Round #3 Emergency Relief Grants for Artists FAQ

Who is eligible?
Professional visual artists 21 years of age and older, living and working in New Mexico for the last two years, who are able to demonstrate a sustained commitment to their work, career, and a public audience, and who are experiencing dire financial emergencies due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

How are you defining visual arts?
For the sake of this opportunity, visual arts encompass painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, printmaking, installation, and film/video as well as new media, socially-engaged artistic practices, and interdisciplinary work based in visual art.

I applied during Round #1, do I need to re-submit?
Although you may use your responses from Round #1 if they are still current and reflect your financial situation, it is important that you resubmit to this round in order to be considered.

If I received funding in Round #1, can I re-apply?
While we understand the need for continued financial support, we ask that Round #1 recipients refrain from re-applying so funding can be more widely distributed to those in need.

How much funding is available and what is the most I can request?
516 ARTS will disperse 91 $1,000 grants totaling $91,000.

What can I use the funds for?
This funding is for basic living expenses such as rent, utilities, groceries, child care, and medical bills. Requests for general indebtedness (payments to credit card debt, student loans etc..) are ineligible. The funds are NOT intended to be used for project-based proposals at this time.

How will panelists make their selections?
Panelists will evaluate applications based on demonstration of both financial need and active, committed, long-term artistic practice. These grants are intended for professional artists who rely on their art practice and related activities for some or all of their income and have lost that income due to the pandemic. Panelists will show a commitment to equity that ensures diversity among awardees and the inclusion of artists whose communities are underrepresented and disproportionally effected by the pandemic.

What is required for the application?
You will be asked to submit an artist bio, curriculum vitae or resumé, statement of need, and up to 7 images of your artwork.

What are examples of financial loss that I should include in my statement of need?
Recouping financial losses due to canceled events such as exhibitions, speaking and teaching engagements, and reimbursement for travel expenses related to creative work that you paid for yourself such as attending conferences or residencies, etc.
I work primarily in the service industry but have lost opportunities as an artist, am I eligible?
Yes.

I don’t have a website; how else can I show you more of my work?
If you recently participated in an exhibition, public event, or led a workshop, share the link with us on your submission. You can also share a link to a google drive folder with images and other files.

If I am selected, how soon will I receive the funding?
Given the high volume of requests we will receive, funding will be dispersed by check or PayPal as quickly as possible following the October 15 deadline and upon receipt of the signed grant contract and W9 form.

Are there any requirements for reporting?
Yes, recipients will submit very brief reports that let us know how the money was used, which will be due 30 days after receipt of the funds.