

Welcome to the IMLS Office of Museum Services informational webinar, "Choosing a Funding Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2019." Our goal in this presentation is to provide basic information to help you decide which IMLS funding program is most likely to be the best fit for your project idea and your institution.

Companion Webinars

PRE-RECORDED WEBINARS

- Choosing a Funding Opportunity
- Grant Application Forms for FY2019

LIVE WEBINARS

Museums for America

October 3, 2018; 3 pm Eastern Time

Museums Empowered

October 4, 2018; 3 pm Eastern Time

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums

September 6, 2018; 3 pm Eastern Time

National Leadership Grants for Museums

October 9, 2018; 3 pm Eastern Time

Museum Grants for African American History & Culture

September 12, 2018; 3 pm Eastern Time

Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

September 5, 2018; 3 pm Eastern Time



To participate in the live webinars, visit

https://www.imls.gov/grants/ apply-grant/available-grants, and click on the grant program name.

Access recordings and transcripts of our webinars here: https://www.imls.gov/news-events/events

This is one of a series of webinars designed to help you find the information you need to create a competitive application for IMLS museum funding.

"Choosing a Funding Opportunity" and "Grant Application Forms for FY2019" are prerecorded.

In September and October, we will be presenting one live webinar for each of our grant programs. The dates and times of the live webinars are listed here, and the instructions for participating are available on our website.

Links to the recordings of our live webinars will be available on our website within a day or two of the presentations, and you will have the online option to access the recording as well as a transcript in PDF.

[Image: Pixabay 3307479]



- 1. IMLS Vision, Mission, and Strategic Plan
- 2. Eligibility
- 3. Funding Programs and Opportunities
- 4. Finding Information Online
- 5. Registering
- 6. Contacts
- 7. Summary



In this presentation, we'll be addressing these topics:

First, we'll consider the IMLS vision, mission, and strategic plan. Becoming familiar with them will help you understand why our grant programs are structured the way they are and why we ask you as an applicant to address certain issues in your application.

Second, we'll address basic institutional eligibility criteria to help you make good preliminary decisions about which program to pursue.

Next, we'll present basic information about our funding programs and opportunities.

We'll show you where to find specific information on the IMLS website.

Then, we'll talk about the three registrations that you must have in place in order to apply for a grant, and we'll stress how important it is to do this work well in advance of the grant deadline.

Finally, we'll share our contact information and invite you to get in touch with us with any questions you might have or simply to talk about your project ideas.



IMLS Vision and Mission

VISION: A nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities.

MISSION: The mission of IMLS is to advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development.

IMLS's vision and mission statements were adopted as part of the agency's current strategic plan. Both emphasize that IMLS is here to support museums and libraries in their work of serving their communities.



IMLS Strategic Plan

Goal 1, Promote Lifelong Learning: IMLS supports learning and literacy for people of all ages through museums and libraries.

Goal 2, Build Capacity: IMLS strengthens the capacity of museums and libraries to improve the well-being of their communities.

Goal 3, Increase Public Access: IMLS makes strategic investments that increase access to information, ideas, and networks through libraries and museums.



https://www.imls.gov/aboutus/strategic-plan

Much like your own institution's strategic plan, ours identifies goals that help us achieve our vision and accomplish our mission. There are three programmatic goals that drive our grantmaking, and you will see these concepts referenced in much that we'll talk about today as well as in the guidance for preparing grant applications.

Goal 1 makes it clear that IMLS supports engaging learning experiences in museums for people of all ages and interests.

Goal 2 specifies that IMLS helps strengthen the capacity of museums to improve the wellbeing of their communities by exploring methods of and implementing new approaches to community collaboration.

Goal 3 confirms that IMLS supports the stewardship of museum collections at institutions of all types and invests in tools, technology, and training that enable people of all backgrounds and abilities to discover and use museum collections and resources.

To learn more about our current strategic plan, please visit our website.

