**INSTITUTE of Museum and Library SERVICES**

# IMLS Office of Museum Services
## Choosing a Funding Opportunity
## for FY2020

August 2019

Welcome to the IMLS Office of Museum Services informational webinar, "Choosing a Funding Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2020." 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 WEBINAR**
- Choosing a Funding Opportunity

**LIVE WEBINARS**

Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program
September 9, 2019; 3 pm Eastern Time

Museums for America
September 10, 2019; 2 pm Eastern Time

National Leadership Grants for Museums
September 17, 2019; 3 pm Eastern Time

Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
September 18, 2019; 3 pm Eastern Time

Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
September 19, 2019; 2 pm Eastern Time

Museums Empowered
September 20, 2019; 2 pm Eastern Time

To participate in the live webinars or to access recordings and transcripts, visit
https://www.imls.gov/webinars

[Image: Pixabay 3307479]

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.

In September, 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.

## Presentation Overview

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's vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities.

Our mission is to advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development.

Much like your own institution's strategic plan, IMLS's 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 will 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 well-being 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 download a copy from our website.

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

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

## Who is eligible to apply for museum grants?

"Museums" include:
- aquariums
- arboretums
- art museums
- botanical gardens
- children's/youth museums
- general museums
- historic houses/sites
- history museums
- natural history/ anthropology museums
- nature centers
- planetariums
- science/technology centers
- specialized museums
- zoological parks

Other eligible organizations include:
- colleges and universities
- organizations that serve museums
- federally recognized Native American tribes
- organizations that serve Native Hawaiians

Museums may stand alone as independent organizations or they may be administered by a governing body (e.g. college, university, tribe, or a state or local government).

Be sure to check specific
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
for details.

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

Entities that are not eligible to apply can be partners or third-party service providers.

There are some organizations that cannot apply for IMLS grants.

These include 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.

## Funding Programs and Opportunities

### Assessment Programs

- Museum Assessment Program
- Collections Assessment for Preservation

### Grant Programs

- Museums for America
- Museums Empowered
- Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
- National Leadership Grants for Museums
- Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
- Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

Let's turn now to the funding programs and opportunities that we offer. These include two assessment programs: the Museum Assessment Program and the Collections Assessment for Preservation program.

And we have six grant programs:

Museums for America
Museums Empowered
Inspire! Grants for Small Museums
National Leadership Grants for Museums
Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

## Museum Assessment Program (MAP)

### American Alliance of Museums

**Program Goals:** To help small and mid-sized museums of all types strengthen operations, plan for the future, and meet professional standards

**Five Assessment Types:** Organizational, Collections Stewardship, Education & Interpretation, Community & Audience Engagement, and Board Leadership

**Applications available:** Early fall 2019

**Applications due:** December 1, 2019

**Administered by:** American Alliance of Museums, Washington DC

**Visit:** https://www.aam-us.org/map

**Call:** 202.289.9118

**Email:** map@aam-us.org

The Museum Assessment Program, or MAP, is funded by IMLS and managed by the American Alliance of Museums in Washington DC. It is available to small and mid-sized museums of all types, and its purpose is to help organizations strengthen their operations, plan for the future, and meet professional standards through self-study and a consultative site visit from an expert peer reviewer. MAP participants can choose from five assessment types.

This basic strategic and holistic **Organizational Assessment** helps a museum look at its operations primarily from the perspective of how well activities, resources, and mission align with each other, and with professional ethics, practices, and standards.

The **Collections Stewardship Assessment** focuses on practical, ethical, and strategic collections issues and activities related to the care and management of a museum's collections per professional practices and standards.

The **Education & Interpretation Assessment** helps a museum evaluate how well it is carrying out its educational role and mission, meeting core standards for education and interpretation. This assessment also looks at the museum's educational content creation and delivery from the perspective of diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion.

**The Community & Audience Engagement Assessment** focuses on the museum's awareness and understanding of, and relationship with, its various communities and

audiences; and their perception of, and experience with the museum.

The advanced **Board Leadership Assessment** is for private non-profit museums with policy-making boards and paid staff which are looking for guidance on how to strengthen their institution and ensure its long-term success through more effective leadership-oriented governance.

