



To: Distribution List

From: Faculty Research Development Office (FRDO)
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: NEH Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants: Capital Projects and Digital Projects, (20220517-CHA)

Date: 3/17/2022

Dear UNM Researchers,

The purpose of the NEH Challenge Grants program is to strengthen the institutional base of the humanities by enabling infrastructure development and capacity building. Awards aim to help institutions secure long-term support for their core activities and expand efforts to preserve and create access to outstanding humanities materials. Expected outputs include buildings; equipment; digital infrastructure. Activities supported by the Challenge Grant program include:

- **Capital Projects** supports the design, purchase, construction, restoration, or renovation of facilities for humanities activities. This includes the purchase and installation of related moveable and permanently affixed equipment for exhibiting, maintaining, monitoring, and protecting collections (whether on exhibit or in storage), and for critical building systems, such as electrical, heating ventilation and air conditioning, security, life safety, lighting, utilities, telecommunications, and energy management.
- **Digital Infrastructure** supports the maintenance, modernization, and sustainability of existing digital scholarly projects and platforms.

Challenge Grant projects are funded in three levels with different match ratios and periods of performance depending on the amount requested. **Hispanic-serving institutions of higher education (of which UNM is one) may request a 1:1 match ratio at all funding levels.**

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Period of performance	Up to two years	Two to five years	Two to five years
Required match ratio	1:1 for all applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1: for applicants meeting special eligibility requirements • 3:1 for applicants meeting general eligibility requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:1: for applicants meeting special eligibility requirements • 4:1 for applicants meeting general eligibility requirements

		See C2. Matching Requirements in the NOFO.	See C2. Matching Requirements in the NOFO.
Maximum NEH award	\$150,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
Maximum required third-party nonfederal gifts	\$150,000	\$1,500,000	\$4,000,000
Maximum total project costs	\$300,000	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000

Complete program and eligibility guidelines are in the two Notices of Funding Opportunities: [Capital Projects](#) and [Digital Infrastructure](#). The agency deadline for submitting proposals is **May 17, 2022**. A second deadline is **September 27, 2022**.

This is a limited competition. **Institutions may apply for only one NEH Challenge Grant** per calendar year (either Capital Projects or Digital Infrastructure). Please submit your 3-page preproposal (plus budget and CV; 11-point font) by **NOON on Tuesday, April 5, 2022** via UNM’s [InfoReady Review portal](#). **NOTE: This is the one limited competition for both 2022 deadlines.** No late submissions will be considered.

The preproposal narrative should include the following sections:

- Project overview
- the humanities significance and audience
- the long-term impact and institutional commitment
- activities and planning for either the capital or digital project
- financial capacity and fundraising plans
- Deliverables, outcomes, and sustainability

The narrative should be accompanied by a **draft budget overview** and an **abbreviated PI CV**.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at limited@unm.edu.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact [Corey Ford](#) or [Cassandra Misenaar](#) for more information.