

Grant Information Guide and Application for Participation

Arts Education in Maryland Schools Fine Arts Initiative Grant FY 2025

Maryland State Department of Education  
200 West Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Deadline  
August 9, 2024  
No later than 5:00 p.m. EDT

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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State Superintendent of Schools

Deann Collins, Ed.D.Deputy State Superintendent   
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Table of Contents

[Program Description 3](#_Toc167256680)

[Use of Funds 5](#_Toc167256681)

[Project Proposal 6](#_Toc167256682)

[Budget and Budget Narrative 7](#_Toc167256683)

[The Review Process 8](#_Toc167256684)

[Arts Education in Maryland Schools Grant Scoring Rubric 9](#_Toc167256685)

[Timeline and Reporting Requirements 11](#_Toc167256686)

[Non-Discrimination Statement 12](#_Toc167256687)

[Customer Service Support Sessions 13](#_Toc167256688)

[Grant Application – Proposal Cover Page 14](#_Toc167256689)

[Grant Application – Project Proposal 15](#_Toc167256690)

[Grant Application - Budget and Budget Narrative 17](#_Toc167256691)

[Grant Application - The General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Section 427 20](#_Toc167256692)

[Grant Application - Appendices 21](#_Toc167256693)

# Program Description

**This grant is intended to support the Maryland Centers for Creative Classrooms (MC3) initiatives directed by the Arts Education in Maryland Schools (AEMS). In collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Arts Education in Maryland Schools develops professional learning activities that align with COMAR 13A.04.16. AEMS’ mission is to increase student access to courses in all art forms through purposeful action.**

## Authorization

Fine Arts Initiative Program budget for Maryland Centers for Creative Classrooms (MC3)

## Grant overview

### Name of Grant Program

Arts Education in Maryland Schools (AEMS) Fine Arts Initiative Grant FY 2025

### Purpose

The purpose of the MC3 program funding is to provide operating costs to plan and implement professional learning for arts educators in Maryland.

### Dissemination

This Grant Information Guide (GIG) was released on June 25, 2024.

### Deadline

Proposals are due no later than 5pm on August 9, 2024

### Grant Period

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

### Funding Amount Available

$237,458

### Estimated Number of Grants

One (1)

### Eligibility

The funding opportunity is for Arts Education in Maryland Schools (AEMS), a 501 (c)(3) Maryland nonprofit organization.

### Submission Instructions

Grant applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on August 9, 2024 via email to [elizabeth.devereux@maryland.gov](mailto:elizabeth.devereux@maryland.gov).

## PROGRAM CONTACT

**Elizabeth Devereux**

Director of Comprehensive Arts Education, Office of Instructional Programs and Services

Phone: (410) 767-1036

elizabeth.devereux@maryland.gov

### State Responsibilities

MSDE is responsible for providing required information, data, documentation, and technical assistance to facilitate the grantee’s performance of the work. MSDE program staff will be available and make every effort to support on demand additional assistance when requested throughout the grant period. In addition, MSDE will monitor program implementation throughout the grant performance period to ensure each council is on target to meet its goals and fully expend its awarded program resources.

# Use of Funds

The following are examples of approved uses for the grant funds in accordance with the purpose of the grant. Other costs not listed here may be presented to the grant manager for determination of allowable expenditures.

### Funds may be used for:

* Contractual services for vendors, educators, and staff related to program delivery
* Support of operating expenses related to program delivery
* Purchase of materials and supplies to support educators’ engagement in programming

### Funds may not be used for:

* Construction of temporary or permanent structures
* Activities not related to professional learning for Maryland arts educators

# Project Proposal

## **Grant Application**

As a requirement for this program, applicants must address the following areas in the grant application template found later in this document.

### Project Description

The Project Description should be factual, brief, and focused on the LEA’s selected project. The Project Description should cover the core aspects of the proposed project, such as the populations served, a brief description of the goals, the strategies to meet identified goals, and intentional integration across departments. The Project Description should be 1 page or less.

### Extent of Need

Identify a clearly defined problem, and how the use of these funds will address the problem. Applicants should include a brief overview of the target audience and expected outcomes. A compelling proposal will have a clearly defined problem supported by a needs assessment.

### Goals and Measurable Outcomes

State the overall goal(s) of the project. The goal(s) should address the main problem identified at the beginning of the needs assessment. Include all relevant groups and individuals in the target population. While there should be at least one goal, it is possible to have multiple goals; however, the more goals established the more complex the project becomes. Goals must have long-term deadlines. Think about how to measure the change projected in each objective. If there is no way to measure a goal, it is not measurable and should be rewritten. The strongest applications will directly connect to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future. Measurable Outcomes are the anticipated outcomes to be accomplished for the term of the project and must be related to the goal(s).

