

## About the Program

Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh is a grant program that is intentionally designed to enhance the support made available to individual artists, programs and organizations advancing the art of the African diaspora.

[Program guidelines](#) can be found here.

## Eligibility

### Who can apply?

- Individual artists (18+)
- A 501(c)(3) organization or a fiscally sponsored project with a fiscal sponsor. If utilizing a fiscal sponsor: Please confirm that the applicant meets the requirements.  
<https://pittsburghfoundation.org/fiscalsponsor>
- Applicants must have a documented history of producing or presenting art of the African diaspora.

### What are the geographic requirements?

Applicants must:

- Reside in or be located in **Allegheny, Beaver, or Westmoreland County**
- Have been based there for the required period prior to applying (as defined in the program guidelines)

### Can I apply if I've received an ABAP grant before?

Yes, but:

- Previous grantees must wait **at least 12 months after submitting their final report** before applying again.

### Can I apply to more than one funding stream?

No. Applicants may submit **only one application per cycle**.

### What types of projects are eligible?

Projects must:

- Advance Black arts and culture in the Pittsburgh region
- Demonstrate a clear artistic vision and alignment with program goals.

### Do I need a fiscal sponsor?

- **Individual artists apply as individuals (no fiscal sponsor required).**
- Fiscal sponsorship is generally for **collectives or organizations without 501(c)(3) status.**

Fiscal sponsor guidelines can be found at this link:

<https://pittsburghfoundation.org/fiscalsponsor>.

## Application Process

### How do I apply?

- Create a profile in the online grant portal
- Complete the **eligibility quiz**
- Access and complete the full application

### What is the eligibility quiz?

Before starting the full application, applicants must complete a brief quiz confirming they meet eligibility criteria. This includes:

- Age (18+)
- Location (Allegheny, Westmoreland or Beaver County)
- History of producing or presenting art of the African diaspora

### Can I save my application and return later?

Yes. Applications can be saved as drafts and edited before submission.

## Funding & Grant Period

### When does the grant period begin?

Funded activities:

- Should **not begin before January 1, 2027** (for the 2026 cycle).
- The active grant period is **January 2027-January 2029**.

### Can I request funding for past work?

No. ABAP does **not fund retroactive activities**.

### What types of funding are available?

- Project Support
- General Operating Support

*Note: individual artists and fiscally sponsored collectives are not eligible for general operating support.*

*Organizations with open operating support grants in FDG are not eligible for general operating support.*

## Deadlines & Timeline

### What is the application deadline?

For the 2026 cycle:

- **June 24, 2026 at 5:00 PM**

## When will I hear back?

- Applicants will be notified of decisions by **November 30, 2026**

## Review Process

### How are applications evaluated?

Project Support applications are reviewed by a panel of arts professionals who:

- Assess alignment with program goals
- Score applications based on alignment, feasibility, and quality of artistic work
- Participate in a collective review process

General operating support requests are reviewed by Foundation staff.

## Support & Resources

### Is help available while preparing my application?

Yes, applicants can access:

- Pre-application assistance (appointment-based)
- [Information session](#)
- [Application guides and videos](#)

### Who should I contact if I have questions?

You can reach out to the Arts Team:

- [arts@pghfdn.org](mailto:arts@pghfdn.org)

### Tips for a Strong Application

- Clearly describe your artistic vision and impact.
- Ensure all required materials are complete.
- Align your project with ABAP goals.
- Use pre-application assistance if/when available.