	Then co	nsiderap	plyingfor			
If your organization is	Museums for America	Museums Empowered	Inspirel Grants for Small Museums	National Leadership Grantsfor Museums	Museum Grants for African American History & Culture	Native American/ Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program
A museum A nonprofit agency responsible for operating a museum	Х	Х	Х	Х		
 A museum whose primary purpose is African American life, art, history, and/or culture A museum service organization or association that supports museums devoted to African American life, art, history, and/or culture An Historically Black College or University 					X	
A federally recognized Indian tribe An Alaskan Native village or corporation A non-profit organization that primarily serves and represents Native Hawaiians						Х
An organization or association that engages in activities designed to advance the well-being of museums and the museum profession An institution of higher education				х		

So, who is eligible to apply for an IMLS grant? Each of our grant programs has a slightly different set of eligibility criteria. Some of these relate to governance systems, some relate to geography, and some relate to institutional mission. It's crucial, therefore, that you check the Notice of Funding Opportunity for each program in which you're interested. To get you started, however, we are making some very broad suggestions here.

Find your institution type in the column on the left, and then check out the grant programs corresponding to the X's in the columns on the right.

When you've identified a grant program of interest, take time to explore the eligibility criteria that are presented in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.



- aquariums
- arboretums
- art museums
- botanical gardens
- children's/youth museums
- general museums (those having two or more significant disciplines)
- historic houses/sites

- history museums
- natural history/ anthropology museums
- nature centers
- planetariums
- science/technology centers
- specialized museums (limited to a single distinct subject)
- zoological parks

Museums may be standalone or administered by a governing body (e.g. college, university, tribe, or a state or local government).

As you saw on the previous slide, several of our grant programs specify "museum" as an eligible type of organization. To answer the question, "What types of institutions are included in the term 'museum," we share this list. However, the list is NOT exhaustive. Even if your organization's name does not include the word "museum," you may still be eligible if you meet the requirements as set out in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Please take note that museums in this definition may stand alone as independent organizations or they may be administered by a governing body, such as a college, university, tribe, or a state or local government.



Other Requirements for Museums

In addition to meeting governance and geographic requirements, to qualify as a "museum," an organization must also:

- use a professional staff;
- be organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational or aesthetic purposes;
- own or use tangible objects, either animate or inanimate;
- care for these objects; AND
- exhibit these objects to the general public on a regular basis through facilities that it owns or operates.

To explore that point just a bit further, in addition to meeting governance and geographic requirements, to qualify as a "museum," an organization must also:

- use a professional staff;
- be organized on a permanent basis for essentially educational or aesthetic purposes;
- own or use tangible objects, either animate or inanimate;
- care for these objects; and
- exhibit these objects to the general public on a regular basis through facilities that it owns or operates.

For more details on each of these points, please take a look at the Eligibility Information in any given grant program's Notice of Funding Opportunity.



Who is not eligible to apply?

You are not eligible to apply if you are:

- A federally funded institution
- A for-profit organization
- A foreign country or organization
- An individual



There are some organizations that cannot apply for IMLS grants.

This includes federally funded institutions, for-profit organizations, and foreign countries or organizations. It also includes individuals.

While these entities cannot apply for an IMLS grant, there is no rule against their participating as partners or providing services to a grant-funded project.

[Image: Pixabay 160659]

Technical Assessment Program





Collections Assessment for Preservation

Program Goal: Provides small and mid-sized museums with assessments of institutions' collections, buildings, and building systems as well as policies and procedures to improve collections care, conservation, and preservation

Deadline: February 1, 2019

Administered by: Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works

Visit: http://www.conservation-us.org/grants/cap

Contact: Call CAP program staff at 202.750.3346 or send an email to cap@conservation-us.org.

Now, let's turn to our technical assistance program for museums. Administered for us by the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation, the Collections Assessment for Preservation, or CAP, program provides partial funding toward a general conservation assessment for small and mid-sized institutions. The assessment covers all the institution's collections, buildings, and building systems, as well as its policies and procedures relating to collections care.

The finished product is a complete assessment report with prioritized recommendations to improve collections care. This report provides recommendations and priorities for collections preservation action; facilitates the development of a long-range preservation plan; and serves as a fundraising tool for future collections projects.

