NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Notice of Funding Opportunity

Endowments for Advancing the Humanities

Funding Opportunity Number: 20270113-CHE

Funding Opportunity Type: New

Federal Assistance Listing Number: 45.043

Application Deadline: January 13, 2027

Ensure your SAM.gov and Grants.gov registrations and passwords are current.
It may take several weeks to register with SAM.gov and Grants.gov.
NEH will not grant deadline extensions for lack of registration.

Division of Collections & Infrastructure
Email: collections@neh.gov
Telephone: 202-606-8570
Telecommunications Relay Service: 7-1-1

OMB control number 3136-0134, expiration date October 31, 2027

Executive Summary

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Division of Collections and Infrastructure is accepting applications for the Endowments for Advancing the Humanities program. This program funds endowments that strengthen the financial stability of organizations and that sustain long-term work in the humanities on college and university campuses and at independent educational and research institutions by building capacity in research and teaching in the following areas: Western civilization and America's place in it; great works of literature, history, philosophy, and theology and their relevance to contemporary questions; the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; civic education; civil discourse; cultural literacy, and the practice of close reading. A combination of NEH federal matching funds and non-federal gifts finances the endowments.

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) provides application information unique to Endowments for Advancing the Humanities, including program-specific requirements, allowable activities, review criteria, and formatting instructions. Refer to NEH's General Application Guide for Awards to Organizations for standard instructions that apply to all NEH funding programs for organizations. Together, this NOFO and the general guidelines provide all the information you need to complete and submit your application to NEH.

Funding Opportunity Title	Endowments for Advancing the Humanities
Funding Opportunity Number	20270113-CHE
Federal Assistance Listing Number	45.043
Application Deadline	January 13, 2027, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time
Anticipated Award Announcement	July 2027
Anticipated Funding	Approximately $10,000,000
Estimated Number and Type of Awards	Approximately 5 grants
Award Amounts	Between $1,000,000 and $3,000,000 in NEH federal matching funds, plus an additional $100,000 in outright funds for fundraising support costs
Cost Sharing/Match Required	Yes. Match ratio 1:1 of non-federal gifts. See B.2 Summary of Funding.
Period of Performance	Up to 3 years; Period of Performance must start between November 1, 2027, and January 1, 2028.
Eligible Applicants	• nonprofit organizations recognized as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code • accredited institutions of higher education (public or nonprofit) • state and local governments and their agencies • federally recognized Native American Tribal governments See C. Eligibility Information for additional information.
Program Resource Page	https://www.neh.gov/program/endowments-advancing-humanities
Published	November 2, 2026

Table of Contents

A. Program Description 1

1. Purpose 1
2. Funding Restrictions 2
3. Background 3

B. Federal Award Information 5

1. Type of Application and Award 5
2. Summary of Funding 5

C. Eligibility Information 7

1. Eligible Applicants 7
2. Other Eligibility Information 7

D. Application Contents 7

1. Application Component Table 8
2. Application Elements 9
3. Budget Instructions Specific to this Program 13

E. Application Review Information 14

1. Review Criteria 14
2. Review Process 15
3. Intergovernmental Review 15

F. Submission Information 15

1. Application Package 15
2. Submission Instructions 15

G. Award Notices 16

1. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates 16
2. Federal Award Documents 16
3. Administrative and National Policy Requirements Specific to This Program 16