### Plan of Operation, Key Personnel, and Timeline

The Plan of Operation includes the strategies activities that will be implemented to achieve the project’s goals, outcomes, and milestones. Describe a plan of operation that addresses, at a minimum, the key components of the program’s implementation or expansion. Include a timeline and the key personnel associated with the plan of operation. For key personnel, include the responsibilities, tasks, and FTE percentage of key contributors required for program success. Ensure that all administrative and key personnel responsible for the successful implementation and monitoring of the grant requirements are included.

### Strategies

Strategies are broad approaches (methods, procedures, techniques) employed to realize outcomes and accomplish goals. Applicants should begin this section with a justification as to why specific strategies were chosen, how they will help in accomplishing the stated goals, and the key personnel responsible for each strategy. What strategies will be used to reach project milestones, accomplish outcomes, and achieve project goals? Discuss how and why these strategies were chosen. Applicants should describe the targeted populations to be impacted by the strategies chosen and how they will be impacted.

### Evidence of Impact

Discuss your organization’s history of impact on the target population, what has worked, what has not worked, and your track record in effectuating change. Document current or past efforts to address the problem. Show why those efforts failed or are inadequate to address the total need. Discuss how past performance has informed the proposed activities, and the future impact your proposed key activities are likely to have on the target population. Briefly identify new or other proposed evidence-based strategies that will be implemented and how they will be measured to determine the impact on the target population.

# Budget and Budget Narrative

The project’s budget should detail all related project expenses in a separate itemized budget. It should demonstrate the extent to which the budget is reasonable, cost-effective, and integrates other sources of funding. All costs described in the project narrative should appear in the budget narrative and must have a corresponding entry in the itemized budget for that year. Reviewers should be able to see a clear connection between the management plan and the budget line items.

Provide content justifying any line-item expenses that are not obvious from the project narrative. Discuss and align line-item activities in the budget narrative. Explain how the estimated cost of each line item was derived if the rationale is not obvious. An MSDE [Grant Budget C-1-25](https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/Grants/GrantForms-12-10-2020.xls) form must also be completed, signed, and submitted as an appendix.

Following the budget narrative, include a line-item description. Group line items according to the following categories: Salaries and Wages, Contracted Services, Supplies and Materials, Other Charges, Equipment, and Transfers (indirect costs). Total each category. Each line must be detailed and specific. General expenses should be broken down into specific line items. There is no page limit for the budget, so be as detailed as possible. Here is an example of the budget and budget narrative template.

### 1. Salaries and Wages (list each position separately)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Line item** | **Calculation** | **Requested** | **In-Kind** | **Total** |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  | Total for Salaries and Wages: | $ | $ | $ |

Using the space below, explain how the costs for salaries and wages above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

|  |
| --- |
| Type response here. |

# The Review Process

The review of proposals will be a three-part process:

Written applications will be pre-screened for submission requirements and inclusion of all required sections. Applications not meeting all pre-screen requirements may be returned to the applicant for revisions.

A review committee established by MSDE will evaluate applications using the scoring rubric. The scoring rubric is tailored to the grant program, its intent, and intended impact on the target population.

Final approval for awards will be determined by the review committee.

MSDE reserves the right to take into consideration geographic distribution when making awards.

# Arts Education in Maryland Schools Grant Scoring Rubric

## Extent of Need

| **Level 3 Exceeds Criteria** | **Level 2 Meets Criteria** | **Level 1 Does Not Meet Criteria** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The main problem and contributing factors are clear, concise, and demonstrate considerable understanding of the issues.  The proposal details who are affected by the problem, and when and where the problem exists, including historical impacts on the target population(s). | The main problem is clear and concise.  The proposal identifies who is affected by the problem and when the problem exists.  Data supports the identified problem. Local data is referenced to document the problem and includes demographic and other statistics. | The main problem is missing or is not clear.  The proposal does not accurately identify the target population(s).  Data has not identified or does not support the problem stated.  The proposal lacks details of how the funds will address the problem. |

