



# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) Equitable Access Arts & Culture 2024-2026

The following is a list of questions about the Equitable Access Arts & Culture program received by Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) staff from potential applicants, and the responses from HCF staff. The content has been edited to remove identifying information and consolidate questions that were asked multiple times. **This list may be updated periodically with additional questions and responses.**

QUESTION	RESPONSE
Can a program with a fiscal sponsor apply?	Programs with fiscal sponsors are not eligible to apply. Applicants must be nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.
Can a nonprofit organization submit more than one application?	A nonprofit organization can submit only one application. For this application, applicants should share about their organization and existing programs, instead of applying for one specific program or project.
Can we apply to this Funding Opportunity with the same program that we've applied to another Funding Opportunity, like the Atherton Family Foundation?	Applicants can apply to this Funding Opportunity and other Funding Opportunities of HCF and the private foundations HCF supports. Note, the focus for this Funding Opportunity is on organizations' overall work toward increasing equitable access to arts and culture opportunities unlike other Funding Opportunities that may focus on a single, specific program.
Can we send in an application to be previewed and receive feedback before we submit?	HCF does not review drafts of applications and provide feedback. If you have specific questions about the application, please reach out to Elise von Dohlen at <a href="mailto:evondohlen@hcf-hawaii.org">evondohlen@hcf-hawaii.org</a> .
Can you define equitable access?	Equitable access is defined as the opportunity to practice and participate in arts and culture regardless of individuals' race, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status, residency, and other protected characteristics.
Can we choose more than 1 key characteristic?	To be eligible for this Funding Opportunity, applicants must align with at least 1 of the key characteristics. In the application, applicants must select the key characteristic that their organization most closely aligns with. In the "Organization Description" narrative question, applicants can share how their organizations aligns with more than one key characteristic (if applicable).
Can you share more details regarding the data applicants need to provide?	The strongest applicants will be organizations that currently utilize data and other information to understand access barriers and opportunities. This could include census and organization demographic data, feedback from community about access barriers, etc. Applicants should have existing strategies and

	programs targeted to addressing equitable access to opportunities to practice and participate in Arts & Culture and utilize evaluation to assess the organization's impact in addressing equitable access. Evaluation data could include demographic data of participants, anecdotal feedback, changes in participants' knowledge and behaviors, etc.
Are matching funds required?	HCF will award 2-year general operating support grants up to \$60,000 (\$30,000 per year). A program budget is not required since the grant funding will generally be unrestricted and can be used to best meet grantees' needs. Applicants do not request a specific grant amount and are not required to have match funding.
I understand that the program needs to be existing. Is there a certain amount of time that it should have been in operation for?	No, there is no specific amount of time the program must have been in operation.
What will the "community of support" network be like? When will these meetings be held?	Grantees of this program will participate in a "community of support" network which will include 2 gatherings per year. Through shared learning, the network will define the problem of equitable access for specific communities, islands, and across the state; generate ideas and solutions; and refine strategies to advance equitable access. If held in-person, HCF will provide a stipend for travel costs for participants traveling between islands. The meetings will be held based on the availability of grantees and will be spread out throughout the year.
What is the time period for the grant? When will applicants be notified?	The grant period is 12/15/2024 – 12/14/2026. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions in early December 2024.
What is the best way to check if we have outstanding final reports?	Login to the <a href="#">Grants Portal</a> and select "My Organization's Activities." You will see a list of reports for your organization including the due date. If you have any questions, you can submit a support ticket <a href="#">here</a> .
Can the narrative responses include diacritical markings in written 'Ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian language)?	Yes, the online application accepts diacritical markings in written 'Ōlelo Hawai'i.