

CORONAVIRUS STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS / NC GRASSROOTS ARTS GRANTS

State Authorization: General Assembly of North Carolina Session 2021 – Session Law 2021-180 (Senate Bill 105) as amended by Session Laws 2021-189 (House Bill 334), 2022-6 (House Bill 243), and 2022-74 (House Bill 103).

**North Carolina Arts Council
N. C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**

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The auditor should not consider the Supplement to be “safe harbor” for identifying audit procedures to apply in a particular engagement, but the auditor should be prepared to justify departures from the suggested procedures. The auditor can consider the supplement a “safe harbor” for identification of compliance requirements to be tested if the auditor performs reasonable procedures to ensure that the requirements in the Supplement are current.

The grantor agency may elect to review audit working papers to determine that audit tests are adequate.

Auditors may request documentation of monitoring visits by the State Agencies.

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

To provide grants to our network of Grassroots Arts Partners, non-profit local arts councils in each county in North Carolina. These grants support arts organizations as they stabilize, rebuild their capacity, and reengage with the public either through programming, marketing, and/or facilitating safety protocols.

II. PROGRAM PROCEDURES

The NC Arts Council already has a network of designated partners in each county that we contract to administer Grassroots Arts funding. In most cases, the partner organization is a local arts council. In the small number of counties without a local arts council, we rely on another strong arts group, area library, or the school system to administer the funds locally. Funds are apportioned based on population size of the county. Local arts councils in counties with a population of 50,000 or more are required to subgrant at least half of their allotment to other eligible arts groups in the county.

These organizations submit an application, then funds are awarded based on the county’s allocation.

III. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Noted below in the following matrix are the types of compliance requirements that are applicable to the State program. These Types are determined by the State agency noted by "Y."

If the Matrix indicates "Y," the auditor must determine if a particular type of compliance requirement has a direct and material effect on the State program for the auditee.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	13	14
Activities Allowed or Unallowed	Allowable Costs/ Cost Principles	Cash Management	Conflict of Interest	Eligibility	Equipment/ Real Property Management	Matching, Level of Effort, Earmarking	Period Of Performance	Procurement Suspension & Debarment	Program Income	Reporting	Subrecipient Monitoring	Special Tests and Provisions
Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N

1. Activities Allowed or Unallowed

2. Allowable Costs/Cost Principles

Compliance Requirement

Funds can be spent on project expenses that are consistent with the guidelines for the applicable grant category and are found in the application or any budget revision and not ruled out as a stipulation in the grant contract. No grant funds can be spent for capital expenditures, deficit or contingency funding, lobbying, indirect cost rate expense, interest on loans or fines, or food and beverages for entertainment.

Suggested Audit Procedure (Local Auditor)

Review the application and grant contract, including "Grantee Requirements," which is part of the contract package.

Test expenditures and the related records.

3. Cash Management

The auditor is not expected to make tests for cash management.

4. Conflict of Interest

Compliance Requirement

All grantees certify that that their board of directors shall avoid conflicts of interest and conduct suggesting the appearance of impropriety in the disbursement of funds.

Suggested Audit Procedure (Local Auditor)

Review the Conflict of Interest policy.

5. Eligibility

The auditor is not expected to make tests for eligibility

7. Matching, Level of Effort, Earmarking

Compliance Requirement

Any matching requirement for a particular grantee is specified in the grant contract, which makes reference to the application and any approved revised budgets. See also the "Grantee Requirements," a contract attachment.

Suggested Audit Procedure (Local Auditor)

Review grantee contract and final financial report and determine if the matching requirement has been met.

12. Reporting

Compliance Requirement

Grantees are required to obtain Arts Council approval of any budget revision that causes a budget category to vary by more than 10% of the project budget and to submit a final report at the end of the project period that includes a narrative and financial report on the Council-provided form.

Suggested Audit Procedures (Local Auditor)

Review "Grantee Requirements" (especially for audit requirements).

Examine budget revisions for Arts Council approval.

Examine final report documents for accuracy and completeness and timeliness of submission.

Trace data in final reports to supporting documentation.

13. Subrecipient Monitoring

No testing is required at the local level.

14. Special Tests and Provisions

No testing is required at the local level.