

Guide to IMLS Museum Funding Programs and Opportunities Fiscal Year 2022

How to Apply for a Grant

Select a grant program. Visit our website, www.ims.gov, to explore program descriptions, sample applications, and resources designed to help you develop a competitive application to the program that best fits your project.

Read the Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs). NOFOs become available on our website 60 to 90 days before the program deadlines. Read them carefully and be sure to check the eligibility requirements. The FY2021 versions will remain available for reference until the FY2022 NOFOs are posted.

Check your registrations. Submitting a grant application to IMLS is a multistep process that begins with a series of registrations. You must have an active System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration, which must be renewed annually; and an up-to-date registration with Grants.gov. These processes take time. Ensure that your registrations are active and correct well before the application deadline.

Connect with us. Pre-application webinars help you learn more about our programs and the application process. Conversations with Office of Museum Services program staff can help you explore how your idea may match the goals of a grant program.

Jennifer Anstadt
janstadt@ims.gov
202-653-4765
Book meeting: [click here](#)

Mark Isaksen
misaksen@ims.gov
202.653.4667
Book meeting: [click here](#)

Jeannette Thomas
jthomas@ims.gov
202-653-4766
Book meeting: [click here](#)

Lola Clairmont
lclairmont@ims.gov
202-653-4764
Book meeting: [click here](#)

Ashley Jones
ajones@ims.gov
202.653.4782
Book meeting: [click here](#)

Helen Wechsler
hwechsler@ims.gov
202.653.4779
Book meeting: [click here](#).

Mark Feitl
mfeitl@ims.gov
202.653.4635
Book meeting: [click here](#)

Reagan Moore
rmoore@ims.gov
202.653.4637
Book meeting: [click here](#)

Laura Zamarripa
lzamarripa@ims.gov
202.653.4753
Book meeting: [click here](#)

Grant Programs

Deadline	Program	Award Amount	Description
November 15, 2021	Museums for America	\$5,000-\$250,000	Grants support activities that strengthen museums as active resources for lifelong learning, vital components of livable communities, and good stewards of the nation's collections.
November 15, 2021	Inspire! Grants for Small Museums	\$5,000-\$50,000	Grants support projects that strengthen the ability of small museums to serve their community.
November 15, 2021	Museums Empowered	\$5,000-\$250,000	Grants support activities for professional development and capacity building in individual museums.
November 15, 2021	National Leadership Grants for Museums	\$5,000-\$50,000 (rapid prototyping)	Grants support projects that address critical needs of the museum field and that have the potential to advance practice in the profession so that museums can improve services for the American public.
		\$50,000-\$750,000 (non-research)	
		\$50,000-\$750,000 (research)	
November 15, 2021	Museum Grants for African American History and Culture	\$5,000-\$50,000	Grants at two different funding levels support activities that build the capacity of African American museums and support the growth and development of museum professionals at African American museums.
		\$50,001-\$250,000	
November 15, 2021	Native American/ Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program	\$5,000-\$100,000	Grants to federally recognized tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations enhance museum services to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge.

All grant programs are subject to the availability of funds and IMLS discretion. Deadlines are tentative. Additional funding opportunities may become available throughout the year. Please visit www.imls.gov for updates.

Other Opportunities

Deadline	Program	Description
Check FAIC website	Collections Assessment for Preservation (CAP), administered by the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC)	Program provides small and mid-sized museums with partial funding toward an assessment of their policies and procedures relating to collections care and a study of their collections, buildings, and building systems.
Check AAM website	Museum Assessment Program, administered by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM)	Program helps small and mid-sized museum of all types strengthen operation, plan for the future, and meet professional standards through a variety of assessment types.