



Head Start Arts Integration Grant Guidelines | FY2020

Head Start Arts Integration Grants support children and teachers in early education programs with direct opportunities to think, create, and learn through the arts, helping children gain appreciation for the arts and be better prepared for school.

Who May Apply

The applicant must be a Vermont nonprofit with 501(c)3 status, such as an arts organization or social service organization providing Head Start programming, that:

- has a Dun and Bradstreet number
- has a partnership with a with at least one of Vermont's regional Head Start programs

Who May Not Apply or Receive Funding

- organizations that have received any other Arts Council grant in FY2020 to support the same project
- organizations that have previously received Arts Council grants and have not completed required reporting

Grant Amounts and Matching Requirements

Applicants may apply for up to \$4,000 to support direct arts or arts-integrated learning activities in Head Start classrooms. A 1:1 cash match is required and may be contributed by the applicant, partners such as a Head Start agency or provider, or other contributors such as a donor or foundation. Grant amounts are dependent upon federal and state funding and are subject to change.

Current FY2019 grantees may apply for additional funding up to \$1,500 to expand or invigorate their direct services.

Criteria for Selection and Expectations

Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

artistic merit (50%)

- well-planned creative experience of high artistic excellence with qualified personnel
- employment of teaching artist(s) in residence who demonstrates both artistic excellence and experience in early education settings to work in at least one Head Start classroom
- meaningful community partnerships between arts and nonarts groups or entities that enhance the quality of the project

(criteria continues next page)

(Criteria for Selection and Expectations, continued)

impact (30%)

- achievable activities that positively impact the participants and community, especially activities that:
 - support children in reaching creative, academic, social, and/or emotional outcomes
 - support classroom teachers beyond the residency timeline
- well-defined and measurable goals with a clear plan for evaluation
- activities rooted in reflection on previous work or community need

project management (20%)

- clear and reasonable budget
- realistic timeline
- clear roles, responsibilities, and contributions for all partners and entities involved in the project

Current grantees (FY2019) applying for additional funding (up to \$1,500) should include a plan for addressing one of the following:

- serving additional classrooms or students in sites where they are currently working or working in sites and geographical areas that are not currently underserved
- implementing or honing innovative activities that can be a model to the field

Application and Deadline

[Apply online](#) by September 16, 2019 for activities that begin on or after October 1, 2019 and will be completed by August 31, 2020. For information about the application requirements and a list of the questions you'll be expected to answer, see the Head Start Arts [application preview document](#).

Access and Nondiscrimination Policy

The Vermont Arts Council is committed to supporting entities that maintain an environment free from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic bias, disability, citizenship, veteran status, or other category protected by applicable state or federal law. Arts Council grant recipients who receive federal or state funds must be in compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the ADA Amendment Act of 2008, and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design as well as the 2010 ADA Title III regulations for nondiscrimination.

Questions?

Inquiries about the Head Start Arts Integration Grant program should be made by sending an [email to Troy Hickman](#) or by calling 802.828.3778.

Inquiries about using the online granting system should be made by sending an [email to Meredith Bell](#) or by calling 802.828.3292.