MAP has undergone important updates this past year, and all of us at AAM and IMLS are looking forward to the launch of the new version of this longstanding successful program. To learn more, please visit www.aam-us.org/map or call 202-289-9118. Applications will be due December 1, 2019. To be notified when the application and full program details are released, please send your contact information to map@aam-us.org.

**Collections Assessment for Preservation (CAP) for Museums**

**Program Goals:** To provide small and mid-sized museums with prioritized recommendations for improving the care of their collections

**Applications available:** ~ Fall 2019

**Anticipated deadline:** February 1, 2020

**Administered by:** The Foundation for Advancement in Conservation (FAIC), Washington DC

**Visit:** www.culturalheritage.org/cap
**Call:** 202.452.9545
**Email:** cap@culturalheritage.org

Also funded by IMLS and administered by the Foundation for Advancement in Conservation in Washington DC, the Collections Assessment for Preservation, or CAP program provides small and mid-sized museums with support for general conservation assessments. Through self-study and an onsite visit by a collections conservation specialist as well as a building specialist, CAP can assist your institution by helping you decide how to invest limited funding and staff time; facilitating the development of a long-term preservation plan, and serving as a fundraising tool for conservation projects.

Applications should be available this fall, and the anticipated deadline is February 1, 2020. For detailed information about the application process and what happens during and after the CAP process, please visit www.culturalheritage.org/cap, call 202-452-9545, or email cap@culturalheritage.org.

# Museums for America

| | |
|---|---|
| Program Goal | To strengthen the ability of an individual museum to serve its public |
| Project Categories | ▪ Lifelong Learning<br>▪ Community Anchors and Catalysts<br>▪ Collections Stewardship and Public Access |
| Deadline | *NEW!* November 15, 2019 |
| Duration | 1-3 years |
| Funding | $5,000-$250,000 |
| Cost Share | 1:1 required |
| Webinar | September 10, 2019, 2 pm, Eastern Time |

There are six IMLS museum grant programs, and we'll touch briefly on each of them. Again, our goal today is to get you on your way in choosing 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 FY2020 applications is November 15, 2019, which is new this year. Grant requests may range from $5,000 to $250,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years; projects must begin on September 1, 2020.

MFA requires a 1:1 cost share. This means that for every dollar you request from IMLS, you must plan to provide an additional dollar in cash from a non-federal source, staff or volunteer time, or third-party in-kind contributions.

We highly recommend participating in the MFA webinar, scheduled for September 10, 2019 at 2:00 pm Eastern Time, and talking with an IMLS staff member to learn more

about MFA and the kinds of projects it supports.

## Museums Empowered

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|---|---|
| Program Goal | To provide professional development and internal capacity-building opportunities for museums |
| Project Categories | ▪ Digital Technology<br>▪ Diversity and Inclusion<br>▪ Evaluation<br>▪ Organizational Management |
| Deadline | *NEW!* November 15, 2019 |
| Duration | 1-3 years |
| Funding | $5,000-$250,000 |
| Cost Share | 1:1 required |
| Webinar | September 20, 2019, 2 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 November 15, 2019. Grant requests may range from $5,000 to $250,000 for projects scheduled to last from 1 to 3 years. Projects must begin on September 1, 2020.

Museums Empowered requires a 1:1 cost share. This means that for every dollar you request from IMLS, you must plan to provide an additional dollar in cash from a non-federal source, staff or volunteer time, or third-party in-kind contributions.

The Museums Empowered webinar is scheduled for September 20, 2019 at 2 pm Eastern Time. We encourage you to participate to learn more about Museums Empowered and the kinds of projects it supports.

# Inspire! Grants for Small Museums

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| Program Goal | To support small museums in addressing priorities identified in their strategic plans |
| Project Categories | • Lifelong Learning<br>• Community Anchors and Catalysts<br>• Collections Stewardship and Public Access |
| Deadline *NEW!* | November 15, 2019 |
| Duration | 1-2 years |
| Funding | $5,000-$50,000 |
| Cost Share | None required |
| Webinar | September 18, 2019, 3 pm, Eastern Time |
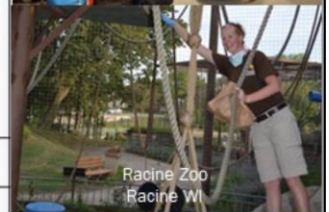
Available for a second year in 2020 is Inspire! Grants for Small Museums, designed specifically to help small museums address the priorities identified in their strategic plans. As an applicant, you must align your project with one of three project categories: Lifelong Learning, Community Anchors and Catalysts, or Collections Stewardship and Public Access.