H. Annual and Final Reporting 16

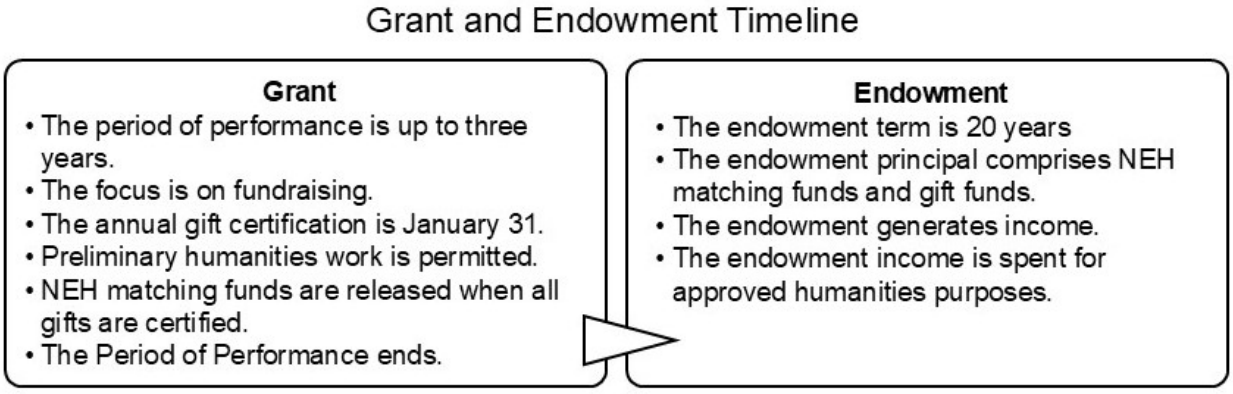
I. Agency Information 17

A. Program Description

1. Purpose

Endowments for Advancing the Humanities awards provide funds for 20-year term endowments to support long-term work in the humanities. Endowments can increase the impact of humanities organizations by providing consistent funding over many years. NEH is accepting applications that advance the humanities on college and university campuses and at independent educational and research institutions by building capacity in research and teaching in at least one of the following areas: Western civilization and America's place in it; great works of literature, history, philosophy, and theology and their relevance to contemporary questions; the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; civic education; civil discourse; cultural literacy, and the practice of close reading. Projects may take a variety of approaches to the topic(s), drawing on fields such as philosophy, history, languages and literature, political science, archaeology, and the classics.

This program has two parts: The **Grant**, with a period of performance of up to three years, and the **Endowment**, with a 20-year restricted term.



You may propose a period of performance for the grant of up to three years to raise and certify non-federal gifts that will be matched one-to-one with NEH federal matching funds. Under this notice, "gifts" are defined as contributions of third-party non-federal funds or the recipient's own institutional funds. Once you have certified the required amount of non-federal gifts and established the endowment, the 20-year endowment term will begin.

You may request up to an additional $100,000 in outright funds for fundraising support costs (salaries, consultants, contracts, or subawards, for fundraising personnel only) and related indirect costs during the grant period of performance. Your application will include a thorough explanation of this one- to three-year fundraising plan.

Your application should describe how endowment funds would increase the capacity and impact of work in the humanities at your institution during the 20-year restricted endowment term. You will provide details for implementing this work and a proposed spending plan for the anticipated income. You must also include information about the fiscal health of your organization and how the endowment will be managed.

Endowments are intended to support humanities costs that occur predictably and repeatably over at least 20 years. **NEH encourages applicants to support salaried positions for humanities-based personnel such as academic faculty, fellowships, and/or graduate students.** Endowments may also support other humanities programming, such as publications and lecture series, research stipends and symposia, curriculum development and training seminars, and K-12 outreach programs.

During its 20-year term, the endowment is restricted. Only the income generated by the endowment may be used for the purposes proposed in your application and approved by NEH; the endowment principal (both the federal match and non-federal gift funds) must remain intact. At the conclusion of the term, recipients may choose to continue the fund, grow it, or spend down the principal; however, in all cases, endowment expenditures must remain restricted to the allowable purposes originally approved.

Allowable costs and activities, as well as funding restrictions for endowment funds, will be detailed in the terms and conditions for awards. Consult the Administrative Guidance for NEH Endowments for additional information.

Intended applicants

Your application must clearly articulate how your organization engages with research and teaching of Western civilization and America's place in it; great works of literature, history, philosophy, and theology and their relevance to contemporary questions; the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; civic education; civil discourse; cultural literacy, or the practice of close reading. This program is intended for colleges and universities, and their humanities-centered sub-units, as well as independent educational and research organizations. **Eligible applicants that do not work primarily in the humanities must describe how the proposed endowment advances the humanities in the above topic areas within and/or beyond their organizations.**

Program outputs and outcomes

Program outputs are the tangible products that result from the award during the grant period of performance. The output for all Endowments for Advancing the Humanities awards is the creation of a 20-year term endowment.

Project outcomes of an Endowments for Advancing the Humanities award refer to the long-term impact of the endowment and may vary. The outcomes of an award will involve strengthening the recipient organization and building its capacity in research and teaching of Western civilization and America's place in it; great works of literature, history, philosophy, and theology and their relevance to contemporary questions; the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; civic education; civil discourse; cultural literacy, or the practice of close reading.

