



New Jersey State Council on the Arts FY25 General Operating Support Grant Program Rubric

*Este documento también está disponible [en español](#).
Please read the [guidelines](#) thoroughly, in conjunction with the rubric.*

	EXEMPLARY All criteria components have been demonstrated in an exemplary way.	STRONG Some, but not all, criteria components have been demonstrated in an exemplary way.	DEVELOPING Some, but not all, criteria components have been demonstrated. Not all are accomplished, or some components are missing.	LIMITED Several criteria components are missing or are marginally addressed.	NO EVIDENCE The criteria was not addressed or was very minimally addressed. There is insufficient data to review the criteria.
Evaluation Criteria: High artistic quality throughout the organization's programs/services that provide public benefit and value through impactful and relevant artistic experiences.					
SCORE	1	2	3	4	5
Assess the high artistic quality throughout the organization's programs/services.	<p>The application provides clear, specific, and thorough details about the organization's goals and priorities for its programs and services.</p> <p>The application details a clear process for how artistic decisions are made.</p> <p>The applicant provides significant public benefit and value through impactful and relevant artistic experiences.</p>	<p>The application provides a clear explanation about the organization's goals and priorities for its programs and services.</p> <p>The application details a process for how artistic decisions are made.</p> <p>The applicant provides strong public benefit and value through relevant artistic experiences.</p>	<p>The application includes some details about the organization's goals and priorities for its programs and services.</p> <p>The application provides limited information as to how artistic decisions are made.</p> <p>The applicant provides relevant public benefit through artistic experiences.</p>	<p>The application provides an unclear overview of the organization's goals and priorities for its programs and services.</p> <p>The application provides weak or unclear information as to how artistic decisions are made.</p> <p>The applicant provides weak public benefit through irrelevant artistic experiences.</p>	

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Significant **public benefit and community engagement** based on a clear understanding of those served by the organization.

SCORE	1	2	3	4	5
<p>Assess the organization’s ability to provide significant public benefit and community engagement. Information provided by the applicant is clearly based on a sound understanding of the communities in its service region.</p>	<p>The application clearly details the organization’s connections to its community through its programs and services.</p> <p>Information about how the needs of artists and communities are addressed is specific and relevant.</p> <p>Information about how artists and audiences are engaged in the planning and development of arts programs and services is clear and measurable.</p> <p>The application provides clear evidence of the organization’s practice around broadening and deepening community engagement and public benefit.</p>	<p>The application details the organization’s connections to its community through its programs and services.</p> <p>Information about how the needs of artists and communities are addressed is provided.</p> <p>Information about how artists and audiences are engaged in the planning and development of arts programs and services provided.</p> <p>The application provides evidence of the organization’s practice around broadening and deepening community engagement and public benefit.</p>	<p>The application provides some information about the organization’s connections to its community through its programs and services.</p> <p>It is somewhat clear how the needs of artists and communities are addressed.</p> <p>The organization has limited information about how artists and audiences are engaged in the planning and development of arts programs and services provided.</p> <p>The application provides some evidence of the organization’s practice around broadening and deepening community engagement and public benefit.</p>	<p>There is unclear and/or incomplete information provided about the organization’s connections to its community through its programs and services.</p> <p>It is not clear how the needs of artists and communities are addressed.</p> <p>It is not clear how artists and audiences are engaged in the planning and development of arts programs and services.</p> <p>The application provides weak or unclear evidence of the organization’s practice around broadening and deepening community engagement and public benefit.</p>	

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Demonstrated commitment to **diversity, equity, access, and inclusion.**

SCORE	1	2	3	4	5
<p>Assess the organization’s commitment to diversity, equity, access, and inclusion. The applicant’s work is clearly supported through meaningful and measurable internal and</p>	<p>The application includes clear, specific, and thorough details about the organization’s commitment to diversity, equity, access, and inclusion.</p>	<p>The application includes information about the organization’s commitment to diversity, equity, access, and inclusion.</p>	<p>The application includes weak or unclear information about the organization’s commitment to diversity, equity, access, and inclusion.</p>	<p>The application includes insufficient information about the organization’s commitment to diversity, equity, access, and inclusion.</p>	

external strategies and goals.	<p>The organization demonstrates a clear understanding of its community and a commitment to diversity, including those historically underrepresented.</p> <p>The application details evidenced-based plans, policies, and/or goal-based strategies addressing topics of equity, access, and inclusion.</p>	<p>The organization has an understanding of its community and a commitment to diversity, including those historically underrepresented.</p> <p>The application contains evidence of plans, policies, and/or goal-based strategies addressing topics of equity, access, and inclusion.</p>	<p>The organization has a limited understanding of its community and a limited commitment to diversity.</p> <p>The application does not contain adequate plans, policies, or strategies addressing topics of equity, access, and inclusion.</p>	<p>The organization has an uninformed understanding of its community and a weak commitment to diversity.</p> <p>The application lacks relevant plans, policies, or strategies addressing topics of equity, access, and inclusion.</p>	
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EVALUATION CRITERIA: Commitment to **arts education/lifelong learning** in the arts.

SCORE	1	2	3	4	5
<p>Assess the organization's commitment to arts education/lifelong learning. The applicant provides relevant opportunities for arts learning through training, skill development, and knowledge-building in the arts.</p>	<p>The application provides clear, specific, and thorough details about the organization's commitment to arts education.</p> <p>Information regarding arts learning programming is specific, relevant, and measurable.</p>	<p>The application provides a clear explanation of the organization's commitment to arts education.</p> <p>Information regarding arts learning programming is detailed and measurable.</p>	<p>The application includes an overview of the organization's engagement with arts education.</p> <p>Some information regarding arts learning programming is provided.</p>	<p>The application provides an unclear overview of the organization's engagement with arts education.</p> <p>Information about arts learning programming is unclear.</p>	

EVALUATION CRITERIA: **Operational excellence and capacity** demonstrated through appropriate fiscal and administrative resources, governance, and strategic planning.

SCORE	1	2	3	4	5
<p>Assess the organization's capacity to successfully</p>	<p>The application provides clear, specific, and thorough information</p>	<p>The application provides clear information demonstrating good</p>	<p>The application provides information but does not</p>	<p>The application lacks information and does</p>	

implement sound fiscal controls and appropriate administrative resources. The applicant engages in sound governance and strategic planning practices to ensure it can successfully carry out the work of its mission.	demonstrating best practices in all areas. Information detailing sound fiscal controls are provided. Information detailing the governance and management of board and staff are clear and appropriate. The organization's strategic planning processes and assessment methodologies are clear, documented, and measurable.	practices are present in all areas. Information detailing adequate fiscal controls are provided. Information detailing the governance and management of board and staff are provided. The organization's strategic planning processes and assessment methodologies are provided.	exemplify sound practices in all areas. Information detailing adequate fiscal controls is weak or unclear. Information detailing the governance and management of board and staff is unclear and/or inadequate. The organization's strategic planning processes and assessment methodologies are not clearly explained.	not provide adequate practices in all areas. Information detailing fiscal controls is unclear or missing. Information detailing the governance and management of board and staff is inadequate or missing. The organization's strategic planning processes and assessment methodologies are not clear, out-of-date, and/or missing.	
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EVALUATION CRITERIA: An **appropriate organizational budget** that includes sufficient resources.

SCORE	1	2	3	4	5
Assess the appropriateness of the organization's budget. The applicant has sufficient resources to support its mission-driven activities.	The application provides clear, specific, and thorough details about the organization's budget and fiscal soundness. The budget clearly provides the organization with the necessary resources to support the organization's activities.	The application provides clear details about the organization's budget and fiscal soundness. The budget provides the organization with the necessary resources to support the organization's activities.	The application includes an overview of the organization's budget and fiscal soundness. The budget may not contain sufficient resources to support the organization's activities.	The application provides an unclear overview of the organization's budget and fiscal soundness. The budget does not contain sufficient resources to support the organization's activities.	