

## Artist Support Grant Frequently Asked Questions

*The following FAQs address questions our Artist Support Grant applicants may have.*

### ***I cannot access my account. Who do I contact?***

RAC has implemented a Blackbaud product as our new grants platform. Our previous grantmaking system was retired by the provider in 2020. **All applicants need to create a new account to apply.**

For technical assistance when using the grantmaking system, please email [MS\\_RACSTL\\_Grantmaking@blackbaud.com](mailto:MS_RACSTL_Grantmaking@blackbaud.com).

### ***Why has RAC changed the rating scale?***

To make the rating process easier for reviewers and staff in the decision-making process, RAC changed the rating scale to 1-10. This rating scale is based on the NEA's scale, which is considered a public grantmaking best practice.

### ***Can I apply for funding for living expenses to provide me with the time I need to create?***

We will not fund anything that does not advance your artistic practice i.e. rent, groceries, etc. In order to apply for "time" needed to create, applicants can apply for a variety of needs. For example, you could include expense items such as paying a collaborator, tech and equipment, creative retreats, and conducting research that you will be doing as expense. You could even include an artist fee which would be how much you charge for your time spent (if you decide to use this option explain how you arrived at this total in the budget narrative).

For income, please include studio space or anything you will be providing. This could include any in-kind support from your affiliations and any additional materials needed for the project that you already have accumulated.

### ***How can I complete the RAC budget form without purchasing Excel?***

The other option is to recreate the template in a google spreadsheet. Google sheets is free, but you will have to recreate the template and try to get it as close as possible to the Excel version. Make sure to include at least the two sections and all top horizontal column headers.

### ***If my project has no income, do I need to include the income section of the budget sheet? Is income required to be eligible for funding?***

You do not need supplemental or additional income to apply for an artist support grant but indicating diverse revenue streams for the project is usually a good sign in the eyes of the reviewers.

If you don't have additional income, the income section of the budget still needs to be included and income needs to be addressed you should speak to that in the budget narrative. Please note that not having additional income isn't uncommon in Artist Support Grants.

### ***I am applying for support for artistic/professional development that involves travel, are expenses such as in-city transportation and meals eligible to be included within a budget scope.***

Those items are allowable as line items in the budget. Please note: Travel and per diem costs must be reasonable and the travel has to be an opportunity that impacts the artists' artistic practice. Please

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break down the costs in the budget narrative, explaining the line item and whether it is subject to change. Additionally, if travel is the scope of your project, it will be beneficial to the application to indicate additional sources of revenue.

***A larger part of my practice includes collaboration with other artists-- is a project focused on collaboration viable for the support grant?***

Yes, you simply need to list these collaborations as partnerships in the application.

***Can I submit videos or video links as work samples?***

Yes, you can submit video links as work samples. Please include your links in a word document and upload the document as a PDF.

***Will applicants be able to view the scores received, whether or not the grant was made? Additionally, if we do not receive RAC funding in 2022, will we receive feedback to better position ourselves for future opportunities?***

You will be able to see the rating scores regardless of whether your application is funded. If you do not receive a 2022 RAC grant, you will receive feedback in order to improve your grant application for the next opportunity.

***As a grantee, will RAC pay taxes on the funds, or will they be taken out already?***

You will be expected to pay taxes on any grant income.