

FY 2026 Appropriations Funding Requests

The appropriations process is underway for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. Part of that process includes Members of Congress hearing from their constituents through their appropriations request portal. Most Members of Congress have a system through their website where you can enter funding requests for Fiscal Year 2026. Sometimes this system includes a Google or Microsoft Form or through a 'portal' on their website. The more requests a Member of Congress receives, the more likely they are to request that amount to Congressional Appropriators.

As a constituent and valued contributor to the arts and culture sector, you are an important part of this process.

This guide is a resource to support you as you submit funding requests that will benefit the arts and culture community locally and across the country. We realize this can be time consuming, but it is one of the most direct ways a constituent can advocate for arts funding.

Some general instructions:

1. Go to the Member's website to find their programmatic appropriations request portal. Most portals are found under the "services" tab on the Member's website. Be sure to choose "appropriations requests" or "programmatic appropriations requests", NOT "Congressionally Directed Spending Requests" or "Community Project Funding Requests". The latter two choices are earmark requests. You are advocating for programmatic appropriations requests that are passed through one of the twelve appropriations bills for the given Fiscal Year.
2. Requests should come from your arts organization. Make yourself the point of contact so they know the request is coming from a constituent.
3. Use the templates provided as a guide for filling in information to the portal. Each Member has their individual questions and cues, so questions may not exactly match the template, but most should resemble these templates. If you are unsure of a question, do your best to answer it. Ultimately, it is better to have a request turned in that may not be completely correct.
4. You must enter each program submission individually. Unfortunately, not all portals repopulate your general information, so you may need to reenter your information for each program.
5. If there is a notification that the date for submissions has passed, but the portal still allows you to submit the information, fill out the form and follow up with their appropriations staff afterward. Americans for the Arts staff can help you reach out to staff.

We appreciate your efforts! Please contact Olivia Tarpley, Public Policy Manager (otarpley@artsusa.org) with any questions.

Please continue reading for specific instructions for submitting:

- National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities (NEA/NEH) funding requests
- Arts Education (including Assistance for Arts Education grants and formula funds) requests
- Corporation for Public Broadcasting requests.

National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities Funding Request

The below instructions walk through the answers (*in italics*) to questions on Congressional funding request forms for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). These answers are based on a sample request form and the form you complete for your Member of Congress may have other questions/information required. Each office creates their own request form. Please reach out to Olivia Tarpley (otarpley@artsusa.org) and Tooshar Swain (tswain@artsusa.org) if you have any questions.

2. What type of request are you making?
 - a. *Programmatic Funding Request*
 3. FY26 Funding Request
 - a. *\$209 million for each agency*
 4. FY25 Funding Level
 - a. *TBD*
 5. Last Enacted Level
 - a. *\$207 million for each agency in FY24*
 6. Is this included in the President's Budget?
 - a. *Yes*
- a.

Arts Education Funding Request

(Assistance for Arts Education grant program and Every Student Succeeds Act, Titles I, II, and IV)

The below instructions walk through the answers (*in italics*) to questions on funding request forms as it pertains to Arts Education the Assistance for Arts Education grant program and federal formula funds. This request should be submitted as an Arts Education funding request. Note that there are five funding amounts being requested, all of which are part of the request. Please reach out to Olivia Tarpley (otarpley@artsusa.org) and Tooshar Swain (tswain@artsusa.org) if you have any questions.

1. What type of request are you making?
 - a. *Programmatic Funding Request*
2. FY26 Funding Request
 - a. *\$36.5 million Assistance for Arts Education Grant Program; \$18.67 billion for Title I Part A; \$2.19 billion for Title II Part A; \$1.39 billion for Title IV Part A, Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants; \$1.329 billion for Title IV Part B.*
3. FY25 Funding Level
 - a. *TBD*
4. Last Enacted Level

National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities Funding Request

The below instructions walk through the answers (*in italics*) to questions on Congressional funding request forms for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). These answers are based on a sample request form and the form you complete for your Member of Congress may have other questions/information required. Each office creates their own request form. Please reach out to Olivia Tarpley (otarpley@artsusa.org) and Tooshar Swain (tswain@artsusa.org) if you have any questions.

2. What type of request are you making?
 - a. *Programmatic Funding Request*
3. FY26 Funding Request
 - a. *\$209 million for each agency*
4. FY25 Funding Level
 - a. *TBD*
5. Last Enacted Level
 - a. *\$207 million for each agency in FY24*
6. Is this included in the President's Budget?
 - a. *Yes*
\$36.5 million for Assistance for Arts Education Grant Program; \$18.39 billion for Title I Part A; \$2.19 billion for Title II Part A; \$1.38 billion for Title IV Part A; \$\$\$ for Title IV Part B
5. Is this included in the President's Budget?
 - a. *Yes.*
 - b. *If the form allows, you can specify that it was included in President's FY2025 Budget.*
6. Account for Request
 - a. *0014 for Assistance for Arts Education; 0900 for Title I; 0014 for Title II; 0203 for Title IV Part A and B*
7. Affected Line and PAGE of President's FY26 budget:
 - a. *N/A or TBD*
 - b. *If the form allows, you can add that the President's FY26 budget has not been released it yet.*
8. Contact Information for requesting entity
 - a. *Input your contact information.*
9. Some forms might ask for secondary contact information for Lobbyists or National Affiliates.
 - a. *If your organization has lobbyists that work on this issue, input their information.*
 - b. *If you would like to list Americans for the Arts as a National Affiliate, you can input the following information:*
 - i. *Olivia Tarpley, Public Policy Manager, Americans for the Arts*
 - ii. *1275 K St NW Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20005*
 - iii. *Email: otarpley@artsusa.org*
 - iv. *Phone: 202-712-2025*
10. Program Title: *Assistance for Arts Education grant program and Federal Formula Funds for a Well-Rounded Education*
11. Under which agency and office does the program fall?
 - a. *Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies*
12. Is this a new or existing program?