The deadline for the next round of applications is February 1, 2019, and you can access the application materials at the website listed here.

If you would like to learn more about CAP, call the CAP program staff at 202-750-3346 or send an email to cap at conservation hyphen u s dot org.

Museu	ms for America	
Program Goal	To strengthen the ability of an individual museum to serve its public	
Project Categories	 Lifelong Learning Community Anchors and Catalysts Collections Stewardship and Public Access 	Mystic Seaport Mystic CT Portland Museum Louisville KY
Deadline NE	N! December 14, 2018	
Duration	1-3 years	
Funding	\$5,000-\$250,000	
Cost Share	1:1 required	
Webinar	October 3, 2018 at 3 pm, Eastern Time	Palo Alto Art Center

There are six IMLS museum grant programs, and we'll touch briefly on each of them. Again, our goal today is to help you choose the right program for your needs.

Museums for America, or MFA, is our largest grant program, receiving the largest number of applications each year and the one through which we make the largest number of awards. The overall goal of the program is to support activities that strengthen the abilities of museums to serve the public. As an applicant, you must align your project with one of the agency's goals by choosing a project category. Your options are Promote Lifelong Learning, Community Anchors and Catalysts, and Collections Stewardship and Public Access, reflecting the programmatic goals of IMLS's strategic plan.

The deadline for FY2018 applications is December 14, 2018, and that is new this year. Grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$250,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years.

MFA requires a 1:1 cost share.

We highly recommend participating in the MFA webinar, scheduled for October 3, 2018 at 3:00 pm Eastern Time, and talking with an IMLS staff member to learn more about MFA and the kinds of projects it supports.

	Muse	ums Empowered	techno.	ital 18 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19
Prog	ram Goal	To support staff capacity-building projects that use professional development to generate systemic change within a museum	CULTURE Office of the Control of the	
Proje Cate	ect gories	 Digital Technology Diversity and Inclusion Evaluation Organizational Management 	DIVERSITY DIVERSITY DIVERSITY	Evaluation (S)
Dead	dline NE	December 14, 2018	Culture	
Dura	ntion	1-3 years	· CD	2
Fund	ling	\$5,000-\$250,000	1 00	33200
Cost	Share	1:1 required	1916	39800
Webi	inar	October 4, 2018 at 3 pm, Eastern Time		

Museums Empowered is a special initiative of Museums for America. Its goal is to support staff capacity-building projects that use professional development to generate systemic change within a museum.

Potential projects should address one of four project categories:

- Digital Technology: for museum staff to fully explore, understand, and optimize the use of digital technology in museums
- Diversity and Inclusion: for museum staff to develop cultural competency and support museum relevancy in their communities
- Evaluation: to expand museum staff's evaluation capacity in audience research and program evaluation, and
- Organizational Management: for museum staff to learn best practices in organizational management, strategic thinking, innovation and managing change

The deadline for applications to Museums Empowered this year is December 14, 2018. Grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$250,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years.

Museums Empowered requires a 1:1 cost share.

The Museums Empowered webinar is scheduled for October 4, 2018 at 3 pm Eastern Time. We encourage you to participate in it to learn more about Museums Empowered and the kinds of projects it supports.

NEW Inspire	! Grants for Small Museums	
Program Goal	To support small museums in addressing priorities identified in their strategic plans	Bronzeville Children's Museum Chicago IL
Project Categories	 Lifelong Learning Community Anchors and Catalysts Collections Stewardship and Public Access 	
Deadline	November 1, 2018	Cenver Museum of Ministures,
Duration	1-2 years	Denver CO
Funding	\$5,000-\$50,000	
Cost Share	None required	
Webinar	September 5, 2018 at 3 pm, Eastern Time	Earth and Mineral Sciences Museum and Art Gallery Pennsylvania State University University Park PA

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums is a new funding opportunity designed specifically to help small museums address the priorities identified in their strategic plans. As an applicant, you must align your project with one of three project categories: Lifelong Learning, Community Anchors and Catalysts, or Collections Stewardship and Public Access.

The deadline is November 1, 2018. Grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$50,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 2 years, and no cost share is required.