The deadline is November 15, 2019. 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. Projects must begin September 1, 2020.

Please consider joining us for the Inspire! Grants for Small Museums webinar, scheduled for September 18, 2019 at 3:00 pm Eastern Time. Staff are also available to talk about the Inspire! Grants for Small Museum special initiative and what we've learned during its first year.

## National Leadership Grants for Museums

| Program Goal | To address critical needs of the museum field and to advance museum practice | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Project Categories | <ul><li>Collections Care and Public Access</li><li>Data, Analysis, and Assessment</li></ul> | <ul><li>Digital Platforms and Applications</li><li>Diversity and Inclusion</li><li>Professional Development</li></ul> | |
| Deadline *NEW!* | November 15, 2019 | | |
| Duration | 1 year | 1-3 years | |
| Funding Levels | $5,000-$50,000 | $50,000-$1,000,000 | $50,000-$1,000,000 |
| Cost Share | Rapid Prototyping Projects: None required | Research projects: None required | Non-research projects: 1:1 required |
| Webinar | September 17, 2019, 3 pm, Eastern Time | | |

Pacific Science Center, Seattle

American Museum of Natural History, New York NY

Museum of Science, Boston MA

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 November 15, 2019, and projects must begin September 1, 2020.

We highly recommend participating in the National Leadership Grant Program webinar scheduled for September 17, 2019 at 3 pm Eastern Time, and talking to an IMLS staff member to learn more about the program.

## Museum Grants for African American History and Culture

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| Program Goal | To build the capacity of African American museums and to support the growth and development of museum professionals at African American museums and HBCUs | |
| Deadline  *NEW!* | November 15, 2019 | |
| Duration | 1-3 years | |
| Funding Levels | $5,000-$50,000 | $50,001-$250,000 |
| Cost Share | None required | 1:1 required |
| Webinar | September 19, 2019 at 2 pm, Eastern Time | |

IMLS AAHC Convening Washington DC

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 and Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

The new deadline this year for FY2020 applications is November 15, 2019, and projects must begin September 1, 2020.

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. This means that for every dollar you request from IMLS, you must plan to provide an additional dollar in cash from a non-federal source, staff or volunteer time, or third-party in-kind contributions.

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 19, 2019 at 2 pm Eastern Time.

## Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program

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|---|---|
| Program Goal | To enhance museum services to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge among Indian tribes and organizations serving Native Hawaiians |
| Deadline *NEW!* | November 15, 2019 |
| Duration | 1-2 years |
| Funding | $5,000-$100,000 |
| Cost Share | None required |
| Webinar | September 9, 2019, 3 pm, Eastern Time |

Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

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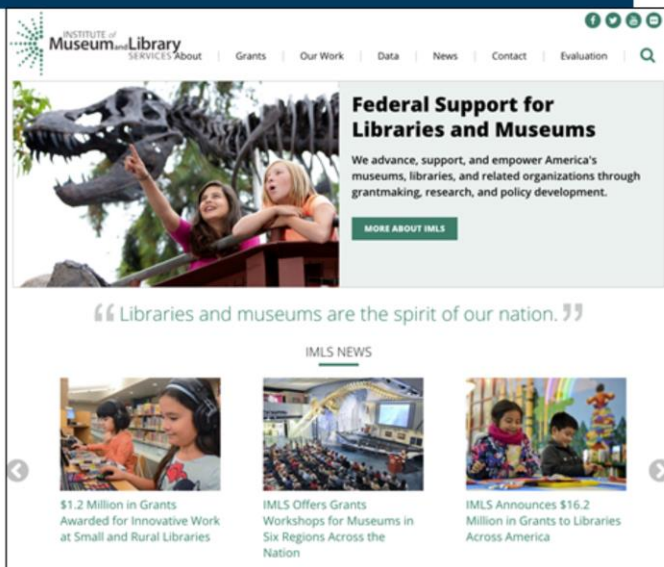
The goal of Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program is to enhance museum services in order to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge among Indian tribes and organizations serving Native Hawaiians. This program has very specific eligibility criteria, so make sure to review the details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

The deadline for FY2020 applications is November 15, 2019, and projects must begin September 1, 2020. 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.

