and strategic collections issues and activities related to the care and management of a museum's collections per professional practices and standards.

The **Education & Interpretation Assessment** helps a museum evaluate how well it is carrying out its educational role and mission, meeting core standards for education and interpretation. This assessment also looks at the museum's educational content creation and delivery from the perspective of diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion.

**The Community & Audience Engagement Assessment** focuses on the museum's awareness and understanding of, and relationship with, its various communities and audiences; and their perception of, and experience with the museum.

The advanced **Board Leadership Assessment** is for private non-profit museums with policy-making boards and paid staff which are looking for guidance on how to strengthen their institution and ensure its long-term success through more effective leadership-oriented governance.

To learn more, please visit [www.aam-us.org/map](http://www.aam-us.org/map) or call 202-289-9118. Applications will be due February 1, 2023. To be notified when the application and full program details are released, please send your contact information to [map@aam-us.org](mailto:map@aam-us.org).

## Collections Assessment for Preservation (CAP)

**Goal:** To provide small and mid-sized museums with prioritized recommendations for improving the care of their collections

**Recent Deadline:** July 31, 2022

**Administered by:** The Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC)

**Visit:** [www.culturalheritage.org/cap](http://www.culturalheritage.org/cap)

Also funded by IMLS and administered by the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation in Washington DC, the Collections Assessment for Preservation, or CAP program, provides small and mid-sized museums with support for general conservation assessments. Through self-study and an onsite visit by a collections conservation specialist as well as a building specialist, CAP can assist your institution by helping you decide how to invest limited funding and staff time; facilitating the development of a long-term preservation plan; and serving as a fundraising tool for conservation projects. CAP is often the first step for small and mid-sized institutions that wish to improve the condition of their collections.

Potential applicants should refer to the FAIC website regularly for updates. For detailed information about the application process and what happens during and after the CAP process, please visit [www.culturalheritage.org/cap](http://www.culturalheritage.org/cap), call 202-452-9545, or email [cap@culturalheritage.org](mailto:cap@culturalheritage.org).



## OMS Grant Programs

- Six grant programs
- Applications due November 15, 2022
- Grant program specific webinars will be available in September:  
<https://www.ims.gov/webinars>
- Contact program staff with questions

Now we will move on to the grant programs. Our goal today is to get you on your way in choosing the right program for your needs. There are six IMLS museum grant programs, and we'll touch briefly on each of them.

Here are a few things to keep in mind as we go through the six grant programs:

The application due date for all grant programs is November 15, 2022.

Pre-recorded webinars for each grant program will be posted on the IMLS website in early September. Please visit <https://www.ims.gov/webinars> in September to view the program you are interested in.

Once you have listened to the program webinar, should you have additional questions, feel free to contact one of the Senior Program Officers assigned to the program of interest.

# Museums for America



**Goal:** To strengthen the ability of an individual museum to serve its public

**Categories:** Lifelong Learning, Community Engagement, and Collections Stewardship and Access

**Duration:** 1 – 3 years

**Funding:** \$5,000 - \$250,000

**Visit:**

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-america>

Museums for America, or MFA, is our largest grant program, receiving the largest number of applications each year and the one through which we make the largest number of awards. The overall goal of the program is to support activities that strengthen the abilities of museums to serve the public. As an applicant, you must align your project with one of the agency's goals by choosing a project category. Your options are Lifelong Learning, Community Engagement, and Collections Stewardship and Access, reflecting the programmatic goals of IMLS's strategic plan.

Grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$250,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years; projects must begin on September 1, 2023.

MFA requires a 1:1 cost share. This means that for every dollar you request from IMLS, you must plan to provide an additional dollar in cash from a non-federal source, staff or volunteer time, or third-party in-kind contributions.

MFA is open to museums, non-profit organizations responsible for the operation of a museum who is applying on behalf of the museum, and museums located within a parent organization such as state, local, or tribal government, or a nonprofit entity such as university, historical society, or cultural center may apply on behalf of a museum that operates as a discrete unit within the parent organization.

