

Washington Festivals & Events Grant Webinar

Q&A

Q 1: Does the demonstrated loss need to be relative to the specific festival or event, OR relative to the host organization? Example: a chamber hosted a festival that was cancelled during the pandemic, so the festival clearly experienced loss. However, the overall organization was profitable.

Applicants must demonstrate financial loss – relative to the festival/event – due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021. Hosting organizations that experienced increased profits in 2020 and 2021 are still eligible to apply, however they will need to clearly state and detail the losses experienced by the festival/event in 2020 and 2021. This information can be shared in response to the “What do panelists need to know that will help them understand your request for funding?” application question.

Sample Language (limited to 2000 characters)

<Organization Name> did not experience losses in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic as detailed in our Loss Worksheet, however the <Name of Festival or Event>, that we are applying for did experience losses. In 2019 the event generated a net <profit/loss> of \$_____. In 2020 the net was \$_____ and in 2021 the net was \$_____. We ask that the review panel take this into consideration when reviewing our application. More detailed financial recaps for <Name of Festival or Event> are available, if needed.

Q2: Are festivals that were held in 2018 and 2019, but not 2020 be eligible for the grant?

Yes. The festival/event is not required to have taken place each consecutive year since 2018. However, it needs to have taken place for five or more years and draw visitors.

Q3: Are divisions of state or county government eligible to apply, or just cities, nonprofit organizations, and businesses?

Yes, state and county governments are eligible, as is tribal government.

Q4: Are Owners Associations or Homeowner’s Associations (HOAs) eligible for events that they produce?

Yes, they would be eligible to apply.

- Q5: Are hosting organizations that are located outside of the State of Washington eligible to receive the grant, so long as their festival or event is located in Washington state?**
Yes, they would be eligible.
- Q6: Are events for K-12 students and parents eligible?**
Yes, so long as the event is “festival in nature.”
- Q7: If two organizations both contribute to hosting an event, can both organizations apply for the grant?**
Both organizations can apply for the grant, but they will both need to demonstrate that they incurred a loss.
- Q8: If an organization hosted two festivals/events that are potentially eligible, could it apply for both events?**
Yes, but the organization would submit one application.
- Q9: If a festival spans multiple cities, some with over 100,000 in population that do not meet eligibility criteria, can the hosting organization apply just for the festival occurring in the cities with fewer than 100,000 people? If so, should its projected budget only reflect activities in those cities?**
Yes, and yes, the projected budget should only reflect activities tied to the festivals in the eligible cities.
- Q10: Do you have any best practices or suggestions for applicants as they're going through this application?**
If you do not yet have a [SAM.GOV](https://sam.gov) number, apply for one immediately. You will not be able to receive grant funds without one. Apply for your SAM number, and submit this grant application sooner rather than later. You don't want to wait until the last minute.

Your application should demonstrate financial loss. That is the chief criteria of this grant.
- Q 11: For organizations with gross revenue under \$50,000 that don't need to file a Form 990, will they required to provide additional information?**
Just supply your 990 N, which you're required to submit, or your E-postcard.

Q 12: If a city is applying for the grant, does it need to show loss relative to the city as a whole in the financial loss portion of the application?

The applicant will need to show the loss to the city. For the festival or event, the city will be required to submit a budget and a signed letter saying that it attests that the budget numbers are correct.

Q 13: If the event is already receiving some external financial support this year in the form of a grant, is it still eligible for this grant?

Yes. Again, the number one criteria for this grant is to show loss between 2020 and 2021.

Q 14: Are we required to supply our tax document with the application?

No, this information will be requested should you receive the grant prior to receiving funding.