

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Do we need to be a 501c 3 Non-Profit organization?**
 - Applications for either operational or project specific grants must be submitted by, or under the umbrella of, a 501c 3 **arts organization** that can demonstrate two years of **arts and culture programing**.
 - An **emerging organization** with its own 501c3 applying for itself does not need two years of arts programing to apply.
- **Can I apply to paint a Mural on a public wall space?**
 - Yes, and mural project proposals need to include a designated wall and a commitment letter from the property owner that the wall proposed for painting is available and the owner is willing to have his wall painted.
- **We want to form a small collective of artists, can we apply for operational fund?**
 - For operational grants, an arts entity needs to exist, and demonstrate real costs incurred, with documentation i.e. invoices or payment receipts for actual expenses related to arts programing. Funds applied for are to be awarded based on those expenses.
 - An applicant could apply for a project specific grant to establish a collective under the umbrella of a **Non-profit arts organization**.
- **Will the grant application be uniform for different tiers of grant award?**
 - Yes, there is only one application.
- **Will the project-based grants be limited to completion within 1 year of award?**
 - Yes, the grant period is July 1 to June 30, 2025
- **What exactly would disqualify a non-profit that has all the legal documentation and a completed proposal?**
 - If the organization has not submitted current tax reports or is listed as delinquent
- **What if the address connected to the 501C3 is outside of Fresno?**
 - Only 501(c) (3) organizations operating in the City of Fresno as demonstrated by the Address on the IRS Tax Exempt letter will be eligible to apply. Proof of address may also be demonstrated by a utility bill, lease agreement, or similar document.

- **Will we be able to change the address? All work is based in Fresno.**
 - If you request an address change for your IRS letter and have documentation from IRS attached to the letter, the new address will be considered. Proof of address may also be demonstrated by a utility bill, lease agreement, or similar document.

- **Will continual workshops be provided throughout the submission period?**
 - Three application workshops will be offered leading up to the deadline and the first workshop has been recorded and can be viewed on the FAC website.

- **Can the funding be used to assist in creating a non-profit or does the funding have to solely be used for a singular art project.**
 - All projects must address an issue discussed in the Cultural Plan. Refer to the Cultural Plan to determine if your project addresses an issue outlined in there.

- **Will the RFP application be the same length - for example if a grant is 20K vs. 200K - is the application the same.**
 - The application for Emerging organizations with a cap of \$50,000 has less questions.

- **Are individual artists allowed to apply under different organizations vs putting all of our eggs in one basket/ project?**
 - An individual artist can be included in more than one grant application by different non-profit arts organizations for different projects.

- **What if I do not want to be a 501(c)(3) but am looking for more than 50k?**
 - All grants are for specific projects or operational support and must be applied for by or under the umbrella of a 501(c)(3) arts organization. The \$50,000 cap is for emerging organizations only with less that two years of arts programing.

- **Will there be support for collectives to formalize their collectives and build 501(c)(3) organizations?**
 - All Projects must respond to the issues included in the Cultural Plan

- **Does the two years start when you apply for the 501 (c) 3 or can an organization prove they've been operating for more than 2 years when they apply to be eligible for more than the 50K?**
 - Two years of programing must be prior to applying and must be demonstrated in the application.

- **If approved, is there a timeline/period of time before an individual/business can reapply?**
 - Grants will be awarded annually.

- **What is the reasoning for focusing in on nonprofit organizations?**
 - Non-profit organizations are called out as grantees in the Measure P ordinance.

- **How moveable is Fresno Arts Council on moving from the current requirement with 501(c)(3) organizations?**
 - The Fresno Arts Council must respond to the requirements of the ordinance.

- **Is there an org/ third party agency that could be involved to connect individual artists with art/culture orgs for potential sponsorships?**
 - No third-party agency exists for that purpose.

- **Are individual businesses allowed to apply for funding benefiting historical preservation through art and culture?**
 - Only 501(c)(3) arts and cultural organizations can apply for funding. All projects considered must respond to the Cultural Plan

- **Are they open to third party receiving funding to offer capacity building support to organizations and artists?**
 - Project specific or operational grants can include funding for capacity building. consultants will need to be identified and cost included in budget.

- **Can an LLC apply for a General Operating grant using our 501c3 as the fiscal sponsor.**
 - The Fiscal sponsor opportunity is for individual artists and collectives that do not yet have a non-profit standing. An LLC is a for-profit entity and not eligible for this fund.

- **Our IRS letter does not reflect a City of Fresno address. Will this disqualify us?**
 - Yes, have this corrected before you apply. In the event you don't get it taken care of in time, request an in-process letter from the IRS to attach to your application.

- **What are the specific insurance requirements awardees must meet? I see the RFP says that organizations must have "General Liability insurance and Workman's Compensation insurance (provide basis for exemption if applicable);" but are there specific coverage amounts awardees must meet?**
 - Insurance requirements are project specific and will be dependent on the facilities used; each venue will have its own insurance requirements.
 - General Liability insurance and Workman's Compensation insurance are required of all non-profit organizations and amounts are determined by the provider.

Can an organization under a fiscal agent apply for general operating support.

- Only existing 501(c)(3) arts organizations can apply for these funds.
 - To apply for general operating support a program is only eligible for what its current operating costs are as demonstrated by financial records that show actual expenditures for general operations.
- **Can the same nonprofit submit more than one application?**
 - A non-profit arts and cultural organization can apply for Operational Support and a Project Specific grant. As a fiscal sponsor it can apply on behalf of multiple projects.
 - **Can an organization apply for more than \$50,000 if it has many years of programming but no real budget to account for it?**
 - An emerging organization is defined as an organization with a budget size of \$50,000 dollars or less and under two years of experience.