You must describe your output (the creation of a term endowment) and how it would support the project outcomes in the application Attachment 1: Narrative. If you receive an award, NEH will assess your performance by comparing the outputs proposed in the application against those reported in your performance reports. See H. Annual and Final Reporting.

2. Funding Restrictions

You may not use funds made under this notice for the following purposes:

Restricted activities:

- promotion of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view
- promotion of gender ideology
- promotion of discriminatory equity ideology
- support for diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) or diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) initiatives or activities
- environmental justice initiatives or activities
- advocacy of a particular program of social or political action
- support of specific public policies or legislation
- lobbying

Programmatic exclusions:

- projects that fall outside of the humanities
- the creation or performance of art
- creative writing, autobiographies, memoirs, and creative nonfiction
- policy studies
- social science research that does not address humanistic questions and/or utilize humanistic methods
- supplementing an existing endowment fund
- scholarships
- acquisition of collections

Unallowable costs:

- legal or administrative fees for endowment management
- fundraising not specific to the project
- general operating costs
- high risk investments (see Administration of Endowment Awards)
- repayment of existing loans or debt
- costs for activities performed by federal entities or personnel
- acquisition, repair, or improvement of real estate
- fiscal agent and fiscal sponsor fees
- fiscal agent activities alone without substantive involvement (e.g. proposal submissions, reporting, financial oversight, maintaining IRS status)

See 2 CFR 200 Subpart E - Cost Principles for other unallowable costs.

If your application includes unallowable costs or activities, NEH will deem it to be nonresponsive and reject it.

3. Background

NEH offers this funding opportunity under the authority of 20 U.S.C. § 956 (h) of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965. This statute allows NEH to enable "cultural organizations and institutions to increase the levels of continuing support" and to provide "administrative and management improvements for cultural organizations and institutions, particularly in the field of long-range financial planning," among other activities, through Challenge Programs. NEH Challenge awards require federal funds to be matched by non-federal gifts at a ratio of no less than one-to-one.

Activities and costs during the endowment award's period of performance are subject to the following parts of 2 CFR Part 200:

- Subpart D—Post Federal Award Requirements
  - § 200.300 Statutory and national policy requirements
  - § 200.302 Financial management
  - § 200.303 Internal controls
  - § 200.306 Cost sharing or matching
  - § 200.308 Revision of budget and program plans
  - § 200.309 Modifications to Period of Performance
  - § 200.317 - § 200.327 Procurement standards
  - § 200.328 Financial reporting
  - § 200.329 Monitoring and reporting program performance
  - § 200.331 Subrecipient and contractor determinations
  - § 200.332 Requirements for pass-through entities
  - § 200.334 - § 200.338 Record retention and access
  - § 200.339 - § 200.343 Remedies for noncompliance
  - § 200.344 Closeout
  - § 200.345 Post-closeout adjustments and continuing responsibilities

- Subpart E—Cost Principles-all. Note that § 200.442(a) Fundraising and investment management costs permits fundraising for meeting the program objectives with prior written approval.

- Subpart F—Audit Requirements, 2 CFR § 200.502 (e).

Awards are subject to the NEH General Terms and Conditions for Awards to Organizations and the Administration of NEH Endowment Awards.

Once established, NEH-supported endowments are subject to appendices A and B of the Administration of NEH Endowment Awards, and the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) of your state or, where a state law does not exist, the District of Columbia. Additionally, endowment funds are subject to the audit requirements of 2 CFR 200 Subpart F as long as the endowment exists.

Under Section 3(a) of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, "The term 'humanities' includes, but is not limited to, the study of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts; those aspects of the social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history and to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life."

Use the Funded Projects Query Form to find examples of NEH-supported projects.

Learn more about NEH.

B. Federal Award Information

1. Type of Application and Award

NEH seeks new applications in response to this notice. NEH will provide funding in the form of term endowment awards.

2. Summary of Funding

Award amounts

You may request between $1,000,000 and $3,000,000 in federal matching funds. You may request up to an additional $100,000 in outright funds for fundraising support costs (salaries, consultants, contracts, or subawards for fundraising personnel only) and related indirect costs. Refer to NEH's General Application Guide for Awards to Organizations for information about indirect costs.

Your request should be appropriate to your organization's fundraising capacity. See Matching Requirements for information on match ratios and eligible gifts.

