

2027 Grants Guide

Grant Program	General Operating Support (GOS)* <i>NOT ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS AT THIS TIME</i>	Project Support (PS) <i>OPEN TO NEW + RETURNING APPLICATIONS IN 2026</i>
What is it?	Multi-year core support grants to Cuyahoga County-based nonprofits that provide arts and cultural programming for the public.	Annual grants for Cuyahoga County-based nonprofits providing arts and culture projects in Cuyahoga County.
Deadline to Apply	General Operating Support grants are in the first year of a two-year cycle and are not accepting applications at this time.	Thursday, June 25, 2026 by 4:30 PM ET
Who can apply?	Applicants with a core mission of arts and culture that have successfully completed at least two CAC grants, and current General Operating Support grant recipients.	New applicants and applicants with or without a core mission of arts and culture.
Eligibility Requirements	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a core mission of arts or culture, as determined by CAC • Have a permanent/viable base in Cuyahoga County for at least three (3) years • Be and have been a 501c3 nonprofit for at least 3 years • Be incorporated and authorized to do business in Ohio as verified by the Secretary of State <p>Applicants who submit independently certified audits or financial reviews must also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employ at least one paid half-time (50%) staff person 	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a 501c3 nonprofit organization not serving as a fiscal sponsor for another organization's project • Have a permanent/viable base in Cuyahoga County for at least one (1) year • Be incorporated and authorized to do business in Ohio as verified by the Secretary of State • Have produced or presented arts and/or cultural program(s) in Cuyahoga County that are open to the public within the previous two years
Required Financial Documentation	Independently certified financial audit/review for 2022, 2023 and 2024 -OR- IRS Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-N for 2023 and 2024 . Additional documentation may be required per the guidelines.	IRS Form 990, 990-EZ or 990-N for 2025 . Additional documentation may be required per the guidelines.

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Grant Period	Two-year grant commitment. January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2027	One-year grant. January 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027
Grant Size	Grants are based on budget size, financials, staffing, and available CAC funding. See the guidelines for details.	New applicants may request grants for up to \$5,000 . Grants range up to \$7,500 , based on applicant budget size and available CAC funding.
Application	All applicants complete a one-step application and must submit required financial and support materials. See the guidelines for details. Eligible applicants will be automatically considered for grant funding; there is no panel process.	All applicants complete a one-step application including organizational information, short narrative questions, project budget, and support materials. Applications are reviewed by an online panel of experts from outside the region.
Match Component	1:1 match required. For every CAC dollar you receive, you must raise one dollar from another source. For grants up to \$5,000, 50% of match can be met through in-kind support.	1:1 match required. For every CAC dollar you receive, you must raise one dollar from another source. 50% of match can be met through in-kind support.
Reporting Requirements	4 reports over 2-year grant period (2 mid-year and 2 year-end reports, plus annual goal setting) Reporting requirements vary by grant size.	1 final report due 30 days after the project is complete.
Guidelines	View the guidelines for 2026-27 General Operating Support.	View the guidelines for 2027 Project Support.
Questions?	Please contact our grantmaking team or visit cacgrants.org to learn more.	

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