Please consider joining us for the Inspire! Grants for Small Museums webinar, scheduled for September 6, 2018 at 3:00 pm Eastern Time. Staff are also available to talk about the Inspire! Grants for Small Museum special initiative and the kinds of projects it supports.

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Program Goal	To address critical ne practice in the profes for the American pub	sion so tha			Seguille Michael
Project Categories	 Collections Care a Access Data, Analysis, an Assessment 		Applica Diversi	Platforms and tions ty and Inclusion sional Development	
Deadline NF	\mathcal{M}_i	Decembe	r 14, 2018		American Museum of Natural His New York NY
Duration	1 year		1-3 ye	ears	9n >
Funding Levels	\$5,000-\$50,000),000- 00,000	\$50,000- \$1,000,000	
Cost Share	Rapid Prototyping Projects: None required		h projects: required	Non-research projects: 1:1 required	
Webinar	October	9, 2018 at	3 pm, Easte	rn Time	E COLUMN A C

National Leadership Grants for Museums support projects that address critical needs of the museum field and have the potential to advance practice in the profession so that museums can improve services for the American public. We invest in leaders –institutions and partnerships– that understand the challenges and opportunities facing the field and devise plans to move the field forward by producing and making available new tools, resources, research findings, and models.

You can choose to submit applications under one of five project categories: Collections Care and Public Access; Data, Analysis, and Assessment; Digital Platforms and Applications; Diversity and Inclusion; and Professional Development. Each is described fully in the National Leadership Grants for Museums Notice of Funding Opportunity.

You will also pick one of three funding levels. As the slide shows, each has its own funding request range, cost share requirement, and grant period duration.

- Rapid prototyping projects allow you to try an innovative solution to a field-wide challenge that requires funding to rapidly develop, test, iterate, and retest.
- Research projects pose questions of importance to the field and use accepted research methodologies to collect, analyze, and share the data that answers those questions.
- Non-research projects support larger scale efforts that result in tools and resources for the field.

The new deadline for National Leadership Grants for Museums applications is December 14, 2018.

We highly recommend participating in the National Leadership Grant Program webinar scheduled for October 9, 2018 at 3 pm Eastern Time, and talking to an IMLS staff member to learn more about the program.



The goal of Museum Grants for African American History and Culture is to build the capacity of African American museums and to support the growth and development of museum professionals at African American museums.

The new deadline this year for FY2019 applications is November 1, 2018.

There are two funding levels in AAHC and each has its own cost share requirement. For projects requesting \$5,000-\$50,000, no cost share is required. For projects requesting \$50,001-\$250,000, a 1:1 cost share is required. Projects may be scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years.

To learn more about Museum Grants for African American History and Culture, join the webinar on September 12, 2018 at 3 pm Eastern Time.

	: American/Native Hawaiian um Services Program	
Program Goal	To enhance museum services in order to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge among Indian tribes and organizations serving Native Hawaiians	
Deadline NE	November 1, 2018	Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
Duration	1-2 years	1.6
Funding NE	%! \$5,000-\$100,000	
Cost Share	None required	AMI V
Webinar	September 5, 2018 at 3 pm, Eastern Time	Hula Preservation Society

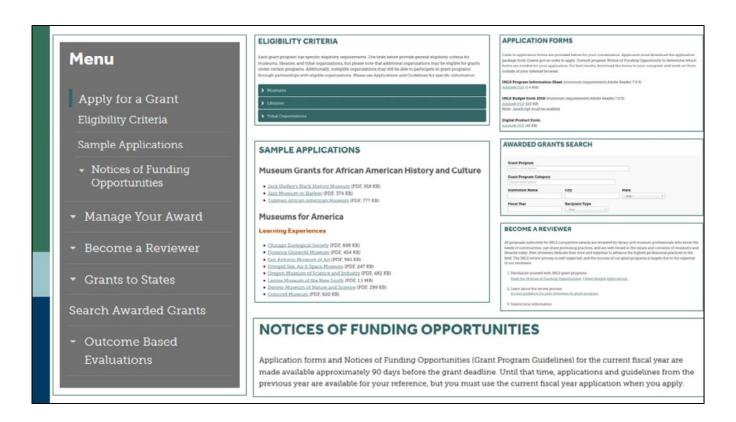
The goal of Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program is to enhance museum services in order to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge among Indian tribes and organizations serving Native Hawaiians. This program has very specific eligibility criteria, so make sure to review the details if you are interested in applying.

