

Appendix 1: Grant Eligibility Criteria

For all grant programs, applicants deemed ineligible and not recommended for funding are contacted by staff, provided with feedback on their application, and encouraged to apply in the following year.

Arts and Culture Grant

To be eligible for an Arts and Culture Grant, organizations are required to:

- Be operating with a specific mandate to provide and support arts, culture, or heritage activities.
- Be based and active in Mississauga year-round.
- Be governed by volunteers on a not-for-profit basis, and providing programs and services open to the public and publicized citywide.
- Be in good standing with the City, which means there are no outstanding debts owed to the City, any applicable final reports from previous grants have been submitted, and group adhered to terms and conditions of previous funding agreements.

Funding for annual grants must be used for 2025 calendar year operating expenses. Multi-year grants must be used for operating expenses in the 2025, 2026 and 2027 calendar years. Organizations in operation for less than 4 years and/or have not received City of Mississauga funding in the past four years are only eligible to apply as “New and Emerging” applicants. Additional criteria for applicants applying as Established Organizations or Multi-Year organizations are as follows:

Established Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating as a not-for-profit for a minimum of four years; • Received funding through the Arts & Culture grant program in the past four years; • Legally incorporated as a not-for-profit/charity arts, culture or heritage organization.
Multi-Year Funded Organizations (Three-year funding, by invitation only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating as a professional arts/heritage organization with professional staff/artists who are paid industry-standard rates; • Total revenue of \$400,000 or more a year; • Identified by the Recreation & Culture Division as providing programs/services the City would otherwise have to provide; • Provide programs/services that align with the Recreation & Culture Division’s strategic priorities as outlined in the Cultural Policy and Culture Master Plan; • Received funding from the City of Mississauga for more than five years; • Are in good standing with the City of Mississauga (no outstanding debts with the City, all final reports submitted, adhered to the terms and conditions of previous grants);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive a score on their application of at least 4 out of 5 from the Peer Assessment Committee.
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Eligible applications are evaluated and compared using the following four criteria:

1. Resident Need, Engagement & Inclusivity
2. Strengthening Culture in Mississauga/ Identifying, Preserving and Celebrating Mississauga's Heritage
3. Governance
4. Organizational Sustainability

Culture Projects Grant

- Operating on a not-for-profit basis and governed by volunteers or a collective with a legal identity.
- Business Improvement Areas (BIAs).
- Projects must be temporary, and the group assumes responsibility for the removal (and restoration of land/building if applicable) at the end of the life of the project.
- Projects must be open and accessible to all Mississauga residents.
- For murals on private property, they must be visible from the public realm.
- Projects must be arts, culture or heritage focused.
- Projects must take place in Mississauga.
- Be in good standing with the City, which means there are no outstanding debts owed to the City, any applicable final reports from previous grants have been submitted, and group adhered to terms and conditions of previous funding agreements.

Eligible applications are evaluated and compared using the following four criteria:

1. Resident Need, Engagement & Inclusivity
2. Strengthening Cultural Products in Mississauga
3. Governance
4. Resources

Cultural Festivals & Celebrations Grant

To be eligible for a CFC, not-for-profit organizations and Business Improvement Areas (BIAs) are required to:

- Run an event that takes place in Mississauga for one full day or a few consecutive days.
- Provide programming or services that are open to the public and publicized city-wide.
- Be in good standing with the City of Mississauga (no outstanding debts with the City, all final reports submitted, adhered to the terms and conditions of previous grants).

Annual grants must be used for the 2025 calendar year's eligible expenses. Multi-year grants must be used for eligible expenses in the 2025, 2026 and 2027 calendar years.

Organizations in operation for less than 4 years and/or have not received City of Mississauga funding in the past four years are only eligible to apply as “New and Emerging” applicants. Additional criteria for applicants applying as Established Organizations or Multi-Year organizations are as follows:

Established Festivals and Celebrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating for four years or more; • Received funding through the CFC grant program in the past four years; • Provides programming or services that are open to the public and publicized city-wide.
Multi-Year Funded Festivals (Three Year Funding, by invitation only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legally incorporated as a not-for-profit organization; • Received funding through the CFC grant program for more than five years; • Total revenue of \$200,000 or more a year; • Attendance of 50,000 or more a year; • Must have paid event staff; and • Receive a score on their application of at least 4 out of 5 from the Peer Assessment Committee. Festivals that do not receive a score of at least 4 out of 5 will be considered for a one-year grant.

Eligible applications are evaluated and compared using the following four criteria:

1. Resident Need, Engagement & Inclusivity
2. Building Artistic and Economic Impact
3. Governance
4. Organizational Sustainability

Community Grant

To be eligible for an annual City of Mississauga Community Grant, organizations are required to:

- Be a legally incorporated not-for-profit community group in operation for a minimum of 4 years and be registered in good standing in the City of Mississauga’s Community Group Registry Program (CGRP). If you are a new and emerging community group (i.e. operating

for less than 4 years), you may qualify for the Small Project Matching Grant program for funding opportunities.

- Be based and active in Mississauga and operating year-round. Groups that qualify for “Regional Status” in the CGRP are still eligible for funding, provided that 100% of the awarded funding is allocated to programming/services that benefit Mississauga residents.
- Be in good standing with the City, which means there are no outstanding debts owed to the City, any applicable final reports from previous grants have been submitted, and group adhered to terms and conditions of previous funding agreements.
- Proof of financial sustainability with no major deficits.

Multi-Year Community Grants contribute to the sustainability of organizations by providing support for core operating expenses. Community groups must meet all eligibility criteria above and demonstrate the return on investment to Mississauga residents from previous grants.

Eligible applications are evaluated and compared using the following four criteria:

1. Demonstrated Need and Rationale for Funding
2. Feasibility of Grant Proposal & Organizational Effectiveness
3. Resident Engagement & Inclusivity