

Sample form, not for offline completion.

Visit <https://musicoregon.grantplatform.com> to apply.

Echo Fund 2024

Project funding for independent musicians

WELCOME!

The 2025 MusicOregon Echo Fund application is open August 4, 2025 through September 5, 2025 at 11:59pm. MusicOregon is the first statewide organization to create grant programs specifically designed to support the unique needs of independent, commercial, contemporary musical artists. The Echo Fund empowers creative musical excellence and professional development by supporting independent, working musicians with funding for creative, non-performance projects that support new growth and spur creative and career development.

Our partner, the City of Portland's Office of Arts & Culture, is providing \$100,000 in grants to Portland-based independent musicians across all genres. MusicOregon is providing \$20,000. The total amount of Echo Fund awards this cycle is \$120,000.

Eligible Projects

Projects must fit one of the following categories. Echo Fund prioritizes applicants who use local vendors, contractors, and musicians.

Production (tracking, session players, engineering, production, mixing, mastering, recording project management, studio rental, etc.)

Promotion (promo materials, website development, EPK, publicity, photography, videography, digital and print advertising, posters, printing, design)

Distribution (physical media replication (vinyl/CD), distribution platform fees such as Distrokid or CD Baby, mailing costs)

Resources (purchases of instruments, gear, software, performance-related equipment, pedals, amplifiers, etc.)

Here are [some sample projects](#) that fit within our guidelines.

Ineligible Projects

- Activities related to live performances, events and touring
- Artists' personal expenses, such as rent, groceries, childcare, etc.
- Paid or brokered placement on streaming playlists/platforms
- Education, training, lessons, etc.
- Gas, food, travel expenses
- Rehearsal space rental costs
- Activities that do not take place between December 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026
- A project that is not related to music.

GET STARTED

Let's get started by confirming your eligibility. You can review the specifics below.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The following are eligibility requirements for the Echo Fund:

- **You are a working musician** - A working musician is a person who receives compensation for creating and/or delivering music and can show evidence of their activities in the community and online.
- **Your project is independent** - The Echo Fund awards grants to working musicians' independent projects. We do not fund projects that are activities of nonprofit organizations or commercial entities.
- **You reside in Portland** - This year, the Echo Fund will distribute \$120,000 in grants. The majority of funding (\$100,000) is provided by The City of Portland's Office of Arts & Culture, with an additional \$20,000 from MusicOregon. Grantees must reside in one of the following zip codes: 970xx, 971xx, 972xx.
- **You are an individual or group** - We fund working musicians who operate as individuals, sole proprietors, Limited Liability Companies (LLC), partnerships, and other legally organized entities.
- **You can demonstrate your tax status and legal address** - Grantees must provide MusicOregon with a signed W-9 form that includes a Social Security Number (SSN), or Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), or Employer Identification Number (EIN) and your legal address in Portland. *If you do not have a tax ID, please contact us at contact@musicoregon.org for confidential assistance.*
- MusicOregon will consider **one applicant per project**. If your band has a project, designate one member to apply.
- Through its Small Grants Program, the City of Portland's Office of Arts & Culture's three grantmaking contractors distribute grants through Friends of IFCC, MusicOregon, and the Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC). You may apply to more than one of these providers, however, **the total amount of funding received from all three partners combined may not exceed \$5,000**. For more information, visit Portland.gov/arts-grants

WHO CANNOT APPLY

- Non-musicians - The Echo Fund is only open to working musicians. If you are an event producer, engineer, venue, or other individual or business working in the music industry but not creating music yourself, you are not eligible.
- Deejays or those who curate playlists of other artists' songs without a creative musical contribution of their own.
- Employees, board members, and family members of employees and board members of MusicOregon
- Nonprofit organizations, commercial entities, schools, and school districts.
- Musicians under 18 years of age.

If you have questions about eligibility, please reach out to us by email at contact@musicoregon.org

Check out our FAQs [here](#).

Application name

I confirm I am a music artist residing in the Portland Metro area within one of these zip codes: 970xx, 971xx, 972xx.

I confirm I am now or will be eligible to receive funds: I have a Tax ID or Social Security Number

Tell us who you are.

First Name

Last Name

Project/Group/Artist Name, if different (optional)

This would be your music alias or stage name if you have one.

Years Professionally Active

Short Bio (200 words max)

200 words

Please note that MusicOregon may use information in this short bio to promote your project if it is selected for funding.