The deadline for FY2019 applications is November 1, 2018. Grant requests may range from \$5,000 to \$100,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 2 years, and no cost share is required. Please note that the cap of \$100,000 is an increase over that of previous years in this program.

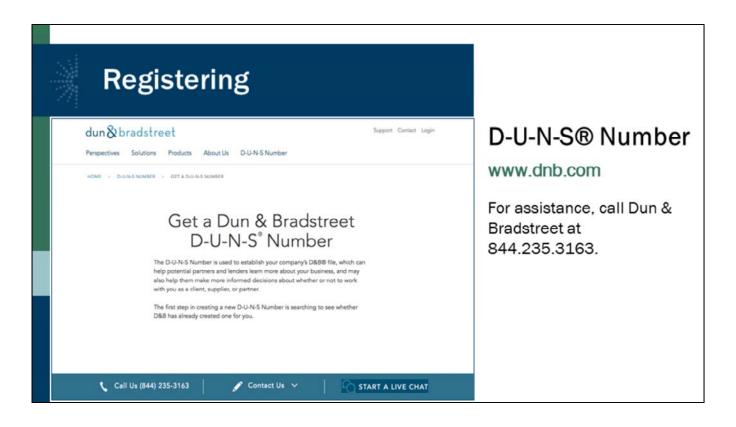
The NANH webinar is scheduled for September 5 at 3 pm Eastern Time. Please consider participating in it as well as talking with an IMLS staff member to learn more about this program and the types of projects it supports.



To find more information relevant to creating a competitive proposal, your first stop should be our website—www dot imls dot gov.

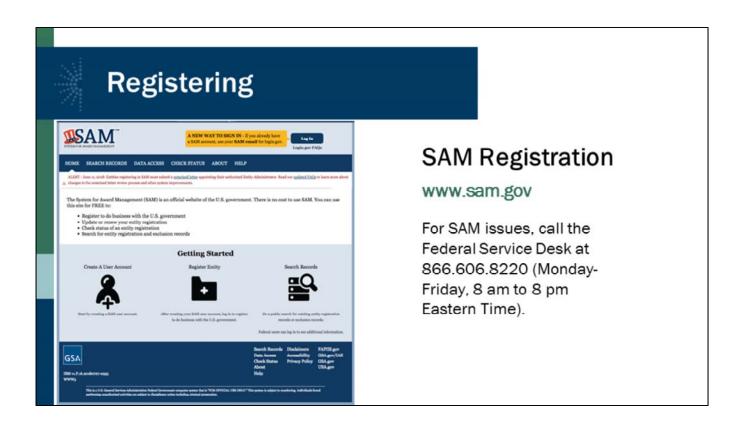


Here, you'll be able to explore eligibility criteria, download sample applications, and access the Notices of Funding Opportunities which provide full instructions for preparing an application. You'll also be able to access the required application forms, search our database of previously awarded grants, and find out how to apply to become an IMLS peer reviewer.



At this juncture, we want to draw your attention to three registration requirements—DUNS, SAM.gov, and Grants.gov. Your registrations must be complete and up to date in order for you to submit an application or receive an award. If you're starting from scratch, it's important to know that you must complete these registrations in sequence.

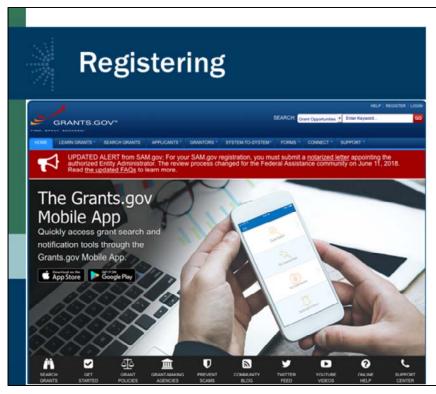
First, you must have a DUNS number. Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) provides this unique nine-digit identification number FREE for all businesses required to register with the Federal government for contracts or grants. If you have a DUNS number, be sure you know it. If you don't have one, then visit www.dnb.com to learn how to get one.