If your application is successful, you will receive an award of NEH federal matching funds that is held until you meet NEH award terms and conditions and submit gift certifications that are approved by NEH (see Administration of NEH Endowment Awards). NEH will release federal matching funds only when you have certified all gifts. If you fail to certify the full amount by the end of your grant period of performance, NEH may consider releasing partial federal matching funds provided you have certified a minimum of $500,000 of non-federal gifts. In this scenario, the remaining NEH award amount is forfeited, and the award will be closed out.

NEH will not determine the funding available each fiscal year until Congress enacts the agency's final budget. Accordingly, NEH issues this NOFO subject to the availability of appropriated funds, and it does not obligate NEH to make any awards.

Grant Period of Performance

You may request a period of performance between one and three years to certify matching gifts and establish and fund the term endowment. The period of performance must start on the first day of the month and end on the last day of the month.

During the grant period of performance, you will focus on raising the required non-federal gifts to match the NEH award. NEH will monitor your fundraising progress through your annual reporting and gift certifications, referencing the plan you provide in your application. You may certify non-federal gifts once per year. NEH will hold your award until all gifts have been raised and certified, at which point the full amount of NEH federal matching funds will be released for you to transfer into an income-earning restricted or similar endowment account. You may also use the grant period of performance to prepare for endowment funded activities in endowment term. The grant period of performance ends once fundraising has been completed, all gifts are certified and accepted by NEH, and the endowment has been established.

You may request a single one-year extension to the grant period of performance, if necessary, to raise the remainder of your required gifts.

Endowment Term

The **endowment term** is the restricted 20-year period when you use income from the endowment for NEH-approved humanities purposes. The endowment principal must remain intact during this period.

You may establish your endowment with eligible non-federal gifts at any time. NEH will release all federal matching funds when you have certified all gifts or at the end of grant's period of performance, if you have certified a minimum of $500,000. The 20-year endowment term begins when NEH funds are deposited in the endowment.

At the conclusion of the 20-year term, your endowment governing body may choose one of the following options. In all cases, expenditures must remain restricted to the allowable activities and purposes originally approved by NEH.

a) Continue the endowment by maintaining the principal and spending only the income.
b) Grow the endowment by reinvesting some or all the income or adding additional non-federal gifts.
c) Spend down the endowment principal at a rate determined by the governing body.

Matching requirements

To receive NEH federal matching funds, you must certify eligible gifts from non-federal sources (see Administration of NEH Endowment Awards). All applicants will use a match ratio of one-to-one; for every dollar in NEH federal matching funds you request, you must certify one dollar in gifts.

Eligibility of gifts

You must raise gifts from non-federal sources consistent with the Administration of NEH Endowment Awards.

Both restricted gifts (gifts that are given specifically in support of a project) and unrestricted gifts (gifts that may be used at the recipient's discretion) are eligible to be matched. **NEH encourages applicants to raise gifts from third-party sources to broaden the base of institutional support for the purposes and activities proposed in the application and for the humanities.**

You may certify pledges only after they are realized in cash. Certain types of gifts, such as real estate and planned giving, are subject to special limitations. In-kind contributions are not eligible gifts in this program.

Detailed guidance on eligible gifts, and on submitting the Certification of Matching Gifts form and any required supporting documentation is available in the Administration of NEH Endowment Awards.

You must maintain auditable records documenting the source and use of cost share, consistent with 2 CFR § 200.306.

C. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

To be eligible to apply, your organization must be established in the United States or its jurisdictions as one of the following:

- a nonprofit organization recognized as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- an accredited institution of higher education (public or nonprofit)
- a state or local government or one of their agencies
- a federally recognized Native American Tribal government

Individuals and other organizations, including foreign and for-profit entities, are ineligible.

NEH does not provide financial assistance to foreign institutions or organizations.

NEH does not issue awards to other federal entities. If your project is so closely intertwined with a federal entity that the project takes on characteristics of the federal entity's own authorized activities, it is ineligible.

The recipient may not function solely as a fiscal agent but should make substantive contributions to the success of the project. Fiscal sponsors applying on behalf of an ineligible organization are not eligible to apply.

2. Other Eligibility Information

Your organization may submit only one application for Endowments for Advancing the Humanities per deadline. This includes applications from subordinate units under a parent organization.

If you submit multiple applications, NEH will accept only your last validated submission prior to the deadline under the applicable Grants.gov funding opportunity.

D. Application Contents

You must apply using Grants.gov Workspace or a Grants.gov system-to-system solution. You can find this funding opportunity in Grants.gov under number 20270113-CHE. There is also a link on the program resource page.

