2020 World Humanist Congress Travel Grants

Miami, USA, 6-9 August 2020

Humanists INTERNATIONAL

The World Humanist Congress

Humanists International can offer a limited number of grants to help Member Organizations in developing countries to send delegates to the 2020 World Humanist Congress in Miami, USA, 6-9 August 2020, to be held at Miami Hyatt Regency Hotel.

General information on the World Humanist Congress will be available at the World Humanist Congress website from 1st October 2019:
humanists.international/2020-world-humanist-congress

About the grants

The grants are financed by Humanists International and are given to organizations, not to individuals.

Grants will cover the full costs of the World Humanist Congress fee and up to 75% of the travel costs to Miami and the accommodation in Miami from 6-9 August 2020 (4 nights). The remaining share, and any other associated costs will be met by the delegate.

Who can apply?

Only member organizations of Humanists International can apply for the grants. Non-member organizations might apply for the grants if they have submitted an application for membership which is in progress: humanists.international/become-a-member-organization

Grants will be awarded only to applicants from developing countries. It is a requirement that neither the applicant nor the organization they represent can afford to cover the full cost of the travel and accommodation.

IMPORTANT: visa requirement

Please notice that a strict requirement for the payment of the grant is to have obtained a valid visa for the USA. Apart from a letter of invitation, Humanists International is not responsible for making or supporting a visa application. The awarded organization is the only responsible for the visa application process. **Prior to making any payment, Humanists International strictly needs to receive an official proof that the visa has been obtained** by the awarded organization.

IMPORTANT: Attendance requirement

Another requirement for the award of the grant is expected to attend all events organized by Humanists International and by the American Humanist Association from the 6 August to 9 August 2020. For this reason, please carefully plan your trip to USA, booking your inbound flights before the 6 August and your outbound flight after the 9 August.

IMPORTANT: Membership fees requirement

Finally, the Travel Grants Committee will not take into consideration applications coming from organizations who still haven't paid their 2019 Membership fees. For this reason, please make sure that your organization has already paid its 2019 Membership fees before applying for a travel grant.

Application procedures and timetable

1. *Application period* (6 September 2019 - 13 October 2019)

All Member Organizations of Humanists International can apply for the travel grants filling in this form:

https://forms.gle/9xRcvzzniVKtQoEL7

The deadline for all applications is **13 October 2019 at 12AM (GMT)**. Applications received after this date might be accepted by the Travel Grant Committee, at its sole discretion.

2. *Award* (by 20 October)

The Travel Grant Committee evaluates all applications and decides on the allocation of the grants. Then, **by 20 October**, the Committee sends to the awarded organizations an agreement to be signed by both parts. The awarded organizations have to read and sign the agreement **before 26 October**, sending it back to grants@humanists.international. Once all agreements have been received, the Committee will send an acknowledgment message also to all other organizations not awarded with a grant.

3. *Visa and flights booking* (26 October - 26 February)

On the reception of the completed grant agreement Humanists International will send a letter of invitation to the representative of the awarded organization. Humanists International will prepare the letter with the information provided by the awarded organization. The more information will be included in the letter, the more likely it will be accepted by the USA visa bureau.

The awarded organization has to apply for visa as soon as possible, given that the visa procedures are usually long and complicated. In the past years some awardees could not actually use the grant because of a visa rejection. All information about how to obtain a visa for the US can be found on the website of the US government: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas.html

A this point, the awarded organization has to send to grants@humanists.international:

- a proof of the visa (mandatory);
- the receipt of the flights to/from Miami (facultative at this point, but mandatory later)
- the receipt of the accommodation booking (facultative at this point, but mandatory later)

On receipt of these documents, Humanists International will make the payment of the grant as agreed.

4. *Attendance* (6-9 August 2020)

As already underlined above, the person awarded with the grant is expected to attend all events organized by Humanists International and by the American Humanist Association from 6-9 August 2020. After the event, Humanists International will contact this person for feedback on his/experience and to collect missing receipts, if any.

Suggested accommodations

- The hotel where we are holding the conference is:

Hyatt Regency Miami
400 South East Second Avenue
Miami, FL 33131
miami.regency.hyatt.com

- Other hotels within walking distance to the Hyatt Regency include:

Courtyard Miami Downtown/Brickell
(3 minute walk; 0.2 miles)
200 SE 2nd Avenue
Miami, FL 33131
https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/miadt-courtyard-miami-downtown-brickell-area/

Aloft Miami - Brickell
(15-20 minute walk; approx. 1 mile)
1001 SW 2nd Avenue
Miami, FL 33130
https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/miaba-aloft-miami-brickell/

Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Miami Brickell
(15 minute walk; 0.8 miles)
50 SW 12th Street
Miami, FL 33130
http://www.hamptoninnmiamibrickell.com/

If attendees would like to find a room/apartment from an individual to rent, they can use these two websites:

airbnb.com
vrbo.com