



arts NOW grants

Application Scoring Rubric, FY2024

The Nebraska Department of Education, in partnership with the Nebraska Arts Council, is pleased to provide funding for arts education projects to Nebraska's school districts.

Provided as a Resource

This document is provided as a resource to assist applicant school districts. Arts NOW Grant applicants are encouraged to self-score their grant application to ensure the grant project meets program specifications. **Do not return this document with your application.**

DO NOT RETURN THIS DOCUMENT WITH YOUR GRANT APPLICATION.

Application Scoring Rubric

Arts NOW Grant Applications will be scored by grant reviewers using this scoring rubric. It is suggested districts self-score their application to help present the most comprehensive application possible. To better understand the scoring rubric, consult the directions to reviewers below.

Scoring Directions for Reviewers

- Please review these scoring directions before you begin reviewing and scoring the grant applications.
- If you have any specific questions, please reach out to the grant administrator before you begin your review.
- The application should reflect a grant project.
- Consider and give priority to grant projects that promote artistic excellence.
- Consider and give priority to grant projects that promote high quality arts instruction.
- Look for alignment to [Nebraska's Fine Arts Education Standards](#).
- Consider unique local insights and give priority to grant projects that clearly impact the students within the school district.
- Score the grant based against the Arts NOW Grant Scoring Rubric. Do not compare one grant application to the next, but rather focus your review on the merits of each individual application to the Arts NOW Grant Scoring Rubric.
- Consider and give priority to grant projects that will be shared and tell the school's arts education story.
- Complete the comments section on all categories. Comments may help in determining scoring ties.
- It is imperative that you, as an Arts NOW Grant reviewer, be consistent in your scoring.

The [Arts NOW Grants website](#) contains all documents for the Arts NOW Grants Program.

Eligibility Checklist

The grant administration staff will review all applications for eligibility.

Eligibility Checklist - Automatic Rejection

The grant administration staff will review all applications to ensure the applications are eligible for review. If any of these categories is not met, the grant application will be automatically rejected and will not be further reviewed nor scored.

Budget Expense Acknowledgement

The applicant school district acknowledges that only receipted expenses will be reimbursed up to the awarded amount. The applicant school district further acknowledges that any additional expenses are the responsibility of the school district.

- 0. Not Met = Rejection of application
- 1. Met

Grant Award Packet and Assurances

The applicant school district acknowledges that it has read and understands the grant award packet that indicates all grant award assurances as required by applicable laws. The applicant school district further acknowledges they have reviewed and will be able to comply with the policies, procedures, and applicable laws found in the Grant Award Packet. The school district agrees to comply with all federal nondiscrimination laws and adhere to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

- 0. Not Met = Rejection of application
- 1. Met

Authorized Representative

The applicant school district has included complete information for its authorized representative.

- 0. Not Met = Rejection of application
- 1. Met

Basic Grant Application Information

The grant administration staff will score the following categories of the grant application that are either met or not met.

Eligibility Checklist - Application Information Reviewed by Grant

Administration Staff

The grant administration staff will review all applications to ensure the following parts of the application are complete before submitting the application to the competitive reviewers.

Membership Requirements

The information, including contact person, arts educators involved, authorized representative information, and all applicable statistical information for the applicant school district is complete.

- 0. Not Met
- 1. Met

Arts Subject Area

The applicant school district indicates the arts subject areas that will be impacted by the Arts NOW Grant project.

- 0. Not Met
- 1. Met

Grant Budget

The applicant school district's grant budget is complete. No one item exceeds \$5,000.

- 0. Not Met
- 1. Met

Timeline Assurances

The applicant school district can complete purchases between the award notification date and Thursday, February 15, 2024.

- 0. Not Met
- 1. Met

The applicant school district will submit a financial report by Thursday, February 15, 2024.

- 0. Not Met
- 1. Met

The applicant school district agrees to monitor the use of purchased materials.

- 0. Not Met
- 1. Met

The applicant school district agrees to submit a narrative report by Wednesday, May 1, 2024.

- 0. Not Met
- 1. Met

Educators Involved

The arts educators involved in the project have been identified. These individuals have joined the NDE Fine Arts Education Mailing List.

- 0. Not Met
- 1. Met

Arts NOW Grant Project and Impact

The following categories will be reviewed by a panel of grant reviewers. Each category will have a page for comments. Please write comments, as they may be used to determine scoring ties.

Project & Impact Description - Student Impact

The project clearly impacts students, helping them to achieve excellence in arts education.

1. No evidence of how the project impacts students and helps them achieve excellence in arts education. No detail.
2. Poor evidence of how the project impacts students and helps them achieve excellence in arts education. Little to no detail. Project is ambiguous.
3. Limited evidence of how the project impacts students and helps them achieve excellence in arts education. Some to limited detail. Project is impact is not clear.
4. Good evidence of how the project impacts students and helps them achieve excellence in arts education. Project impact and details are adequate.
5. Excellent evidence of how the project impacts students and helps them achieve excellence in arts education. Project clearly impacts students. Details help explain the project and give a clear picture of the project.

Project & Impact Description - Instructional Impact

The project helps fine arts educators implement high quality arts instruction.

1. No evidence of how the project increases arts education instruction and helps teachers implement the high quality arts instruction for students. No detail.
2. Poor evidence of how the project increases arts education instruction and helps teachers implement the high quality arts instruction for students. Little to no detail. Project is ambiguous.
3. Limited evidence of how the project increases arts education instruction and helps teachers implement high quality arts instruction for students. Some to limited detail. Project impact is not clear.
4. Good evidence of how the project increases arts education instruction and helps teachers implement high quality instruction for students. Project details show how instruction is positively affected.
5. Excellent evidence of how the project increases arts education instruction and helps teachers implement high quality instruction for students. Project details show how instruction is greatly affected and may also have lasting effects.

Project & Impact Description - Fine Arts Standards

The project helps fine arts educators implement Nebraska's Fine Arts Standards.

1. No evidence of Nebraska's Fine Arts Standards implementation.
2. Poor implementation of Nebraska's Fine Arts Standards. Standards alignment is ambiguous.
3. Limited implementation of Nebraska's Fine Arts Standards. Limited alignment to standards.
4. Good implementation of Nebraska's Fine Arts Standards. Alignment to standards.
5. Excellent implementation of Nebraska's Fine Arts Standards. Alignment to standard is clear and meaningful and may also include standards in other content areas.

Project & Impact Description - School & Programmatic Impact

The project helps promote artistic excellence of the school's fine arts education program.

1. No evidence of artistic excellence of the school's fine arts education program.
2. Poor evidence of artistic excellence of the school's fine arts education program.
3. Limited evidence of artistic excellence of the school's fine arts education program.
4. Good evidence of artistic excellence of the school's fine arts education program.
5. Excellent evidence of artistic excellence of the school's fine arts education program.

Anticipated Outcomes - Excellence in Arts Education

The anticipated outcomes lead to excellence in arts education. The anticipated outcomes describe how artistic excellence was achieved.

1. Outcomes do not lead to excellence in arts education.
2. Outcomes lead to limited excellence in arts education.
3. Outcomes lead to good excellence in arts education.
4. Outcomes lead to excellence in arts education.
5. Outcomes lead to outstanding excellence in arts education.

Outcomes Inform Instruction

Outcomes will inform further instruction. Outcomes help guide educator effectiveness.

1. Outcomes provide poor guidance for further instruction. Outcomes may help guide educator effectiveness, but it is unclear.
2. Outcomes provide limited guidance for further instruction. Outcomes somewhat guide educator effectiveness.
3. Outcomes to provide guidance for further instruction. It is clear how the outcomes help guide educator effectiveness.
4. Outcomes provide a great deal of guidance for further instruction. Educator effectiveness is evident.
5. Outcomes provide outstanding guidance for further instruction. Educator effectiveness is clearly evident.

Project Timeline

The timeline for implementation is clear and reasonable.

1. It is not evident that the project can be implemented and completed in the time frame allotted.
2. It is uncertain if the project can be implemented and completed in the time frame allotted. Little to no detail is included.
3. The project should be able to be implemented and completed in the time frame allotted. There are some areas which may need clarification.
4. The project can be implemented and completed in the time frame allotted.
5. The project can be implemented and completed easily within the timeframe.

Student Impact and Unique Local Insights

The project clearly impacts students and clearly fulfills a need within the school.

1. No evidence of how the project impacts students and fulfills a need within the school.
2. Poor evidence of how the project impacts students and helps fulfill a need within the school. Little to no detail. Project is ambiguous.
3. Limited evidence of how the project impacts students and fulfills a need within the school. Some to limited detail. Project is impact is vague.
4. Good evidence of how the project impacts students and fulfills an articulated need within the school. Project impact and details are clear.
5. Excellent evidence of how the project impacts students and clearly fulfills a need within the school. Details clearly support the impact and need.

Sharing Your Grant News

The school is ready to share the impact that the Arts NOW Grant has on arts education in the school, with students, parents, community, and stakeholders. Acknowledgement of the NDE, NAC, and NCE in all advertising, news releases, printed programs, on social media, and other promotional and publicity materials is evident through the grant project.

1. There is no plan to share the news of the Arts NOW Grant program included.
2. The plan for sharing the news of the Arts NOW Grant program is poor. The plan does not follow the guidelines in the grant assurances packet.
3. The plan for sharing the news of the Arts NOW Grant program is limited. The plan provides some detail of sharing the impact of the Arts NOW Grant. Some of the guidelines for sharing the grant news were followed.
4. The plan for sharing the news of the Arts NOW Grant program is good. The plan provides details of sharing the impact of the Arts NOW Grant. The guidelines for sharing the grant news will be followed.
5. The plan for sharing the news of the Arts NOW Grant program is excellent. The plan provides details of sharing the impact of the Arts NOW Grant. The guidelines for sharing the grant news are followed. The promotional plan is comprehensive.

Clarity and Completeness

The application is clear and concise, with attention dedicated to finer details.

1. The grant project as described is unclear and is incomplete.
2. The grant project as described is unclear and lacks details.
3. The grant project as described is fairly clear and includes minimal details.
4. The grant project as described is clear and includes details that lead to the overall understanding of the project.
5. The grant project as described is clear with supporting details that make the impact to students clearly evident.