



Music Education Partnership Grants 2027 Application Toolkit

Online application portals can be tricky to navigate, and we find that it's easiest to compose your responses in a word document before copying and pasting into the application portal. Further, if a field is required, it can sometimes be difficult to see all of the application requirements without first providing a response to a mandatory question.

To assist you with your application, **we strongly encourage you to review and draft/plan your application in this toolkit, and then copy and paste it into the online portal.**

This toolkit includes all of the content and questions that are included in the online application. As you prepare your application, we recommend the following checklist:

- ☐ **ASAP:** Review all tabs of the [Music Education Partnership Grants website](#).
- ☐ **ASAP:** Review the scoring rubric [on our website here](#) to understand how your application will be evaluated.
- ☐ **After October 1:** Watch the recorded webinars [here](#) for more information on the grants program.
- ☐ **(If Needed)** [Schedule a time](#) to discuss your project with Chorus America staff.
- ☐ **Before November 17:** Complete a rough draft of your application in this toolkit.
- ☐ **Before November 18:** Copy and paste your application text into [the online portal](#) and click submit.
- ☐ **Before November 20:** Check that your application has been submitted. If the submit box is still green, you have only marked your application as complete, but have not yet submitted. You must click the green submit box to ensure your application is received.
- ☐ **All applications due Friday, November 20 at 11:59 ET.**

Note: While you can certainly submit an application on your smart phone, we recommend using a tablet, laptop, or desktop computer for the easiest experience.

Application Components

Eligibility Quiz

The following questions/content will be required when you log in to the [online application portal](#). Please use the space below to record draft your responses so you can cut and paste them into your online application submission.

Eligibility Quiz

Format – Yes or No Questions

When you log-in, you'll be asked **5 Yes or No** questions to determine your eligibility for the program. All applicants must answer these questions before completing an application.

- **Partnership Requirement**
Does this project include plans to collaborate with a community partner? This could include PreK-12 schools, school districts, nonprofit cultural organizations, childcare providers, houses of worship, after-school sites, and community centers, to name a few examples.
- **Area of Investment**
Does this project serve at least 1 of the 4 areas of investment (British Columbia & Northwest US, Central Appalachia, Southwest US, or Upper Midwest US)? *Please see the list [Eligible Regions & States](#) to confirm your eligibility.*
- **Nonprofit Tax-Exempt Charitable Status**
Is your organization either a 501(c)3 US tax-exempt organization or a registered Canadian charity with the Canadian Revenue Agency? If not, can your organization provide documentation of being fiscally sponsored by an organization that is either a US 501(c)3 or registered Canadian charity?
- **Faith-based Organizations/Repertoire**
If your project will include music with a faith-based origin, can you confirm that the repertoire is being referenced only for musical teachings and is not a tool for religious practice or instruction?
- **Ineligible Expenses**
Are you applying to fund any of the following: capital campaign, endowment fund, fundraising activities or events, religious programming, individuals, regranting, and/or lobbying/political activities?

Application Components

Applicant Information

The following questions/content will be required when you log in to the online application portal. Please use the space below to record draft your responses so you can cut and paste them into your online application submission and/or see the questions you will be responding to in an audio file.

Applicant Information

Format - Written, short responses or select one from multiple choice

- Applicant Organization Name
- Name of Fiscal Sponsor (if applicable)
- United States Employer Identification Number or Canadian Revenue Agency Registered Charity Number ***Fiscally sponsored projects should provide the number belonging to their fiscal sponsor.***
- Applicant Organization Address
 - Street Address 1
 - Street Address 2
 - City
 - State/Province
 - Postal Code
 - Country
- Organization Website ***Note: Need to include https://***

Contact information for a minimum of 2 different individuals leading the project is required.

- Contact 1
 - Name
 - Title
 - Email
 - Phone
- Contact 2
 - Name
 - Title
 - Email
 - Phone

Project Questions

Format - Written, short responses or select one from multiple choice

- Project Name

- Please see the list of [Eligible Regions & States](#) to determine which region you should select. **Choose 1**
 - British Columbia & the Northwest US
 - Central Appalachia
 - Southwest US
 - Upper Midwest US

- Nonprofit Budget **Select the budget size of your organization – Choose 1**
 - Less than \$150,000 annually
 - \$150,000 or more annually

- Nonprofit Staff **Does your organization have at least 1 full or part-time employee? – Choose 1**
 - Yes
 - No

Narrative Questions

Please complete the questions below to share more information about your project. While there are no word limits for responses, we find that concise applications that address the prompt and [scoring rubric](#) criteria in 1-2 paragraphs tend to be most successful. When possible, we encourage applicants to cut and paste from previous applications you may have submitted for another funder.