See the Application Component Table below to learn what a complete application entails, and the sections following it for information about the content of those components.

See NEH's General Application Guide for Awards to Organizations for application component designations, page limits, formatting requirements, and submission rules, as well as instructions for the Grants.gov forms in your application package (SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance, Supplementary Cover Sheet for NEH Programs, Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form, Attachments form, lobbying forms, and the Research and Related Budget form and accompanying budget justification).

NEH will not review applications missing any required documents or relevant conditionally required documents.

If you include application elements other than those listed in the table, NEH will reject your application.

If your application exceeds mandatory page limits or deviates from formatting instructions, NEH will reject it.

1. Application Component Table

Application Component	File Name	Designation	Page limit
Attachments			
1: Narrative	narrative.pdf	Required	10 (mandatory)
2: Work plan (grant award: fundraising)	workplan.pdf	Required	2 (suggested)
3. Endowment income spending plan (20-year term)	spendingplan.pdf	Required	2 (suggested)
4: Institutional profile and financial documentation	profile.pdf	Required	8 (suggested)
5: Résumés	resumes.pdf	Required	2 pages per résumé (suggested)
6: Letters of commitment and support	letters.pdf	Required	1 per letter (suggested)
7: Other supporting documentation	documentation.pdf	Optional	15 (suggested)
8: Certification of gifts	certification.pdf	Optional	
9: Subrecipient budget(s)	subrecipient.pdf	Conditionally required	
10: Federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement	agreement.pdf	Conditionally required	
11: Explanation of delinquent federal debt	delinquentdebt.pdf	Conditionally required	

Application Component		Designation	
Grants.gov forms			
SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance - Short Organizational		Required	
Supplementary Cover Sheet for NEH Grant Programs		Required	
Project/Performance Site(s) Location Form		Required	
Research and Related Budget and Budget Justification		Required	
Attachments Form		Required	
Certification Regarding Lobbying		Conditionally required	
Standard Form-LLL "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities"		Conditionally required	

2. Application Elements

Attachment 1: Narrative (required)

Compose a comprehensive description of your proposed project. Your narrative should be succinct, well organized, and free of technical terms and jargon so that peer reviewers can understand the proposed project. Per the Policy on the Use of Artificial Intelligence for NEH Grant Proposals, you must acknowledge (by use of footnotes or other marginal notations) when you have inserted AI-generated text into your proposal.

You must limit the narrative to ten pages. Do not include an executive summary, cover page, or table of contents. You may include images, charts, diagrams, footnotes, or endnotes if they fit within the page limit. **Name the file narrative.pdf**.

Organize your narrative using the following headings. Each section aligns with one or more review criteria NEH will use to evaluate your proposal.

Organizational humanities significance (aligns with review criterion 1)

Briefly describe your organization or institutional unit, including its mission and governance. Describe the significance and intellectual quality of the educational activities, research, and programs that you currently offer in the humanities. Describe why this work is important and to whom. Describe your organization's history, track record, and impact in the humanities at a local, regional, national, and/or international level. You may refer to the institutional profile in Attachment 4.

Advancing the humanities with endowment funds (aligns with review criteria 1 and 2)

Provide a detailed description of your plans for endowment funds and how they will advance your organization's humanities mission and increase its capacity and impact for research and teaching of Western civilization and America's place in it; great works of literature, history, philosophy, and theology and their relevance to contemporary questions; the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; civic education; civil discourse; cultural literacy, or the practice of close reading. Describe whether the plans for endowment funds would establish something new or grow from existing work. How does this relate to current long-range planning? What is your vision for this work over 20 years?

Describe any positions to be funded with endowment income, their responsibilities, and how they would be incorporated into your institution or unit's organizational chart. State whether the position(s) to be endowed are new or existing at your organization. Describe planning or hiring activities that may take place during the grant period of performance.

If applicable, describe any other activities that would be funded with endowment income and how they advance the same goals, increase capacity, and amplify your organization's impact. Outline how they produce repeatable and predictable costs and on what schedule. Provide information about past work that would inform these activities during the endowment term. (for example, past lecturers, reading lists, or seminar topics). You may use Attachment 7 to provide additional information or examples. Describe planning that may take place for these activities during grant period of performance.

Describe how you will measure and communicate the impact of your work funded by endowment income during endowment term.