Second is SAM—which stands for System for Award Management.

Registering with SAM is also FREE. It can be time consuming, and it is different from DUNS in that you must renew your registration each year to keep it active. Because SAM.gov registrations vary in their expiration dates, check your status early on and take action to ensure you are registered and your registration is active.

Begin with the website, and use the FAQs to answer questions. If you have further SAM issues, call the Federal Service Desk at 866-606-8220, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time.



NEW Requirements and Login Process as of June 29, 2018

Grants.gov Registration

www.grants.gov

For Grants.gov help, call 800.518.4726 (available 24/7 except federal holidays). visit https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html or email support@grants.gov.

The third place you must be registered is Grants.gov, the portal through which all applications for IMLS grants must be submitted. To register, you must have an active SAM.gov status, and of course, a DUNS number.

2018 brought new requirements and a new login process, so be sure to visit www.grants.gov to learn more about both.

The Grants.gov website is extensive, and their help capabilities are numerous and well-staffed. Begin with the website and its FAQs, but if you need additional help you may call their help line at 800-518-4726, which is available 24/7 except on federal holidays; visit their support page at the website listed here, or email them at support at grants dot gov.



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Finally, here is a list of the names, email addresses, and direct phone numbers for program staff in the Office of Museum Services. We encourage you to contact us with any questions you might have about choosing a funding opportunity or any other aspect of the grant application process. We'll be very happy to help.

Summary

- IMLS's vision, mission, and strategic plan are at the core of its grantmaking.
- FY2019 funding opportunities include Collections Assessment for Preservation, Museums for America, Museums Empowered, Inspire! Grants for Small Museums, Museum Grants for African American History and Culture, National Leadership Grants for Museums, and Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Grants.
- Each grant program has its own set of eligibility requirements.
- Each grant program supports particular types of projects.
- Helpful information, staff contacts, and Notices of Funding Opportunities are on the IMLS website, www.imls.gov.

This brings us to the end of the information we set out to share with you in this webinar, but let's take a minute to summarize what we hope you will take away.

First, IMLS's vision, mission, and strategic plan are at the core of its grantmaking. You would be well-served to consider these in thinking about your project for which you will be seeking IMLS support.

Funding opportunities in FY2019 include one technical assistance program--Collections Assessment for Preservation—and six grant programs.

Each grant program has its own set of eligibility requirements, and you should consider these early on in the process of selecting a grant program.

Each grant program has its own set of goals. Be sure that you choose the grant program with goals that match your project's intent.

Our website—www dot imls dot gov—provides a wealth of information to help you create a competitive grant application. Start your explorations there.

Summary

- Get a DUNS number and register early with SAM.gov and Grants.gov. Know the user names and passwords.
- Participate in the webinars for programs to which you wish to apply.
- For details on filling out the required forms for an IMLS application, check out our pre-recorded webinar entitled "IMLS Office of Museum Services Grant Application Forms for FY2019."
- Find the recorded versions and transcripts of all our webinars here: https://www.imls.gov/news-events/events.

It is very important to get a DUNS number and to register early with SAM.gov and Grants.gov. If you are already registered, be sure you know the user names and passwords you'll need well in advance of the day you submit your application.

Participate in the webinars for the funding programs to which you wish to apply. You'll get more details about the program, and you'll have the chance to ask questions and to listen to those posed by others.

For details on filling out the required forms for an IMLS application, check out our prerecorded webinar entitled, "IMLS Office of Museum Services Grant Application Forms for FY2019."

And lastly, you can find the recorded versions and transcripts of all our webinars on our website at www.imls.gov/news-events/events.

Thank you for your interest in IMLS funding programs and opportunities, and for checking out this webinar. Good luck, and we look forward to seeing your application.