

Revitalize Creative Newton

A grant program supporting
the arts and culture sector in
Newton, MA

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the RCN grant?

The RCN grant is for organizations with missions rooted in the arts, culture, and humanities. These grants can cover a wide range of general organizational costs, which could include programming costs.

This program is intended to support cultural organizations who provide or want to provide arts and cultural programming that will support our Newton community, as they respond to and recover from the coronavirus pandemic. Unlike other Arts Endowment funding programs that offer project-based support, RCN funds are intended to support specific operating costs only. Cost share/matching funds are not required. Funding for this program is made available through the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

ELIGIBILITY

Who is eligible to apply for a RCN grant?

These funds are intended to support Newton-based non-profit organizations whose mission and work involves art, culture, and humanities. Organizations must have faced and be moving forward from hardship due to economic impacts related to the coronavirus.

Who is NOT eligible to apply?

Individuals; for-profit organizations; non-Newton based organizations.

We have applied for other emergency funding (grants and/or loans). Can we still apply for a RCN Grant?

Yes. It is important to look at any restrictions for how each type of funding you've received may be spent. Make sure to read all guidelines for funds you've applied for.

Who should we contact if we need help determining whether we are eligible to apply?

Review the grant guidelines and FAQ, then reach out to Newton Cultural Development staff with remaining questions. You can call the Cultural Development office at 617-796-1540 or email pgannon@newtonma.gov.

USE OF FUNDS

What can the funds be used for?

The Revitalize Creative Newton Grant is for arts and culture-focused organizations and can be used to fund general operating costs, such as salary, utility bills, etc.; strategic planning and capacity building efforts related to preparing, responding to, and recovering from the coronavirus; technical/consultant needs related to a digital transition or in support of preservation and access programs; and equity assessments and planning related to the coronavirus and the economic crisis. In addition, these grants can also support costs associated with offering arts and culture programs, including the expansion, because of the coronavirus, of outdoor and virtual arts and culture programming and activities from traditional environments to those that are more accessible.

APPLICATION

Can I save a draft of my RCN Grant application and come back to it?

Yes, you'll need to enter in your email and contact information if you want to save a draft of your application. We strongly recommend writing your grant in a "word/google docs" format and then transferring to the application when you are ready to submit.

Can we mail the application?

We prefer to have all applications submitted online. If necessary, you may pick up a hard copy at the Cultural Development office located at 1294 Centre Street, Newton, MA 02459. When submitting a hard copy application, you'll need to drop off 5 completed copies before the application deadline.

When are applications due?

Applications must be submitted before 5:00pm EST on November 30, 2021; late submissions will not be accepted. We strongly advise submitting early in case you run into difficulties.

How will I know if my application was received?

Once you submit your application, you will receive an automatic confirmation. If you don't, please check to see if it was caught in your spam folder (check junk mail and trash folders), then contact us.

What kind of documentation will I need to fill out the application?

You must provide proof of non-profit status. Examples of proof of non-profit status would include a tax-exempt certificate.

How can I learn more?

Newton Cultural Development will be hosting informational webinars about the RCN Grant. Each session will include an overview of the grant, with a significant portion of time dedicated to Q&A. Sessions are

free but registration is required. Details and dates for the informational webinars will be available online at www.newtonma.gov/culture.