## Goals and Measurable Outcomes

| **Level 3 Exceeds Criteria** | **Level 2 Meets Criteria** | **Level 1 Does Not Meet Criteria** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The goal(s) are measurable, clearly aligned to the extent of need, and ambitiously focused on effectuating change.  Realistic and attainable outcomes illustrate a distinguishable effort to significant progress. | The goal(s) are measurable and aligned to the extent of need.  Outcomes are realistic and attainable. | The goal(s) are not measurable are not clearly aligned to the extent of need.  Outcomes are not realistic or attainable. |

## plan of operation, key personnel, and timeline

| **Level 3 Exceeds Criteria** | **Level 2 Meets Criteria** | **Level 1 Does Not Meet Criteria** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| All requirements listed in the meets criteria are listed and the applicant provides additional information. | The plan is clear and concise. There is timeline and experienced personnel (with percentage of time) for all key activities. Names and titles are present. | The plan of operation provided does not address the items identified in the extent of need. |

## Strategies

| **Level 3 Exceeds Criteria** | **Level 2 Meets Criteria** | **Level 1 Does Not Meet Criteria** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The proposal provides several rationales for selecting specific, evidence-based strategies, and precisely how they will be implemented to ensure outcomes are achieved. Multiple broad strategies are identified with detailed and systematic methods, procedures, or techniques for successful implementation. | The proposal provides a clear rationale for selecting a specific strategy and how it will help achieve the outcome.  Applicant provides broad strategies and includes the methods, procedures, techniques for implementation. | No rationale for selecting specific strategies and how they will help achieve the outcome.  Applicant only states some of the strategies, but does not include the necessary methods, procedures, or techniques for implementing. |

## evidence of impact

| **Level 3 Exceeds Criteria** | **Level 2 Meets Criteria** | **Level 1 Does Not Meet Criteria** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The application identifies how proposed strategies are evidence-based and will lead to the desired impact and lists success data for their existing program. They also provide information on students who have graduated from their program. | The applicant describes how the proposed program goals are research-based. There is data on how students in the program have progressed in prior years, and a description of what the intended impact of the proposed activities will be on the target population. | The application does not identify evidence of impact |

## Budget and Budget Narrative

| **Level 3 Exceeds Criteria** | **Level 2 Meets Criteria** | **Level 1 Does Not Meet Criteria** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The budget is detailed and comprehensive of all activities for successful implementation. The budget aligns to the proposal and does not rely entirely on grant funds. There are no mathematical errors, and all expenses are cost effective and appear necessary. | The budget is complete. The budget aligns to the proposal and is free of mathematical errors. Expenses are reasonable and allowable. | Budget does not align with the proposal, includes cost that are not reasonable or allowable, or has several mathematical errors. |

# Timeline and Reporting Requirements

| **Date** | **Timeline Event** |
| --- | --- |
| June 21, 2024 | The Grant Information Guide and the application for participating are released. |
| June 25, 2024 | MSDE will hold a virtual customer service support session for the applicant. |
| August 2, 2024 | The grant application is due. |
| August 30, 2024 | MSDE will notify applicants of the award status. |
| July 1, 2024 | The grant period begins. |
| June 30, 2025 | The grant period ends. |
| September 30, 2025 | The funds will need to be liquidated. |

## grant application timeline

## Reporting requirements

| **Date** | **Reporting Requirements** |
| --- | --- |
| Ongoing | Fiscal and programmatic monitoring |
| October 15, 2024 | Q1: Quarterly Interim Report (C-1-25C) |
| January 15, 2025 | Q2: Quarterly Interim Report (C-1-25C) |
| April 15, 2025 | Q3: Quarterly Interim Report (C-1-25C) |
| July 31, 2025 | Final Progress Report (C-1-25D) |

**Notes**: Any requests for amendments must be submitted at least 45 days before the grant period ends, and must be submitted using the C-1-25B form found in the Grant Forms Workbook MSDE Grants [webpage](https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/OFPOS/GAC/Forms.aspx). Final invoices must be submitted no later than 60 days after the grant period ends.

# Non-Discrimination Statement

The Maryland State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry/national origin, color, disability, gender identity/expression, marital status, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. For inquiries related to Department policy, please contact:

**Equity Assurance and Compliance Office  
Office of the Deputy State Superintendent for Finance and Operations**  
  
Maryland State Department of Education  
200 W. Baltimore Street - 2nd Floor   
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595

410-767-0123 - voice  
410-767-0431 - fax  
Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay.