National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities Funding Request

The below instructions walk through the answers (*in italics*) to questions on Congressional funding request forms for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). These answers are based on a sample request form and the form you complete for your Member of Congress may have other questions/information required. Each office creates their own request form. Please reach out to Olivia Tarpley (otarpley@artsusa.org) and Tooshar Swain (tswain@artsusa.org) if you have any questions.

2. What type of request are you making?
 - a. *Programmatic Funding Request*
3. FY26 Funding Request
 - a. *\$209 million for each agency*
4. FY25 Funding Level
 - a. *TBD*
5. Last Enacted Level
 - a. *\$207 million for each agency in FY24*
6. Is this included in the President's Budget?
 - a. *Yes*
Existing
13. Summarize the impact of the program on the Senator's/Representative's constituents.
 - a. *Provide a description of the impact of arts education. You can also include the language below in addition to your personal story.*
 - b. *The arts and music are included as part of a "Well-Rounded Education" in federal law. This designation—alongside reading, math, science, and other subjects—is confirmation that the arts are essential to a complete education and belong as part of the main instructional day. As part of its commitment to America's success, the White House, and Congress should affirm arts education as a right for all children and encourage state and local education authorities to use federal funding to provide arts education, as is authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Not only is arts education supported by federal law, it has many tangible benefits for students. Arts education prepares students to contribute to the workforce and helps them to cultivate skills that employers are looking for in professionals. A 2019 survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers found that employers seek to hire professionals with written communication skills, problem solving capabilities, and teamwork. Arts education helps students to hone these skills.*

Corporation for Public Broadcasting Funding Request

The below instructions walk through the answers (*in italics*) to questions on funding request forms as it pertains to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Please reach out to Tooshar Swain (tswain@artsusa.org) and Olivia Tarpley (otarpley@artsusa.org) if you have any questions.

National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities Funding Request

The below instructions walk through the answers (*in italics*) to questions on Congressional funding request forms for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). These answers are based on a sample request form and the form you complete for your Member of Congress may have other questions/information required. Each office creates their own request form. Please reach out to Olivia Tarpley (otarpley@artsusa.org) and Tooshar Swain (tswain@artsusa.org) if you have any questions.

2. What type of request are you making?
 - a. *Programmatic Funding Request*
3. FY26 Funding Request
 - a. *\$209 million for each agency*
4. FY25 Funding Level
 - a. *TBD*
5. Last Enacted Level
 - a. *\$207 million for each agency in FY24*
6. Is this included in the President's Budget?
 - a. *Yes*
1. What type of request are you making?
 - a. *Programmatic Funding Request*
2. FY26 Funding Request
 - a. *\$595 million*
3. FY25 Funding Level
 - a. *TBD*
4. Last Enacted Level
 - a. *\$535 million*
5. Is this included in the President's Budget?
 - a. *Yes.*
 - b. *If the form allows, you can specify that it was included in President's FY2025 Budget.*
6. Account for Request
 - a. *0151*
7. Affected Line and PAGE of President's FY26 budget:
 - a. *N/A or TBD*
 - b. *If the form allows, you can add that the President's FY26 budget has not been released it yet.*
8. Contact Information for requesting entity
 - a. *Input your contact information.*
9. Some forms might ask for secondary contact information for Lobbyists or National Affiliates.
 - a. *If your organization has lobbyists that work on this issue, input their information.*
 - b. *If you would like to list Americans for the Arts as a National Affiliate, you can input the following information:*
 - i. *Olivia Tarpley, Public Policy Manager, Americans for the Arts*
 - ii. *1275 K St NW Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20005*
 - iii. *Email: otarpley@artsusa.org*
 - iv. *Phone: 202-712-2025*

National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities Funding Request

The below instructions walk through the answers (*in italics*) to questions on Congressional funding request forms for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). These answers are based on a sample request form and the form you complete for your Member of Congress may have other questions/information required. Each office creates their own request form. Please reach out to Olivia Tarpley (otarpley@artsusa.org) and Tooshar Swain (tswain@artsusa.org) if you have any questions.

2. What type of request are you making?
 - a. *Programmatic Funding Request*
3. FY26 Funding Request
 - a. *\$209 million for each agency*
4. FY25 Funding Level
 - a. *TBD*
5. Last Enacted Level
 - a. *\$207 million for each agency in FY24*
6. Is this included in the President's Budget?
10. Program Title: Corporation for Public Broadcasting
11. Under which agency and office does the program fall?
 - a. *Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies*
12. Is this a new or existing program?
 - a. *Existing*
13. Summarize the impact of the program on the Senator's/Representative's constituents.
 - a. *Provide a description of the impact of local radio and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in your community. You can include the language below in addition to your personal story.*
 - b. *Local noncommercial, nonprofit public television and radio stations play a vital role in bringing communities together nationwide to connect Americans through arts, cultural and educational programming featuring dance, music, theater, writing, design, culinary traditions, and more. Stations not only showcase local artists and their works which help to nurture artists and art forms, but they reach 99% of the US population, including countless rural and remote communities. They also expand access by bringing the best in drama, music, visual arts, and more into the homes and hearts of all Americans regardless of their income or where they live. This reach across America would not be possible without the broadcast and digital infrastructure that connects stations – and by extension the art venues they partner with and the communities they serve – with one another and with other public media organizations.*