The webinar for this grant program is scheduled for September 9 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.

# Finding Information: www.imls.gov

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

**Grant Programs**

**Apply for a Grant**

Eligibility Criteria

Sample Applications

Notices of Funding Opportunities

Outcome Based Evaluations

Manage Your Grant

Search Awarded Grants

Peer Review

## Eligibility Criteria

Each grant program has specific eligibility requirements. The links below provide general eligibility criteria for museums, libraries, and tribal organizations, but please note that additional organizations may be eligible for grants under certain programs. Additionally, ineligible organizations may still be able to participate in grant programs through partnerships with eligible organizations. Please see Applications and Guidelines for specific information.

> Museums

> Libraries

> Tribal Organizations

## Notices of Funding Opportunities

Application forms and Notices of Funding Opportunities (Grant Program Guidelines) for the current fiscal year are made available approximately 90 days before the grant deadline. Until that time, applications and guidelines from the previous year are available for your reference, but you must use the current fiscal year application when you apply.

## Application Forms

Links to application forms are provided below for your convenience. Applicants must download the application package from Grants.gov in order to apply. Consult program Notice of Funding Opportunity to determine which forms are needed for your application. For best results, download the forms to your computer and work on them outside of your internet browser.

## Sample Applications

### Museums for America
**Learning Experiences**

- Marbles Kids Museum (PDF, 1.14 MB)
- New-York Historical Society (PDF, 394 KB)
- Walker Art Center (PDF, 611 KB)
- Oakland Museum of California (PDF, 576 KB)
- Penn Museum (PDF, 292 KB)
- New Bedford Whaling Museum (PDF, 450 KB)
- Mütter Museum (PDF, 1 MB)
- Oregon Museum of Science (PDF, 576 MB)
- Armory Center for the Arts (PDF, 485 MB)
- Brooklyn Botanic Garden (PDF, 402 KB)

**Community Anchors and Catalysts**

- Denver Art Museum (PDF, 619 KB)
- Chicago History Museum (PDF, 803 KB)
- Woodland Park Zoo (PDF, 850 KB)
- EdVenture (PDF, 1.2 MB)

**Collections Stewardship and Public Access**

- Missouri Historical Society (PDF, 1.1 MB)
- Museum of the City of New York (PDF, 3.23 MB)
- South Carolina State Museum (PDF, 810 KB)
- Arizona State Museum (PDF, 542 KB)
- Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (PDF, 361 KB)
- Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum (PDF, 120 KB)
- Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens (PDF, 940 MB)

### Awarded Grants Search

| Grant Program | Program Categories | Institution Name | City |
|---|---|---|---|
| Choose some options | - Any - | | |
| State | Recipient Type | Issue Areas | Keywords |
| - Any - | - Any - | Choose some options | |
| Log Number | Fiscal Year | Sort Options | |
| | | Fiscal Year | Apply |

Download CSV    Download DOC

### Peer Review

All proposals submitted for IMLS competitive awards are reviewed by library and museum professionals who know the needs of communities, can share promising practices, and are well versed in the issues and concerns of museums and libraries today. Peer reviewers dedicate their time and expertise to advance the highest professional practices in the field. The IMLS review process is well respected, and the success of our grant programs is largely due to the expertise of our reviewers.

1. Familiarize yourself with IMLS grant programs.
   Read the Notices of Funding Opportunities. | Read Sample Applications.