Project Description

Please provide a 2-3 sentence summary of your project that describes the work that will be done with a Chorus America grant. Please start your summary with the phrase "This project will support..."

Need & Access

1. Please share your organization's main priorities, which could include a summary of strategic direction, vision, or mission statement.
2. Why this project? Why now?

Programmatic Information

1. What are the musical traditions, repertoire, and techniques that will be explored?
2. What are the locations for project activities, and where will the teaching occur?
3. (Multiple choice) Is teaching after-school, on weekends, or during the school day?
4. (Multiple choice) Frequency of project activities (daily, weekly, bi-monthly, monthly, other)
5. (Optional) Other programmatic details that are helpful to share

Cross Cultural Learning Practices

Please share how this project reflects teaching and performance practices that honor, cite, and/or collaborate with the cultural communities whose musical traditions are being taught.

Historic Inequities

Please give examples of how this project reflects a commitment to addressing and repairing historic inequities in your community as they impact music education.

Partnership

1. Who are the partner(s) for this project?
2. How has your organization developed relationships with these partners(s)?
3. What role(s) have they played in the design and/or implementation of your project?

People

1. Describe the student population to be served by this project and your history engaging with this community.
2. Who will be teaching, and how do they have a deeply rooted cultural understanding of the musical traditions being taught?
3. Who will be administratively leading this project? If it is the same person(s), you can write N/A. Please share whether executive leadership and board members have lived experience with the communities being engaged by this project.

Virtual Learning Session Availability

Should your organization be recommended for a grant and proceed to the second stage of the applicant review process, we will invite your organization to participate in a 45-minute virtual meeting to learn more about your project.

Below please select a date and time that would work best for you, making sure to select the option that corresponds with your region. If you are not available during any of the options below, please suggest some alternative times that occur between April 1-20, 2027.

There are no requirements for who must participate in the learning sessions, however we recommend a mix of artistic and teaching staff, executive leadership, and/or community partners, if possible.

We also recommend holding these times in everyone's calendars to ensure future availability.

- *Included options in the drop-down menu by region, day and time.*
 - **Northwest US/BC** April 1 and 2, 2027 from 11:00-5:00 PM ET
 - **Central App US** April 6 and April 8, 2027 from 11:00-5:00 PM ET
 - **Southwest US** April 13 and 15, 2027 from 11:00-5:00 PM ET
 - **Midwest US** April 19 and 20, 2027 from 11:00-5:00 PM ET
- *Please use this space to indicate any specific time preferences (in Eastern time) for scheduling your selected Virtual Learning Session if you already know of limited availability. Chorus America staff will strive to honor requests made here.*

Assurances Checklist

Format – Yes or No Questions

I certify that the organization submitting this application meets the following criteria or has provided a reasonable alternative method to meet standards:

All Yes or No questions

1. The size and engagement of the board is sufficient to carry out current and long-term plans.
2. Applicant has sufficient capital to maintain operations over the course of the grant term.
3. Applicant has internal controls in place to manage expenditure of these grant funds and maintain appropriate financial records.
4. Applicant has a system for measuring student participation, demographics, and engagement throughout the grant term.

If you selected no for any of the statements above, please provide comments and clarify any alternative methods to meeting the criteria in the space below.

Attachments

Format – Attach PDF, Word, or Excel Files

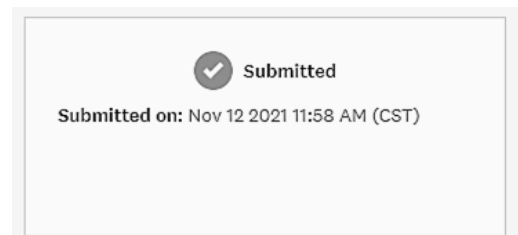
Attachments

- **All Applicants** Submit a **project budget** for the 2-year project period (2027-28 and 2028-29 school years). As a convenience, Chorus America provides [a template you can find on this site](#), however it is not required to submit your budget in this format and you may use your own working document or format, if already created).
- **All Applicants** Submit **documentation of your tax-exempt status**, such as your IRS Determination Letter (US) or Documentation of Registration as a Qualified Charity with the Canadian Revenue Agency (Canada). Fiscally sponsored projects should upload this documentation for their fiscal sponsor.
- **For fiscally sponsored project ONLY** Submit a copy of your **fiscal sponsorship agreement**.

To Submit

Once complete, you are ready to submit. Check that your application has been submitted. If the submit box is still green, you have only marked your application as complete, but have not yet submitted. You must click [submit](#) to ensure your application is received.

You should receive a confirmation email once you have done so and see a box that confirms the date your application was submitted. Once submitted, you will no longer have the ability to edit your application.



Questions?

Please reference this list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) or schedule time to speak with Chorus America staff [by visiting our site here](#).