Fundraising and investment plan (aligns with review criterion 3)

Demonstrate your organization's financial stability and its past record of fundraising for humanities initiatives. Provide an explanation of your plan to raise the matching funds for the endowment. If this is part of a larger campaign, describe the strategies specific to this effort.

Delineate the fundraising strategy and provide a timeline with annual benchmarks for raising all gifts. Provide information on prospect identification and development, as well as any pledges or gifts in hand at the time of application submission.

Indicate if you plan to request extra funds for fundraising support costs (salaries, consultants, contracts, or subawards for fundraising personnel only) and related indirect costs.

Provide an overview of your organization's governance policies for endowments and likely investment strategies. You may refer to the management, portfolio, and performance of other endowments at your institution as relevant. If applicable, describe how restricted endowment funds are managed separately from general operating or other endowments. Consult the Administration of Endowment Awards for NEH requirements on governance structure, investment policies, and spend policies.

You will provide recent financial statements in Attachment 4: Institutional profile and financial documentation.

Key personnel (aligns with review criterion 4)

Describe the roles and responsibilities of key personnel at your organization who will manage the effort to raise and certify gifts for the endowment during grant period of performance. Identify, also, those who will lead planning efforts for the humanities work to be funded by the endowment during the 20-year term. Briefly explain their roles and experience. Do the same for external consultants and advisors, if applicable, and explain whether they are already engaged or need to be hired.

Identify the people and/or positions that will be active during the endowment term, for example, to do the research and teaching of Western civilization and America's place in it; great works of literature, history, philosophy, and theology and their relevance to contemporary questions; the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; civic education; civil discourse; cultural literacy, or the practice of close reading; to set a vision and strategic priorities; to hire personnel; and to direct and implement the work. Include both positions funded by endowment income and those that would work with them. Address any organizational planning to ensure the work would continue over the 20-year term.

Explain who will manage and govern endowment funds and how.

You may refer to Attachment 5: Résumés of key personnel.

Attachment 2: Work plan (grant award: fundraising) (required)

The work plan should include:

1. An overview of fundraising activities, including relevant benchmarks, designated staff, and tangible annual fundraising goals
2. A schedule of your plans for annual gift certifications, including projected amounts to be raised each year. NEH's annual certification deadline is January 31.
3. Details about when and how the endowment fund will be established

Additionally, you may provide information about planning activities for the work that would be funded by the endowment during the 20-year term.

Name the file workplan.pdf.

Attachment 3: Endowment income spending plan (20-year term) (required)

Provide details about anticipated annual income and/or draw-down rate for the endowment and how this income would be split among project activities that produce predictable and repeatable costs. Note: you will not include this information in the Research and Related budget and Budget Justification attachments, which cover only the grant period of performance.

Name the file spendingplan.pdf.

Attachment 4: Institutional profile and financial documentation (required)

Provide an institutional profile of approximately one page that covers the following. As relevant, provide this information specifically as it pertains to your institutional unit (i.e. a school within a university) rather than for the parent organization as a whole:

1. Relevant facts and statistics about the institution or organization, including its:
    a. history
    b. mission
    c. governance and administration
    d. physical facilities (including whether the applicant institution owns or leases structures)
    e. annual operating budget amounts for the last three fiscal years
    f. staff size and composition (including the percentage of all staff who are in the humanities)
    g. accreditation or affiliation, if applicable

2. Data on recent humanities activities, including:
    a. types and numbers of enrollments, programs, exhibitions, courses, and degrees awarded in the past two years; include the humanities fields engaged
    b. percentage of total programs and offerings that are in the humanities
    c. size and nature of audience or population served, including annual visitor numbers and the metrics used to determine them
    d. cost to participants (if any)
    e. evidence for the success of these humanities activities

If available, provide a URL for the institution's latest annual report.

Provide financial documentation to demonstrate the fiscal health of the organization and plans for managing the endowment. Include audited financial statements or a summary of operating income and expenditures for the past three years, as well as endowment performance information. Where the application concerns a sub-unit of a larger whole (for example, a library on a university campus), summaries for the smaller unit are sufficient. For organizations that are not institutions of higher education, include IRS Form 990 (12 pages without additional schedules) for the past three years. Applicants should explain significant operating surpluses or deficits in accompanying notes.

Provide information about planned investment and management strategies for the endowment.

Name the file profile.pdf.

