

FY 2022 ASSISTANCE FOR ARTS EDUCATION (AAE)

CALL FOR PEER REVIEWERS

CONTEXT

The AAE program includes the Arts in Education National Program (AENP) and is authorized under Title IV, part F, subpart 4 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA). In general, the purpose of the AAE program is to promote arts (as defined in this notice) education for students, including disadvantaged students and students who are children with disabilities (as defined in this notice). Specifically, the AENP (1) supports community and national outreach activities that strengthen and expand partnerships among schools, LEAs, communities, or centers for the arts, including national centers for the arts; (2) programs that are designed to implement, or expand, initiatives in arts education and arts integration; and (3) have a special emphasis on serving children from low-income families and children with disabilities.

WHO?

The Department of Education (Department), Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) – Office of Well-Rounded Programs (OWREP), is seeking peer reviewers for the AAE grant competition.

We are seeking peer reviewers from various educational backgrounds and professions, including pre-K-12 arts curriculum specialists and arts-integration teachers; principals and administrators of arts-focused or arts-integration schools; professional development specialists at the district, state or regional level, and educational program evaluators. Additionally, the most qualified candidates may have expertise in arts integration, staff development, working with children from low-income families and children with disabilities, research and evaluation, and prior experience reviewing or approving grant applications.

WHAT?

Peer reviewers will independently read, score, and provide written comments for grant proposals submitted to the Department from applicants seeking federal funding under the AAE program. The review process will be conducted remotely. Reviewers will receive an honorarium for their services. Completed reviews will be used to recommend applications for funding. They will also be shared with each applicant and comments regarding winning applicants will be made available to the general public following the completion of the application review process.

REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the skills, attributes and expertise highlighted above, peer reviewers must also meet the following requirements:

Availability: Reviewers for this competition review will need to be available to read, review, and discuss applications during the weeks of July 6, 2022 – July 29, 2022 (*tentative dates*). This time estimate includes participation in an orientation session by conference call/webinar prior to evaluating the applications, time for reading, scoring, writing, and revising comments, and discussing assigned applications.

Quality of review: Each reviewer must provide detailed, objective, constructive, and timely written reviews for each assigned application in a fast-moving environment.

Review Schedule: Once the review schedule is finalized, each reviewer must commit to the schedule in writing. Reviewers who are unable to commit to the agreed upon schedule during the competition will be dismissed.

Tool: Each reviewer must have access to the Internet, a phone, a computer, a printer and can interact within the web environment.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

If you are affiliated with an organization that intends to apply for a grant under the AAE competition, you may not be eligible to serve as a reviewer. As a reviewer, you will have a conflict of interest if: you helped prepare an application, regardless of financial interest in the success or failure of that application; you have agreed to serve, or you have been offered a position, as an employee, advisor, or consultant on the project; and/or your personal financial interest will be affected by the outcome of the competition, which would include any family members, employees or associates of the project applying for funding. These and other potential conflicts of interest will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis once identified/disclosed.

INTERESTED?

If you would like to be considered for the role of peer reviewer, please follow the following procedures:

- You must register as a reviewer and submit your resume in G5 (www.g5.gov). If you need help, you may contact the G5 helpdesk at edcaps.user@ed.gov or call 1-888-336-8930. The G5 system will require you to submit your resume in a PDF format only; please ensure your resume (maximum of 5 pages) includes a brief list of career highlights and/or outlines your specific expertise in one or more of the areas outlined in the above call for reviewers. Please do not exceed the five-page limit for resumes.
- When the G5 system prompts you for your areas of specialization, select all that are applicable to you, but please ensure you select at least one of the AAE priority areas such as: "Arts Education, Arts Integration, or Arts in Education; Professional Development or Educational Administration; Educational Program Evaluation." Please note that registering in G5 does not guarantee that you will be selected as a reviewer.
- To expedite consideration of your resume, be sure to send a copy (maximum of 5 pages) to AAEPeerReview@ed.gov.

NOTE: Even if you registered to be a peer reviewer in prior years, we ask that you check your registration to ensure that we have current information. (See instructions outlined below).

If you desire, you may indicate additional areas of expertise outside of the priorities of the AAE program to indicate complementary areas of expertise, but you are not required to do so.

PROGRAM INFORMATION: For more information about these Arts Programs, go to the Assistance for Arts Education (AAE) program website at <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-discretionary-grants-support-services/well-rounded-education-programs/assistance-for-arts-education/> Please direct all questions to AAEPeerReview@ed.gov.

The Department solicits reviewers without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability. The Department will provide reasonable accommodations for a qualified individual with a disability so that individual might participate in the peer reviewer application process. If you require a reasonable accommodation to apply to participate in this review, please contact us by email at AAEPeerReview@ed.gov no later than July 1, 2022.