

LEGISLATIVE FEDERAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
ACT 150, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2009

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY QUESTIONNAIRE

Instructions: Please use this MS Word document as a template, entering your answers below the corresponding number/letter. The commission is cognizant of the numerous reporting requirements of ARRA and does not wish to burden your Department or agency with duplicative requests for information where possible. Please use information that you have all ready reported to the Federal government, as applicable.

If a question is not applicable please indicate N/A. The information requested under question 1 should be answered under each item for each group/category or program/project. However, Questions 2 and 3 need not be answered for each group/category or program/project.

1. For each group/category or program/project for which ARRA funds have been obtained, please provide the following information:

Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (HSFCA)

- (a) A brief summary of the program/project, including goals;
The mission of the HSFCA is to promote, perpetuate, preserve, and encourage culture and the arts, history and the humanities as central to the quality of life of the people of Hawaii.
The purpose of ARRA funds directed to the HSFCA is to retain jobs in Hawaii's arts community that were either jeopardized or lost due to the economic downturn.
- (b) Whether funds were appropriated for expenditure by a federal agency, were awarded as a formula/block grant to a State or county agency, or were awarded on a competitive grant basis;
Funds were awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) as a formula grant to the HSFCA through the Governor.
- (c) Whether matching funds are required, and, if so:
Matching funds are not required.
 - (i) Are they available;
 - (ii) Have they been secured;
 - (iii) If they have not been secured, why not; and
 - (iv) Will the State be required to continue that match or provide increased/full funding in the future;

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- (d) If there are additional requirements to receive funds, what are they;
Funds must be subgranted to eligible arts organizations in Hawaii. Eligibility is determined by Chapter 9, HRS. (Chapter 9 establishes the HSFCA's Biennium Grants Program.)
- (e) The amount of funds involved and the state/federal fiscal year within which the funds must be expended (e.g. SFY 2009-2010 or FFY 2009-2010);
The amount of the award to the HSFCA was \$292,900 to be administered in State FY 2010.
- (f) What criteria were used to identify the program/project as a priority and how does the program/project meet them;
The NEA restricted its grant to the state to be in support of arts positions that were either lost or jeopardized due to the economic downturn. Due to time constraints in which to contract the funds, the HSFCA extended the grant opportunity only to the approximately 200 arts organizations that had established their eligibility for State funds through Chapter 9, HRS within the last 5 years.
- (g) Efforts undertaken to coordinate application for funds and administration of the program/project, including expenditure of funds, with other federal, state, and county agencies;
ARRA funds for the arts were distributed by the NEA, regional organization (WESTAF) and the state arts agency (HSFCA). The NEA restricted ARRA funds to a single source per organization. Hence, there was coordination at the federal, regional and state levels. The HSFCA has 2 online reporting systems for ARRA funds at the state and regional levels.
- (h) The criteria used to select activities for the program/project;
N/A
- (i) Efforts made to provide public notice and seek public comment/input or, if public comment/input was not sought, why;
We ran an article in our March 2009 e-newsletter about the pending availability of stimulus funds. Notification of availability of funds was sent to eligible arts organizations statewide. Notice of public meeting for the panel review was posted online and filed with the Lieutenant Governor's office, as is required by law.
- (j) Efforts made during the bidding/award process to ensure that it was transparent and that the funds were awarded based on merit and in a prompt, fair, and reasonable manner;
The HSFCA held a Grants Committee meeting where the NEA's criteria was interpreted and organized into guidelines. The HSFCA added its own rules and

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priorities to those guidelines. A review process was specifically designed for the ARRA applications using a 40-point rating scale. Applications were reviewed by staff and reviewed, rated, and awarded funding by panelists.

The NEA required grant applications to be reviewed by a peer panel. Panelists were selected for their commitment to the arts, knowledge of various art forms, geographic representation, professional expertise, objectivity, education and experience. The panel review was done in an open meeting.

- (k) Measures employed to: (1) reduce duplication of efforts, (2) ensure that funds were used for authorized purposes, and (3) prevent cost overruns, fraud, waste, error, and abuse;
Approximately 15% of the ARRA grant was set aside to hire a contract worker to coordinate the reporting process to the NEA. In hiring an individual, the HSFCA is also perpetuating training of grants administration in Hawaii's arts community.
- (l) Current status of the program/project, including percentage of awarded funds that have been obtained, percentage of awarded funds encumbered and/or expended, and what part(s) of program/project have been completed; and
All contracts (22) have been encumbered, an online quarterly reporting system has been designed and launched through the Western States Arts Federation, and projects are currently underway.
- (m) Actual or anticipated economic impact to the State of the program/project, including the number of jobs saved/created and the long-term public benefits of the program/project.
At least 22 jobs have been maintained. This is invaluable for most arts organizations in the state, as many rely on continuity of programming, administration and operations resting with dedicated individuals. It is important that the service provided by these 22 individuals is enabling organizations to thrive under extremely difficult circumstances. The more organizational infrastructure that can be sustained, the less will need to be reestablished in the future.
2. For other programs/projects, if ARRA funds, such as competitive grants, were available for a program/project but were not sought or were denied, please briefly describe why the funds were not sought or why they were denied.
Not applicable.
3. Please describe:
- (a) Any legal/operational barriers/constraints encountered in the award, receipt, encumbrance, or expenditure of funds, including procurement, late/delayed federal guidance, and reporting requirements;

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None

- (b) The effect of those barriers/constraints; and
- (c) If and how they were mitigated.