



Oregon Arts Commission FY2023 Arts ADA Accessibility Reimbursement Program

Application Deadline: No more than 190 days after the access service was provided.

Award Amount: \$200 - \$1,000

Application:

https://www.oregonartscommission.org/sites/default/files/AAR_FY23_Application.docx

Completed applications must be submitted via email to arts.grants@oregon.gov

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About the Oregon Arts Commission

Vision

The Oregon Arts Commission envisions a future where communities celebrate creative expression, artists and arts organizations thrive through robust public support, the arts are

recognized as an essential economic driver and Oregon is recognized as a leader for equity and inclusion in the arts.

Mission

To enhance the quality of life for all Oregonians through the arts by stimulating creativity, leadership and economic vitality.

Strategic Plan

The Oregon Arts Commission's full strategic plan is available on our website at [www.oregonartscommission.org/booklets/Oregon Arts Commission Plan Booklet](http://www.oregonartscommission.org/booklets/Oregon_Arts_Commission_Plan_Booklet)

About the Arts ADA Accessibility Reimbursement Program

Purpose

Arts organizations have a legal and ethical responsibility to ensure that their programs are accessible to people of all abilities. Accessibility means striving to provide all people regardless of ability with an equal opportunity to experience the programs and services offered by the organization. It also means providing any reasonable modification or accommodation necessary to achieve equal opportunity.

The Arts ADA Accessibility Reimbursement Program supports:

- Offset of expenditures for specific accessibility related expenses;
- Public access to all individuals with disabilities who want to participate in arts activities offered by Oregon arts nonprofits
- Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42, USC Sec. 12101, et seq.; and
- Identification of best practices for accessibility throughout Oregon.

Applicants seeking to increase access to digital events can find resources at:

<https://www.arts.gov/accessibility/accessibility-resources/resources-to-help-ensure-accessibility-for-your-virtual-events-for-people-with-disabilities>

Award Amounts

Awards range from \$200 to \$1,000. Organizations with total cash operating expenses of \$150,000 or less can receive 100% reimbursement (up to \$1,000). Organizations with total cash operating expenses of more than \$150,000 can receive 50% reimbursement (up to \$1,000). To determine an organization's total cash operating expenses, refer to line 17 on IRS Form 990-EZ (total expenses), exclusive of capital development.

The Arts Commission determines awards based on number of applications and available grant funds. There are limited resources and all applicants may not receive funding.

Requirements and Limitations

Deadline

All applications must be submitted through the attached pdf to receive consideration for funding. The Arts Commission is not responsible for late applications and cannot guarantee processing of applications submitted after the published deadline.

Eligibility

The Oregon Arts Commission has final determination on eligibility. The Commission may review eligibility at any time and request more information as necessary.

At the time of the application deadline, all applicant organizations must

- Operate as a nonprofit as evidenced by:
 - Current IRS 501(c)(3) federal tax-exempt status; and
 - Active registration with the State of Oregon for corporate, non-profit status.
- Operate within a mission that describes the arts as the primary purpose of the organization; arts programming must be the primary focus.

Organizations using a fiscal sponsorship are not eligible to apply.

Organizations housed within larger nonprofits, schools and institutions of higher learning are not eligible to apply for support in this category.

Limitations

Arts ADA Accessibility Reimbursement Program funds may not be used for the following:

- Events whose primary focus is to raise funds for a non-arts purpose;
- Services to entities located outside Oregon;
- More than two requests per fiscal year for each applicant organization;
- Expenses for accessibility services delivered more than 190 days prior to submission of application; and
- Tuition assistance or scholarships for college, university or other degree bearing courses of study.

How Applications are Reviewed

Arts Commission staff reviews submitted applications for eligibility, completeness and accuracy. Applications that meet program requirements are authorized, pending availability of funds.

Application and additional materials must be submitted no later than 190 days after the access service was provided to receive consideration for funding.

Review Criteria

The following review criteria will be used to evaluate applications:

- Appropriate accommodation for persons with disabilities based on a known access need;
- High quality accommodation for persons with disabilities (i.e., use of certified professionals/equipment, implementation of known best practices, etc.); and

- Accommodation marketed to a specific population with disabilities and to the public (i.e., online, advertising, community outreach, etc.).

Application Materials

Application Questions

In no more than two additional pages, describe the following:

Appropriate Accommodation

- What accessibility service was provided and how did your organization determine the need for that service?

High Quality Accommodation

- What evidence of quality can your organization provide? How were providers and/or equipment selected for use?

Marketing of Accommodation

- How was the accommodation communicated to the community with disabilities and to the general public?

Attachments

- A PDF listing the file name of each piece of supporting documentation and a description. Be sure to include the applicant's name in the file name of each document.

Assistance

Upon request, Arts Commission funding application materials will be made available in an alternate format such as Braille, large type, or on audiotape. For applicants who are hearing-impaired and require TDD assistance, please call (800) 735-2900.

Assistance with technical requirements and application scope is available from the Arts Commission staff prior to the application deadline. Applicants may also seek feedback after funding decisions have been made. Call 503-986-0082 or email arts.grants@oregon.gov with questions. The guidelines are available online at <https://www.oregonartscommission.org/grants/access-reimbursement>

Access Compliance

Any entity that provides services to the public must certify that it complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42, USC Sec. 12101, et seq. and agrees not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, sex, marital status, political opinion, familial status, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, military status, gender identity, source of income or disability status. The Arts Commission provides assistance to Oregon arts groups on issues of access. Contact the Oregon Arts Commission at (503) 986-0082 or arts.grants@oregon.gov for information or assistance. TDD assistance is available at (800) 735-2900. Applicants will certify their compliance within the application.

The Oregon Arts Commission has compiled the following resource pages to help organizations improve their accessibility practices.

A brief history of the ADA and case-making statements for why it is important

<https://www.oregonartscommission.org/intro-accessibility>

Principals to consider when developing programs

<https://www.oregonartscommission.org/universal-design>

Examples of outstanding use of AAR funding to support programming in Oregon

<https://www.oregonartscommission.org/accessible-oregon>

Appeal Process

The Oregon Arts Commission recognizes that procedural errors may occur in the application process. The Arts Commission is committed to acknowledging errors and rectifying the effects. Appeals may not be made on the basis of an applicant's disagreement with an assessment of how the application met the review criteria, the judgment of a review panel or the amount of the award.

Funding Appeal

Applicants considering an appeal should contact the Arts Commission at 503-986-0082 or arts.grants@oregon.gov for guidance. Letters of appeal must be submitted to the Arts Commission's Executive Director within 30 days of the funding decision notification. Appeals are reviewed and acted on by the Arts Commission's Board. Appeals may result in an approval of an award or an increase in the award amount if the applicant can satisfactorily document that the application was misrepresented or improperly reviewed through no fault of the applicant. If the appeal is supported by the Arts Commission's Board, funds will be awarded only if they are available.

Eligibility Appeal

Applicants not meeting one or more of the eligibility requirements as determined by staff are encouraged to discuss the decision with staff. Appeals concerning eligibility determination may be made. Letters of appeal must be submitted to the Arts Commission's Executive Director within 15 days from the decision. Appeals are reviewed and acted on by an Arts Commission committee. All decisions made by the Arts Commission board or committees are final.

If You Receive an Award

Award recipients that have been previously funded by the Arts Commission must fulfill outstanding final reporting requirements before new funds will be distributed.