

ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN: INDEPENDENT PROJECTS FAQ

Q: I AM WORKING ON A BOOK, BUT I DO NOT YET HAVE A PUBLISHER. WILL MY PROJECT BE COMPETITIVE?

A: If the core of your proposal is to publish a book and you have no history with publication and no publisher confirmed, this is less compelling. While it is unnecessary to have a final commitment with a publisher for your application, having one, or being in discussion with one, is preferable.

If you do not have a publishing history, consider whether or not your request should be to focus on an article or chapter that you will present publicly and for which you will pursue publication. You might be ahead of yourself in seeking to publish a book.

Q: I WANT TO MOUNT AN EXHIBITION OF MY WORK, BUT I HAVE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE. WILL THIS BE COMPETITIVE?

A: Panelists look at your experience as part of their assessment. If you have never curated an exhibition before and have no venue, the panel has no evidence that you are able to meet your goal. You might ask yourself: is an exhibition the only way to make your project accessible to your audience? What is the right format? Are you better able to make your case with another form of presentation where you have some background experience.

Q: I AM NOT SURE WHICH SPONSOR WILL ACCEPT MY PROPOSAL, SO I AM SUBMITTING TO EVERYONE! IS THIS OK?

A: No. You can only submit one application per cycle to NYSCA. Additionally, sponsors do a tremendous amount of work to submit an application on your behalf – submitting to more than one unnecessarily duplicates work.

Q: MY PROJECT INVOLVES AN INSTALLATION, BUT IT IS NOT GOING TO BE IN NEW YORK STATE. IS THAT OK?

A: No. NYSCA support comes from New York State taxpayers. It must support programs or installations which are accessible to those taxpayers.

Q: MY PROJECT INVOLVES A TOPIC THAT IS NOT NYS-BASED. IS THAT OK?

A: As long as you are not using New York State funds for non-New York State travel, and as long as a public dimension of the project also takes place (or in the case of a publication is available) in New York State, then this is OK.

Q: I AM HIRING OTHERS TO HELP ME WITH MY PROJECT – DO I NEED TO SUBMIT THEIR RESUMES AND PROOF OF RESIDENCY TOO?

A: The answer to this depends on many scenarios.

- Resumes and Proof of NYS Residency are required by the project leads. If your name is in the project title: Smith: Green Architecture or Smith/Jones: Green Architecture then yes.
- If you are hiring assistants to complete work, you may wish to include a brief summary of the skills they will need. For example, you may be hiring 2 graduate students working on their M. Arch because you need assistants with some skills, but not licensed architects. You may include a brief bio for them if you choose, but it's not required. Their residency proof is not required because they are not receiving the grant.
- If you are hiring a specialist whose expertise is critical to your project – but who is not your partner in this project – you are encouraged to submit a resume for that person. If that person's unique skill is critical to your project, you will want the resume as evidence of those unique skills.