Attachment 5: Résumés for key personnel (required)

Include brief résumés for the project director and other staff with major responsibilities for fundraising, endowment management, or implementation of humanities activities. Include key consultants, if applicable.

Résumés should not exceed two pages in length per person. **Name the file resumes.pdf**.

Attachment 6: Letters of commitment (required) and support (optional)

Provide **letters of commitment** from appropriate officials, such as the president, provost, executive director, or board of directors, confirming the institution's commitment to the humanities, to the fundraising effort, and to the proposed plans for the endowment term.

Letters of support may come from within or outside your institution and should demonstrate the significance, audience, and impact for your current and proposed work. Letters pledging

financial support to the fundraising effort are allowed. Do not include more than three of these optional letters.

Elected government officials, NEH staff, and current members of the National Council on the Humanities may not serve as letter writers. **Name the file letters.pdf**.

Attachment 7: Other supporting documentation (optional)

You may include other relevant documents to support your application, including materials that illustrate your institution's past or current humanities activities, such as curricula, reading lists, programming and/or exhibition materials, organizational brochures, or evaluation materials (metrics or survey documents). You may also include job descriptions for any positions or fellowships that would be supported during the endowment term.

Other supporting documentation should not exceed 15 pages. **Name the file documentation.pdf.**

Attachment 8: Certification of gifts (optional)

You may certify gifts with your application. Complete the Endowment Gift Certification Form and provide any required supporting documentation. For information on gift eligibility and certification, see Administration of NEH Endowment Awards. **Name the file certification.pdf**.

Attachment 9: Subrecipient budget(s) (conditionally required)

If your project includes subawards, you must provide a separate Research and Related Budget form and budget justification for each subrecipient. **Name the file subrecipient.pdf**.

Attachment 10: Federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (conditionally required)

You may charge indirect costs on expenses for fundraising support only. If your organization is claiming indirect costs and has a current federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, provide a copy of the agreement. If applicable, provide the indirect cost rate agreements for subrecipients claiming indirect costs. If you and your subrecipients are requesting the de minimis rate of 15%, you do not need to submit this attachment. **Name the file agreement.pdf**.

Attachment 11: Explanation of delinquent federal debt (conditionally required for recipients)

If your organization is delinquent in the repayment of any federal debt, explain why. Provide evidence that you have entered into a repayment agreement with the Internal Revenue Service, if applicable, and that you are current on all payments due. Examples of relevant debt include delinquent payroll or other taxes, audit disallowances, and benefit overpayments. See OMB Circular A-129. **Name the file delinquentdebt.pdf**.

3. Budget Instructions Specific to this Program

See NEH's General Application Guide for Awards to Organizations for instructions on completing your budget and budget justification.

Endowment principal

Enter the amount for the endowment principal (NEH federal matching funds plus the required non-federal gifts) in **F8. Other Direct Costs**.

Fundraising support

Enter direct costs for fundraising personnel in **A. Senior/Key Person**, **B. Other Personnel, F3. Other Direct Costs, Consultant Services** or **F5. Subawards/Consortium/Contractual Costs.**

Per 2 CFR 200.442, fundraising costs require prior written approval and are unallowable unless they meet the federal program objectives.

Do not enter any costs in the Research and Related Budget for these categories:

C. Equipment
D. Travel
E. Participant/Trainee Support Costs
F. Other Direct Costs: 1. Materials and Supplies, 2. Publication Costs, 4. Automated Data Processing (ADP)/Computer Services, 6. Equipment or Facility Rental Fees, and 7. Alterations and Renovations.
J. Fee

Indirect costs

You may calculate indirect costs on the federal share of expenses for fundraising support only.

E. Application Review Information

1. Review Criteria

Peer reviewers will use the following criteria to review applications under this notice:

1. Significance to the Humanities and Impact: The scope and significance of the applicant's work in the humanities. The potential impact of the endowment on the applicant's long-term work in research and teaching of Western civilization and America's place in it; great works of literature, history, philosophy, and theology and their relevance to contemporary questions; the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; civic education; civil discourse; cultural literacy, or the practice of close reading.

2. Plans for Endowment Income: The strength, clarity, and level of detail of the proposed plans for endowment income during the 20-year term. The extent to which the endowment would fund predictable and repeatable costs. The significance and likely impact of any salaried positions, fellowships, and/or graduate students to be funded with endowment income. The plans for assessment and communication of the award's impact.