# Museums Empowered



**Goal:** To support projects that use the transformative power of professional development to generate systemic change within a museum

**Categories:** Digital Technology, Diversity and Inclusion, Evaluation, Organizational Management

**Duration:** 1 – 3 years

**Funding:** \$5,000 - \$250,000

**Visit:** <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-empowered-professional-development-opportunities-museum-staff>

Museums Empowered is a special initiative of Museums for America. It is designed to support projects that use the transformative power of professional development and training to generate systemic change within a museum.

Potential projects should address one of four project categories:

- **Digital Technology:** to provide museum staff with the skills to integrate digital technology into museum operations.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** to support museum staff in providing inclusive services to people of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds and to individuals with disabilities.
- **Evaluation:** to strengthen the ability of museum staff to use evaluation as a tool to shape museum programs and improve outcomes.
- **Organizational Management:** to strengthen and support museum staff as the essential part of a resilient organizational culture.

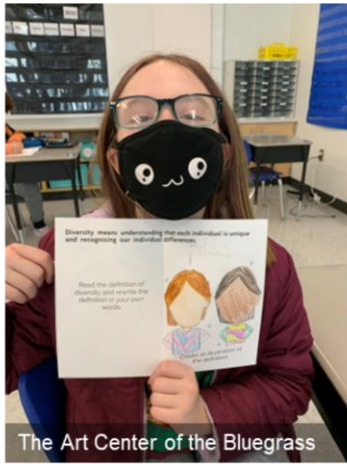
Grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$250,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years. All projects must begin on September 1, 2023.

Museums Empowered requires a 1:1 cost share. This means that for every dollar you request from IMLS, you must plan to provide an additional dollar in cash from

a non-federal source, staff or volunteer time, or third-party in-kind contributions.

Museums Empowered is open to museums, non-profit organizations responsible for the operation of a museum who is applying on behalf of the museum, and museums located within a parent organization such as state, local, or tribal government, or a nonprofit entity such as a university, historical society, or cultural center may apply on behalf of a museum that operates as a discrete unit within the parent organization.

# Inspire! Grants for Small Museums



**Goal:** To support small museums in addressing priorities identified in their strategic plans

**Categories:** Lifelong Learning, Institutional Capacity, and Collections Stewardship and Access

**Duration:** 1 – 2 years

**Funding:** \$5,000 - \$50,000

**Visit:**

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/inspire-grants-small-museums>

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums, another special initiative of the Museums for America program, is designed specifically to help small museums address the priorities identified in their strategic plans. As an applicant, you must align your project with one of three project categories: Lifelong Learning, Institutional Capacity, or Collections Stewardship and Access.

Grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$50,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 2 years, and no cost share is required. Projects must begin on September 1, 2023.

Inspire is open to museums, non-profit organizations responsible for the operation of a museum who is applying on behalf of the museum, and museums located within a parent organization such as state, local, or tribal government, or a nonprofit entity such as university, historical society, or cultural center may apply on behalf of a museum that operates as a discrete unit within the parent organization.



# National Leadership Grants for Museums



**Goal:** To address critical needs of the museum field and to advance museum practice

**Project Types:** Rapid Prototyping, Research, Non-research

**Duration:** 1 – 3 years *(project type dependent)*

**Funding:** \$5,000 – \$750,000 *(project type dependent)*

**Visit:**

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-museums>

National Leadership Grants for Museums support projects that address critical needs of the museum field and have the potential to advance practice in the profession so that museums can improve services for the American public. We invest in leaders–institutions and partnerships–that understand the challenges and opportunities facing the field and devise plans to move the field forward by producing and making available new tools, resources, research findings, and models.

You can choose one of three project types, and each has its own funding request range, cost share requirement, and grant period duration. All NLG projects must begin on September 1, 2023.

