

CREATIVE ENTREPRENEUR ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

When does the application open?

Applications are always open but are evaluated quarterly. They are due no later than the last day of January, April, July, and October for evaluation.

Who can apply?

For-profit small-businesses with a gross annual revenue of less than \$200,000 in Berks, Lancaster, or Schuylkill Counties of Pennsylvania. If you are located outside of Region 7, please visit the [PCA website](#) to determine who your regional partner is.

What is the activity period?

The Grant Activity Period is 12 months.

What qualifies as a “creative” business?

The following industries and professionals may be eligible for this grant:

Marketing – Advertising and marketing agencies & professionals

Architecture – Architecture firms & architects

Visual Arts & Crafts – Galleries, artists, artisans & makers

Design – Product, interior, graphic, and fashion design firms and designers

Film & Media – Film, video, animation, TV & Radio businesses

Digital Games – Companies, programmers & individuals producing games

Music & Entertainment – Producers, venues, musicians & performers

Publishing – Print or electronic businesses & content creators, editors & writers

How do I get started?

The first step is to contact one of our referral partners and set up a meeting to develop your business plan.

Are there reporting requirements?

Yes. A Final Report is due no later than the last day of the month following the conclusion of the Grant Activity Period. All grant-related expenses must be documented.

Is the Creative Sector Flex Fund renewable?

No. As of January 2024, business owners may reapply for funding through the Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program 3 years after the completion of their previous grant cycle, assuming all reporting has been completed successfully.

What if I don't spend the full amount of the grant?

You have 12 months to spend the grant money. Any money unspent or spent on ineligible expenses must be returned to Berks Arts to be returned to the PA Council on the Arts.