# Customer Service Support Sessions

MSDE will hold one customer service support session for eligible applicants. During this session, MSDE personnel will provide an overview of the application process. The session will be held on:

### Tuesday, July 2, 2024

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Video call link: https://meet.google.com/htm-mqjy-gfp

In addition, MSDE will be available during the following office hours:

### Friday, July 26, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/htm-mqjy-gfp>

### Thursday, August 1, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Video call link: [https://[meet.google.com/msd-evnp-nsv](https://meet.google.com/msd-evnp-nsv?hs=224)](https://meet.google.com/htm-mqjy-gfp)

MSDE staff will also be available to provide technical assistance throughout the grant application process. If you have questions about the application or the process, please contact:

**Elizabeth Devereux**

Director of Comprehensive Arts Education

Office of Instructional Programs and Services

(410) 767-1036

elizabeth.devereux@maryland.gov

# Grant Application – Proposal Cover Page

Institution/Agency/Jurisdiction Name:

Project Title:

Date of Submission:

Name of Contact Person:

Institution/Agency Address:

Contact Person Phone:

Contact Person Email:

Amount of the request for grant period (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025): $237,458

(Should agree with Proposed Budget)

Agency Head (Printed Name and Title) Date

Agency Head Signature Date

# Grant Application – Project Proposal

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project ProposalRefer to the Project Proposal section of this document for guidance. | |
| Project Description: |  |
| Extent of Need: |  |
| Goals and Measurable Outcomes: |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Goal | Identified Need | Milestone | Expected Outcome |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Plan of Operation, Key Personnel, and Timeline: |
|  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Timeline | Strategy | Person Responsible and Tasks | FTE% |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Strategies: |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Evidence of Impact: |
|  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Agency Head (Printed Name and Title) | Agency Head (Printed Name and Title) |
|  |  |

# Grant Application - Budget and Budget Narrative

Please provide a detailed description of the requested funds that will be spent by using the categories listed below. Add more rows if needed. An MSDE [Grant Budget C-1-25](https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/Grants/GrantForms-12-10-2020.xls) form must also be completed, signed, and submitted as an appendix.

### 1. Salaries and Wages (list each position separately)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Line item** | **Calculation** | **Requested** | **In-Kind** | **Total** |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  | Total for Salaries and Wages: | $ | $ | $ |

Using the space below, explain how the costs for salaries and wages above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

|  |
| --- |
| Type response here. |

### 2. Contracted Services

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Line item** | **Calculation** | **Requested** | **In-Kind** | **Total** |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  | Total for Contracted Services: | $ | $ | $ |

Using the space below, explain how the costs for contracted services above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

|  |
| --- |
| Type response here. |

### 3. Supplies and Materials

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Line item** | **Calculation** | **Requested** | **In-Kind** | **Total** |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  | Total Supplies and Materials: | $ | $ | $ |

Using the space below, explain how the costs for supplies and materials above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

|  |
| --- |
| Type response here. |

### 4. Other Charges

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Line item** | **Calculation** | **Requested** | **In-Kind** | **Total** |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  | Total for Other Charges: | $ | $ | $ |

Using the space below, explain how the costs for other charges above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

|  |
| --- |
| Type response here. |

### 5. Equipment

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Line item** | **Calculation** | **Requested** | **In-Kind** | **Total** |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  | Total for Equipment: | $ | $ | $ |

Using the space below, explain how the costs for equipment above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

|  |
| --- |
| Type response here. |

### 6. Transfers (indirect costs)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Line item** | **Calculation** | **Requested** | **In-Kind** | **Total** |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  |  | $ | $ | $ |
|  | Total for Transfers: | $ | $ | $ |

Using the space below, explain how the costs for transfers (indirect costs) above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

|  |
| --- |
| Type response here. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Total amount requested: $** |
|  |

# Grant Application - The General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) Section 427

Each application must develop and describe the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and equitable participation in, the project or activity to be conducted with such assistance, by addressing the special needs of students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries to overcome barriers to equitable participation.

[Section 427 of the GEPA Form](https://sites.ed.gov/idea/files/Grants-Part-C-GEPA-Section-427-Form.pdf)

[Section 427 of the GEPA Notice to All Applicants](https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/10/General-Education-Provisions-Act-GEPA-Requirements-Section-427-ED-GEPA-427-Form.pdf)

# Grant Application - Appendices

The following appendices must be included. Include other appendices as deemed necessary.

Appendix A: [A signed recipient assurances page](https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/about/Documents/Grants/GrantRecipientAssurances.pdf)

Appendix B: [A signed C-1-25 MSDE budget form](https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/OFPOS/GAC/Forms.aspx)

Appendix C: Taxpayer identification number and certification ([W-9 Form](https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf))