

REGIONAL CULTURAL FACILITIES PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Regional Cultural Facilities Program provides capital-project funding for acquisition, construction or renovation of regional cultural facilities (not for libraries or historic restoration projects). The projects must be beyond the early planning stages, as funding is not intended for feasibility studies or architectural drawings.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Municipal and county governments and not-for-profit corporations (active status under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, and 501c(3) or (4) Internal Revenue Service designation required).

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE

Grants.

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Annual grants may not exceed the lesser of \$2.5 million or 10 percent of the total project cost (TPC). Total state funding may not exceed the lesser of \$10 million in a consecutive five-year period or 10 percent of the TPC.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

Annual state legislative appropriation.

APPLICATION PROCESS/DEADLINE

The deadline for FY 2010 is July 14, 2008; the grant period is July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010; a panel review meeting takes place in November 2008; the Florida Arts Council evaluates the applications; funding recommendations are presented to the secretary of state for approval; a priority list of recommended grants is then submitted to the next regular session of the Legislature for funding consideration.

MATCHING/OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Budgets must document proposed acquisition, construction or renovation costs of at least \$50 million. Application must document a 150-mile service area; and must provide a description of educational and cultural programs. A \$2 match for every \$1 grant requested; at least 50 percent of the match must be cash. Must have ownership of the land and building (in cases where either the land or building is not owned, fee simple, by the applicant, all underlying owners must satisfy the eligibility requirements above; a lease can be used to meet this criterion; however, the "value" of the lease cannot be used as match). Applications will be accepted online only at www.florida-arts.org.

CONTACT

Donald R. Blancett, Program Manager
Division of Cultural Affairs
Florida Department of State
1001 DeSoto Park Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 245-6483
Fax: 245-6492
E-mail: dblancett@dos.state.fl.us