2. Learn about the review process.
   Access guidance for peer reviewers by grant program.

3. Submit your information

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Here, you'll be able to explore eligibility criteria, access the Notices of Funding Opportunities which provide full instructions for preparing an application, and download sample applications. 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.
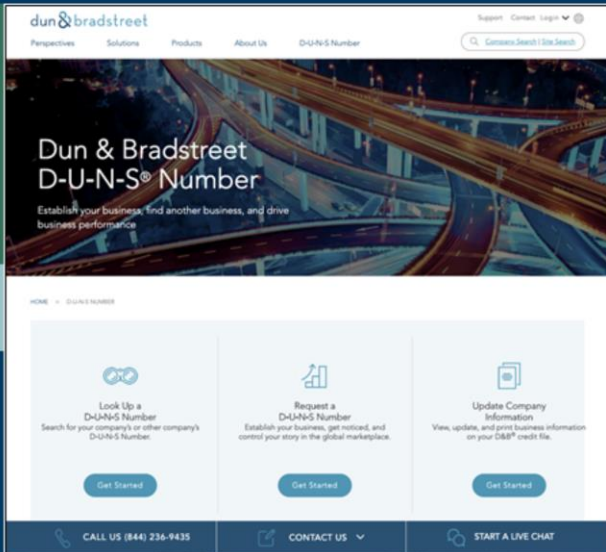
At this juncture, we want to draw your attention to three registration requirements—DUNS, SAM.gov, and Grants.gov. Your registrations must be complete and up to date in order for you to submit an application to IMLS or to receive an award. If you're starting from scratch, it's important to know that 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, please 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.

**Registering**
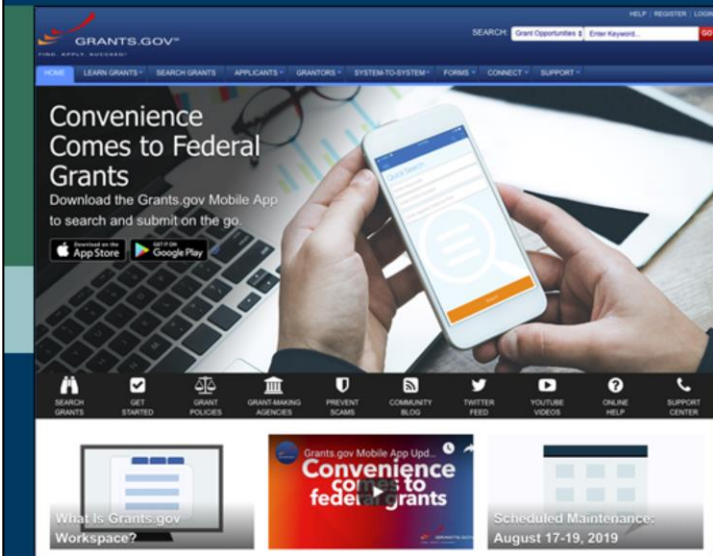
Grants.gov
Registration

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.

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.

# IMLS Office of Museum Services

Connie Bodner
cbodner@imls.gov
202.653.4636

Ashley Jones
ajones@imls.gov
202.653.4782

Steve Shwartzman
sshwartzman@imls.gov
202.653.4641

Mark Feitl
mfeitl@imls.gov
202.653.4635

Reagan Moore
rmoore@imls.gov
202.653.4637

Helen Wechsler
hwechsler@imls.gov
202.653.4779

Mark Isaksen
misaksen@imls.gov
202.653.4667

Sandra Narva
snarva@imls.gov
202.653.4634

Laura Zamarripa
lzamarripa@imls.gov
202.653.4753

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.
- FY2020 funding opportunities include two assessment programs and six grant programs.
- Each grant program has its own set of eligibility requirements.
- Each grant program supports particular types of projects aligning with programmatic goals.
- NEW! Applications to all IMLS museum grant programs are due November 15, 2019.
- NEW! All projects supported through the FY2020 funding opportunities must have a start date of September 1, 2020.
- Helpful information, staff contacts, and Notices of Funding Opportunities are on the IMLS website, www.imls.gov.
- 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. Find the recorded versions and transcripts of all our webinars here: https://www.imls.gov/webinars.

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 FY2020 include two technical assessment programs 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 supports particular **types of projects** aligning with programmatic goals. Be sure that you choose the grant program with goals that match your project's intent.

Applications to all IMLS museum grant programs are due November 15, 2019, and all projects supported through the FY2020 funding opportunities must have a start date of September 1, 2020. These are NEW dates, and important to keep in mind for your planning.

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

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.

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

**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 in November.**

Thank you and good luck!