

## **Creative Venues Grants**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

The following are answers to general questions that have arisen regarding applying for the Creative Venues Grants. This list is not comprehensive but includes answers to questions received before the FAQ deadline.

For more complete information, please review the complete [guidelines](#) or watch the video of the grantwriting webinar that will be linked to our website on June 27.

#### **GENERAL QUESTIONS**

##### **Where do I find the grant application?**

A link to both the guidelines and the application can be found on our website. The application link takes you immediately to our grant portal, Submittable. You will need to create a free Submittable account to access the grant application and complete the forms. Submittable instructions can be found on the opening page.

##### **Is there more than one grant application?**

Yes, for this program you will see that there are two applications with different eligibility requirements. The Venue Recovery Grant is specific to venues in four Sacramento neighborhoods. The Rapid Response Grant is open to all qualifying venues throughout the city. Please read the guidelines before applying to determine which application is more suitable for your business. You can apply for only one grant.

##### **How do I know if I am in an eligible neighborhood for a Venue Recovery Grant?**

The four eligible neighborhoods where venues must be located are: downtown Sacramento, midtown Sacramento, Del Paso Blvd Corridor, and Stockton Blvd Corridor. If you are unsure whether your venue qualifies, you can enter your address into the Cultural Venues Eligibility Map and it will tell you whether you can apply for a Recovery Grant.

##### **When does the budget period for the grant begin?**

Businesses can only incur expenses for a grant after it has been awarded and the contract is executed. If a grant application is completed in July and the award is made in August, costs cannot be incurred until the grantee has signed an agreement with the city and that agreement has been executed by the City Clerk (which could be as late as September). On that date, costs can be incurred for the grant. Applicants should not request funds for any work that has already taken place.

##### **Will there be assistance in writing this grant application?**

We are not able to help individuals complete this grant application. We encourage you to 1) attend the webinar or watch the video when it is posted; 2) read the guidelines carefully and note any

questions about anything you don't understand; and 3) only then reach out with specific questions if you don't know what something means or are having trouble with the application. We think most questions can be answered through our webinar.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

### **Can a non-profit venue apply for this grant?**

Unfortunately, no. Only for-profit businesses can apply under the Creative Venues grant. We periodically have other opportunities for non-profit organizations for which you may be eligible. Sign up for our [newsletter](#) to receive the most updated information about new grant opportunities.

### **Are stand-up comedy venues eligible to apply?**

Yes. If the venue is for-profit and meets *all other* eligibility requirements as a locally owned and managed venue, it would fit the criteria for a performance venue.

### **Does a retail business that creates periodic community events, including culinary arts, music, and poetry qualify as a venue?**

No, this type of a business would not qualify. For the purposes of this grant, a business would need to prove that its primary mission and revenue source was as: 1) a live music and performance space; 2) an art gallery; 3) a bookstore.

### **Are there limitations to the types of bookstores that can apply?**

Yes. Bookstores must be locally owned and operated. They must support local artists, writers, and/or presses. They must show that they regularly hold events, including readings, book groups, and workshops and demonstrate that they help to serve and promote the local community of artists.

### **Is an artmaking space or artist studio eligible to apply for funds?**

No. Much like a retail business, if most of the revenue is derived from classes, workshops, or artist usage fees, this would not qualify as an art gallery.

### **Do I need to own the building in order to qualify for the grant?**

You do not. As long as you are the owner of a qualified venue, you may apply. One of the eligible expenses is rent payments.

### **Our venue closed last year but we have plans to reopen. Can we apply?**

No, unfortunately you need to be a venue that has *continually been in operation* for at least one year before the grant deadline.

**We do an annual program that benefits the venue where it is held. Can we apply?**

No, in this case, *only* the venue can apply. They may choose to use some funds to pay future artist fees but they can also use it to pay their rent, insurance, or marketing costs.