



Centering Art & Racial Equity Grant FAQs

Q: How much funding is being offered to applicants under this grant?

A: Funding amount depends on:

- # of Applicants selected for funding
- Available budget for this program

As a city government agency, since our funding is from Admission Tax, the budget for this next application cycle is based on next year's Admission Tax revenues so we won't have a clear projection of available funds until March 2026. It also depends on the City's budget that is developed between the Mayor's Office and Seattle City Council with community input. We also prioritize funding more broadly than deeply to be more inclusive, so the more applicants we have usually means the more organizations we will potentially fund. The plus side is that new applicants do have better odds of receiving funding than with most grants. But the downside is that means each grant awarded is on the smaller side. In the last cycle, grants ranged from \$500 - \$18,000 for each year of funding.

Q: Our organization is less than 3 years old. May we still apply?

A: To be eligible for funding, you do need to have 3 years of history. Because the number of arts and cultural organizations who apply continues to grow exponentially, funding hasn't. In order to minimize competition for funds (to the extent that we can), we needed to put some parameters on eligibility. Based on experience, we found that it's at the 3-year point that organizations truly find their solid footing. If you have not reached that benchmark by Aug. 5, 2025, we strongly encourage you to view some of [our other funding opportunities](#).

Q: If I'm awarded, when can I expect the funds?

A: Since these are public funds from a public government agency, payment of the grant can only happen after the work has been done and proper paperwork submitted. Receipt of funds is usually 3 – 4 weeks after you submit your invoice and final report so timing of payment will depend on the timing of your programming and submission of your paperwork. We will work with you so that you know what steps you need to take to receive payment.

Q: When will the awards be announced?

A: By March 31, 2026.

Q: We're a BIPOC organization whose very existence was created to be an anti-racist one, so we're not sure how to talk about where we have room for growth?

A: That question is just one prompt for the broader question of how you uphold and center anti-racist and human-centered values. Simply share what you have always done and will continue to do. And/or you might also share how you might be working towards greater intersectionality and inclusion for people with disabilities, for people who speak another primary language, for people who are transgender or non-binary, for people in the LBGTQIA2S+ communities – as these are often the communities that are the most marginalized even in anti-racist and BIPOC organizations.

Q: Our fiscal year ends June 30, and last year we hadn't completed reconciliation until Fall. Should we use the last final operating budget for which we have 990 for Income and Expense?

A: Yes. You may choose what your organization feels can be shared. If you need to wait until you've done a full reconciliation of your most recent fiscal year, then using the most recent actuals that have been reconciled is fine. We leave it up to each organization to define what they consider their most recently completed fiscal year to be.

Q: What if all our programming is in Seattle, but our mailing address is just outside of Seattle because we don't have a physical location?

A: We've been grappling with this issue for a while now, since more and more arts organizations don't have a physical address other than where their ED or board president reside. Currently, if all, or the majority of your programming is in Seattle (for the last three years), and your mailing address is simply that – a mailing address because you don't have a physical space, and you do have a City of Seattle business license (or will need to get one if funded), then we would consider you eligible to apply. But you will need to clarify and demonstrate this in your application and ultimately, it will be up to our panel of community reviewers who will determine if based on your body of work, what your score might be in terms of public benefit for people in Seattle. *If* the number of applicants continues to grow significantly, we may need to tighten this parameter.

Q: What number should we use for the full-time equivalent (FTE) staff that work for our organization? We have very few full-time staff, but many part time staff. In this question, are you looking for how many full-time positions would come from our total hours worked? Or just the number of staff currently working full-time?

A: We're looking for the full-time equivalent number NOT the number of full-time staff. To calculate, take the total number of hours worked by all your paid staff in a given week (or year) and divide by 40 (for the week, or divide by 2,080 if calculating by year).