## National Leadership Grants for Museums

Project Type	Rapid Prototyping	Research	Non-research
Duration	1 year	1 – 3 years	1 – 3 years
Funding Level	\$5,000-\$50,000	\$50,000-\$750,000	\$50,000-\$750,000
Cost Share	None	None	1:1

Each of the three NLG project types has its own funding request range, cost share requirement, and grant period duration.

**Rapid prototyping** projects allow you to try an innovative solution to a field-wide challenge that requires funding to rapidly develop, test, iterate, and retest. Rapid prototyping grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$50,000 for projects scheduled to last 1 year, with no cost share is required.

**Research** projects pose questions of importance to the field and use accepted research methodologies to collect, analyze, and share the data that answers those questions. Research grant requests may range from \$50,000 to \$750,000 for projects scheduled to last 1 to 3 years, with no cost share is required.

**Non-research** projects support larger-scale efforts that result in tools and resources for the field. Non-research grant requests may range from \$50,000 to \$750,000 for projects scheduled to last 1 to 3 years and requires a 1:1 cost share.

# Museum Grants for African American History and Culture



**Goal:** Build the capacity of African American museums and support the growth and development of museum professionals at African American museums and HBCUs

**Duration:** 1 – 3 years

<b>Funding:</b>	\$5,000- \$100,000	\$100,001- \$500,000
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**Cost Share:** None                      1:1 required

**Visit:**

<https://www.ims.gov/grants/available/museum-grants-african-american-history-and-culture>

The goal of the Museum Grants for African American History and Culture program, or AAHC, is to build the capacity of African American museums and to support the growth and development of museum professionals at African American museums and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

There are two funding levels in AAHC, and each has its own cost share requirement. For smaller scale projects requesting \$5,000 to \$100,000, no cost share is required. For large projects requesting \$100,001 to \$500,000, a 1:1 cost share is required. This means that for every dollar you request from IMLS, you must plan to provide an additional dollar in cash from a non-federal source, staff or volunteer time, or third-party in-kind contributions.

Projects may be scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years and projects must begin on July 1, 2023.

# Native America/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

**Goal:** To enhance museum services to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge among Indian tribes and organizations serving Native Hawaiians

**Duration:** 1 – 3 years

**Funding:** \$5,000 – \$100,000

**Visit:**

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/native-american/native-hawaiian-museum-services-program>



The Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services program is designed to support Indian tribes and organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians in sustaining heritage, culture, and knowledge through exhibitions, educational services and programming, workforce professional development, organizational capacity building, and collections stewardship. This program has very specific eligibility criteria, so make sure to review the details if you are interested in applying.

Grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$100,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years, and no cost share is required, and projects must begin July 1, 2023.



# Finding Information Online

- [www.ims.gov](http://www.ims.gov)
- Grant Programs
- Search Awarded Grants
- Sample Applications
- Peer Review Guidance

The IMLS website has relevant information and resources to help you create a competitive proposal including information about each grant program, project descriptions of previously awarded grants, sample applications, and peer reviewer guidance.

# IMLS Available Grants

Home > Grants > Apply for a Grant

## Available Grants

- Grant Programs >
- Apply for a Grant** ▾
- Eligibility Criteria
- Sample Applications
- Notices of Funding Opportunities >
- Outcome Based Evaluations >
- Manage Your Award >
- Search Awarded Grants
- Peer Review >

### Grant Application Directions

Organizations and institutions that utilize third-party software to submit applications via Grants.gov may encounter old or outdated forms. IMLS cannot provide technical assistance for any issues applicants encounter with proprietary software. The final and correct versions of all IMLS application packages can be found on the Grants.gov portal directly.

The Application Process +

Collections Assessment for Preservation Program  
Deadline: July 31, 2022  
Application: Visit [www.culturalheritage.org/cap](http://www.culturalheritage.org/cap) for application information and the status of current application availability.

Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program  
Deadline: September 21, 2022  
The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for FY 2023 is now available.

National Leadership Grants for Libraries  
Deadline: September 21, 2022  
The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for FY 2023 is now available.

To find more information relevant to creating a competitive proposal, your first stop should be the IMLS Available Grants webpage at <https://www.imls.gov/grants/apply-grant> to find information on our grant programs.

Visit the IMLS Available Grants webpage to access:

- Grant Program webpages
- Application Instructions and to learn more about the application process
- Sample Applications
- The Search Awarded Grants page
- Peer Reviewer Guidance
- Required application forms



## Grant Program Pages

### Visit the Grant Program Pages to find:

- The current Notice of Funding Opportunity
- Program Contact information and links to schedule a time to speak with program staff
- This Choosing a Funding Opportunity webinar and
- The IMLS Grant Program Information Session webinar

Once you determine a program of interest, we recommend visiting its grant program page. On this page you will find:

- The current Notice of Funding Opportunity
- Program Contact information and links to schedule a time to speak with program staff
- This Choosing a Funding Opportunity webinar and
- The IMLS Grant Program Information Session webinar

Links to Grant Program Pages:

MFA: <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-america>

ME: <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museums-empowered-professional-development-opportunities-museum-staff>

Inspire: <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/inspire-grants-small-museums>

NLG: <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-museums>

AAHC: <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/museum-grants-african-american-history-and-culture>

NANH: <https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/native-american-native-hawaiian-museum-services-program>



# Registering

SAM.gov

Grants.gov

We now want to draw your attention to two registration requirements—SAM.gov, and Grants.gov. Your registrations must be complete and up to date for you to submit an application to IMLS or to receive an award. If you're starting from scratch, it's important to know that you must complete these registrations in sequence. We strongly recommend you check these registrations immediately to ensure that they are accurate, current, and active, as it can take a long time to update or renew them.



# System for Award Management (SAM) Registration

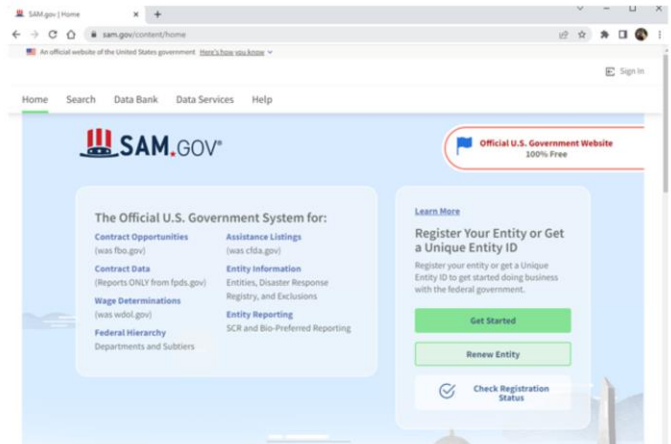
[SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)

For SAM Issues

- Call: 866.606.8220

Monday-Friday

8 am to 8 pm  
Eastern Time



The first place you must register is with SAM—which stands for System for Award Management. SAM is a federal repository that centralizes information about grant applicants and recipients and is free to all users. Applicants must be registered with SAM before registering with Grants.gov.

Registering with SAM is also FREE. It can be time consuming, and you must renew your registration each year to keep it active. Because SAM.gov registrations vary in their expiration dates, check your status early on and take action to ensure you are registered and your registration is active.

Applicants and recipients must renew their registrations in SAM at least every 12 months—and sooner if their information changes. An expired registration will prevent an organization from submitting applications via Grants.gov and receiving awards or payments. Grant payments will be made to the bank account that is associated with the organization's SAM registration.

Begin with the website and use the FAQs to answer questions. If you have further SAM issues, call the Federal Service Desk at 866-606-8220, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time.



## Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

### New this year

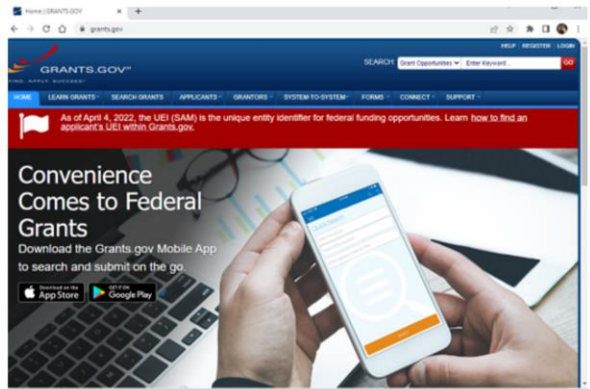
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) has replaced D-U-N-S® Number
- Assigned by System for Award Management (SAM)

A quick note about the Unique Entity Identifier. Until April 2022, all non-federal entities were required to obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (D-U-N-S®) number in order to apply for, receive, and report on federal awards. The Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) has replaced the D-U-N-S® Number and will be assigned by SAM. Applicants with active SAM registrations can find their assigned UEI in their SAM records. Applicants without active SAM registrations will receive a UEI when they register in SAM.

# Grants.gov Registration

## Grants.gov

- For Grants.gov help
  - call 800.518.4726
  - email [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)
  - visit <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>



The second place you need to register is with Grants.gov.

Once your SAM registration is active, you can log into your SAM record to locate your Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). You need this active UEI to register in Grants.gov.

Grants.gov is a website owned and operated by the Federal Government and is free to all users. Applicants must register with Grants.gov before submitting an application to IMLS. To register, you must have an active SAM.gov status, and a UEI. Applicants should make sure that the information associated with their SAM registration is current and active. Allow several weeks to complete the Grants.gov registration.

The Grants.gov website is extensive, and its help capabilities are numerous and well-staffed. Begin with the website and its FAQs, but if you need additional help, you may call their help line at 800-518-4726, which is available 24/7 except on federal holidays; visit their support page at the website listed here or email them at [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov).

# Summary

- IMLS's vision, mission, and strategic plan are at the core of our grantmaking.
- Funding opportunities include two assessment programs and six grant programs.
- Each program has unique eligibility requirements.
- Each program supports particular types of projects aligning with programmatic goals.
- Grant applications due November 15, 2022.
- Resources available at <https://www.imls.gov/grants/apply-grant>
- Register early with [SAM.gov](https://www.sam.gov) and [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
- Other webinars available: <https://www.imls.gov/webinars>

This brings us to the end of the information we set out to share with you in this webinar, but let's take a minute to summarize what we hope you will take away.

First, IMLS's vision, mission, and strategic plan are at the core of its grantmaking. You would be well-served to consider these in thinking about your project for which you will be seeking IMLS support.

Funding opportunities in FY2023 include two technical assessment programs and six grant programs.

Each grant program has its own set of **eligibility requirements**, and you should consider these early on in the process of selecting a grant program.

Each grant program supports particular **types of projects** aligning with programmatic goals. Be sure that you choose the grant program with goals that match your project's intent.

Applications to all IMLS museum grant programs are due November 15, 2022, and must have either a start date of September 1, 2023 or July 1, 2023, depending on the program.

Our website—[www.imls.gov](http://www.imls.gov)—provides a wealth of information to help you create a competitive grant application. Start your explorations there.

It is very important to register early with [SAM.gov](http://SAM.gov) and [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov). If you are already registered, be sure you know the usernames and passwords you'll need well in advance of the day you submit your application.

And lastly, you should listen to the recorded versions and transcripts of all our webinars on our website at <https://www.imls.gov/webinars>.

Thank you for your interest in IMLS funding programs and opportunities, and for checking out this webinar. Good luck, and we look forward to seeing your application in November.

## Credit

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Thank you and good luck!