

AMERIKA SAMOA HUMANITIES COVID-19 CARES ACT

H.E.A.R.T GRANT GUIDELINES



The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) received \$75 million in supplemental funding to assist cultural institutions and humanists affected by the coronavirus as part of the \$2.2 trillion CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid Relief Economic Security) economic stabilization plan appropriated by Congress and passed by the federal government and signed into law by President Donald Trump on March 27, 2020.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic health crisis, the National Endowment for the Humanities provided CARES Act funding for all the 56 state and territory humanities councils. The Amerika Samoa Humanities Council received funding to assist non-profit organizations who have been impacted by COVID-19. Hence, ASHC developed the Humanities Emergency Assistance Relief Term (H.E.A.R.T) Grant for this purpose.

The H.E.A.R.T grant is intended to reach a diverse network of small, medium, and large-sized cultural, humanities-focused, arts-related organizations. ASHC prioritizes at-risk organizations and other cultural nonprofits impacted by the coronavirus. It is to be used for programming and emergency general operating support and fees to humanities scholars and other individuals participating in humanities programming during this pandemic. We highly encourage organizations with limited resources or access to support, as well as organizations that serve underserved communities, to apply.

The ASHC offers two different grants:

1. EMERGENCY PROGRAM SUPPORT
2. GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT

Please note, individuals are not eligible.

Eligibility

Organizations must:

Be a non-profit organization with a 501(c)(3) tax exempt status

Be based in and serving a community in American Samoa

Have a DUNS number by the time funds are released. We accept applications without a DUNS number providing the applicant is in the process of applying for one. Funds will only be released once we receive the DUNS number. (While recommended, organizations are NOT required to be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM.gov).

Be experiencing financial hardship due to the direct effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

Financial impacts may include: lost or potentially lost revenue due to cancelled public programs and/or fundraising events; lost or potentially lost revenue from admission fees, programmatic fees or other earned income opportunities; lost or potentially lost space due to inability to pay rent, mortgage or utility payments; furlough or loss of full-time, part-time, or contracted staff due to inability to make payroll; permanent closure; inability to deliver programming resulting in reduced visibility and/or viability of the organization; or other.

Have a primary mission that is humanities focused or annually implement humanities programming designed for the general public. Humanities include the study of history, literature, culture, languages, law and political science, folklore, gender studies, religious studies, philosophy and sociology, art history, archaeology and sociocultural anthropology, and civics. While these disciplines appear broad, humanities at its essence is the process of pursuing an understanding of our shared human experience. Humanities inspire, engage, and enrich both ourselves and our communities.

Organizations with annual operating budgets of less than \$500,000

Organizations with grants currently open with Amerika Samoa Humanities Council ARE eligible to apply

Ineligibility

Organizations primarily focused on the visual and/or performing arts. However, we may consider organizations that regularly present in-depth humanities programming and content as a central part of exhibitions and/or performances.

Organizations with operating budgets of more than \$500,000

Individuals

International and for-profit entities

Political or advocacy organizations

Government entities including city, county, and municipal agencies with exception of public libraries

Universities, colleges, academic departments, public, private, or parochial schools

Funding Levels

Based on the availability of funds, ASHC has implemented the following:

Up to \$10,000 - Organizations with operating/program budgets between \$90,000 or less

Up to \$15,000 - Organizations with operating/program budgets between \$91,000 to

\$150,000

Up to \$20,000 - Organizations with operating/program budgets between \$151,000 - \$500,000

Funds may be used for:

- Staff salaries, rent, and utilities.
- Programmatic humanities offerings, whether in-person or virtual.
- Costs associated with remote work, virtual programming, and enhanced facility cleaning and sanitation. The purchase of necessary equipment, software, and technology subscriptions for these purposes is allowed.
- Matching funds are *not* required.

Funds may not be used for:

- Partisan objectives or advocacy
- Purchase of land or facilities, construction or renovations
- International travel

Priorities

- ASHC will prioritize support to organizations:
 - with core humanities missions
 - that serve communities with limited access to humanities programs
- Grants are awarded on a competitive basis, balancing applicants' demonstration of need, humanities mission, and audiences served.

Grantee Responsibilities

- Sign and complete a Grant Agreement award letter.
- Expend the grant award within a year. **No extensions allowed.**
- Submit Final Financial and Performance Report within **45 days after program closing.**
- Send an email to our Congresswoman to thank her for her support.
- Use the following acknowledgement for all digital, print, and other public communications for the project:

“Funding for this project has been provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) CARES Act through its local affiliate, Amerika Samoa Humanities Council -

Humanities Emergency Assistance Relief Term grant program.”

DEADLINE

Applications will be available **Monday, May 18, 2020** and closed **Thursday, June 18, 2020**.

ASHC CONTACT INFORMATION

E-mail ashc.office@ashcouncil.org

Call 633-4870 / 4871

Follow ASHC on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/ashcouncil.org>

Visit our office at the Lumanai Building, Fagatogo, Room LB-205

We wish all our applicants the best, please don't hesitate to reach out to our team if you have any further questions or concerns.

Funding for these grants has been provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act economic stabilization plan.



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FOR THE
HUMANITIES**