3. Fundraising Feasibility, Institutional Commitment, and Financial Health: The quality, specificity, and feasibility of the fundraising plans and extent to which they are specific to the proposed effort. The overall fiscal health of the organization to support fundraising efforts, endowment establishment, and prudent management of endowment funds. The level of commitment and engagement by the applicant's leadership and community to support and

implement the proposal throughout grant period of performance and the 20-year endowment term.

4. Personnel: The qualifications of personnel identified to lead and support fundraising efforts and endowment management. The qualifications of personnel identified to lead planning and implementation of humanities advancement efforts during grant period of performance and/or the 20-year endowment term.

2. Review Process

NEH staff review all applications for eligibility, completeness, and responsiveness. The agency then conducts a peer review process for all applications that pass this initial screening.

Peer reviewers are experts in their fields with knowledge and expertise relevant to the activities that the program supports. NEH instructs peer reviewers to evaluate applications according to the review criteria in this notice. Peer reviewers must comply with federal ethics rules governing conflicts of interest.

NEH program officers supplement the peer reviewers' comments to address matters of fact or significant points that the peer reviewers have overlooked. They then make funding recommendations to the National Council on the Humanities and the NEH Chairman. The National Council meets at least twice each year to review applications and advise the NEH Chairman. By law, the Chairman has the sole authority to make final funding decisions. Following NEH's public announcement of funded projects, you may request copies of the peer reviewers' evaluations of your proposal by contacting collections@neh.gov.

Learn more about the NEH review process.
Apply to be a peer reviewer for NEH.

3. Intergovernmental Review

This funding opportunity is not subject to intergovernmental review under Executive Order 12372.

F. Submission Information

1. Application Package

You must apply using Grants.gov Workspace or a Grants.gov system-to-system solution. You can find this funding opportunity in Grants.gov under number 20270113-CHE. There is also a link on the program resource page.

2. Submission Instructions

The deadline for applications under this notice is January 13, 2027, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time.

When NEH receives your application from Grants.gov, the agency will assign it a tracking number beginning with CHE-.

Under this notice NEH will consider only applications that are complete, comply with length and formatting requirements, and have been validated by Grants.gov under the correct funding

opportunity prior to the deadline. See the late submission policy for the limited situations when NEH might accept an application submitted after the deadline.

G. Award Notices

1. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

NEH will notify you of funding decisions by email in July 2027. Notification of funding does not authorize you to begin performance or incur costs.

2. Federal Award Documents

If NEH selects your application for an award, the NEH Office of Grant Management will send award documents to the institutional grant administrator and project director through eGMS Reach starting in July 2027.

3. Administrative and National Policy Requirements Specific to This Program

Refer to NEH's General Application Guide for Awards to Organizations for administrative and national policy requirements that apply to all NEH awards.

Executive Order 14332: Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking

Exec. Order No. 14332 (Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking), 90 Fed. Reg. 38929 (Aug. 7, 2025), Sec. 4(b)(iii). All else being equal, NEH may give preference for discretionary awards to institutions with lower indirect cost rates.

H. Annual and Final Reporting

If you receive an award, you must complete these required reports in NEH's online grant management system, eGMS Reach.

1. Annual Federal Financial Report(s)
2. Annual Performance Progress Report(s)
3. Final Financial and Performance Reports
4. Annual Gift Certification. The Endowment Gift Certification Form accompanied by the required donor documentation comprises the annual gift certification.

Learn more about performance reporting requirements and financial reporting requirements.

Post-award endowment reporting

During the endowment term, recipients must maintain written records sufficient to demonstrate performance of the endowment, consistent with UPMIFA, including:

- Donor contributions
- Current portfolio allocation
- Investment performance relative to benchmarks
- Annual distributions and spending.

Reports must be retained as part of the recipient's standard recordkeeping and made available to NEH upon request over the life of the endowment.

Additional details about post-award endowment reporting are available in the Administration of NEH Endowment Awards.

I. Agency Information

If you have questions about the program, contact:

Division of Collections and Infrastructure
National Endowment for the Humanities
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20506
202-606-8570
collections@neh.gov

If you have questions about administrative requirements or allowable costs, contact:

Office of Grant Management
National Endowment for the Humanities
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20506
202-606-8494
grantmanagement@neh.gov

If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you can contact NEH using telecommunications relay at 7-1-1.