Website / Primary Web Presence (optional)

Other Web Presence (optional)

For example, your Instagram or Facebook page

Electronic Press Kit (EPK) (optional)

Your Legal, Physical Street Address

Street Address

City

State

State abbreviation

5-digit Zip Code

Your Email Address

Your Phone Number

Best number to reach you during workday hours.

What category does your project best represent?

Projects must fall into one of the following categories. Using local vendors, contractors and resources is highly encouraged. * **Production** (tracking, session players, engineering, production, mixing, mastering, recording project management, studio rental, etc.) * **Promotion** (promo materials, website development, EPK, publicity, photography, videography, digital and print advertising, posters, printing, design) * **Distribution** (physical media replication (vinyl/CD), distribution platform fees such as Distrokid or CD Baby, mailing costs) * **Resources** (purchases of instruments, gear, software, performance-related equipment, pedals, amplifiers, etc.)

One-sentence description of your project

Examples include: "Record final tracks for my new album," or "Make a music video," or "Hire a publicist to promote my new album online"

Full project description: Please describe your project in as much detail as possible, including the following 1200 information: **What are you going to do? Who is involved?** (Please include all members of your project, characters including band members and any consultants or vendors, and note those who are locally based). **How will you do it?** and **What will the end result be?**

What is the timeline? Echo Fund awards will be distributed no later than December 9, 2024. Take us 1200 through your project from start to finish, including rough dates. (It's okay if things change, as long as the characters project is completed by August 1, 2025). We want to understand how you're thinking about the timeline now.

Start date

End date

How will this project help you grow creatively or reach your goals as a musician?

1200 characters

What does this project mean to you in terms of your identity and what you stand for as an artist?

1200 characters

Your budget can be simple. Grant awards range from \$1000 to \$5000.

In the table below:

- List all anticipated costs and expenditures on your project (estimates are fine) with all vendors, personnel and materials you plan to use.
- Note the location of vendors and artists.
- If your project exceeds \$5000, list the additional sources of funding (planned, committed, and/or received).

What is the total amount of funds you are seeking?

Grant awards range anywhere from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Your ask amount should be the total of the line items listed in your budget below.

Project Budget

| | Line Items | Item Description | Cost |
|----|--------------|------------------|------|
| 1 | Line Item 1 | | 0.00 |
| 2 | Line Item 2 | | 0.00 |
| 3 | Line Item 3 | | 0.00 |
| 4 | Line Item 4 | | 0.00 |
| 5 | Line Item 5 | | 0.00 |
| 6 | Line Item 6 | | 0.00 |
| 7 | Line Item 7 | | 0.00 |
| 8 | Line Item 8 | | 0.00 |
| 9 | Line Item 9 | | 0.00 |
| 10 | Line Item 10 | | 0.00 |

List up to 10 budget items in this table. Write a description of each item next to its associated cost. Your budget total should be a minimum of \$1,000 and should not exceed a total of \$5,000.

Attach project files or provide links to your work (up to 5 files)

- Audio: compressed file types only (mp3, aac, etc). The upload limit is 5MB.
- Images: pdf or jpg format only

- Video: links only (YouTube, Vimeo, or similar).
- Please ensure files and links are shareable and not password protected.

Please tell us a little bit more about yourself. (optional)

MusicOregon's mission includes serving those who have been under-supported in the Portland music scene. This demographic data (eight voluntary multi-select questions at the end of the application form) helps us know where we need to improve outreach efforts and expand grant accessibility. Your information is anonymized and kept confidential.

To add additional information about yourself or a member of your band/project, please click the **"add contributor"** button below and provide details on additional team members as needed.

Which of the following describes your racial or ethnic identity?

- American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous Peoples of the Americas
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Latino/a/e/x or Hispanic
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- I prefer not to answer
- Not listed above, please describe in the space below

Please select ALL that apply.

If your race/ethnicity is not listed above, please describe here. (optional)

Language(s) spoken or signed at home: (optional)

If you prefer not to answer, please leave this question blank.

Are you an enrolled member, and/or a descendant, of a Federal or State recognized American Indian Tribe (optional) or Alaskan Native Village/Corporation?

- Enrolled Member (Describe below)
- Descendant (Describe below)
- I am not an enrolled member or descendant of a federally or state-recognized American Indian Tribe or Alaska Native Village Corporation.
- I prefer not to answer

Please select ALL that apply.

Enrolled Member - Tribal Affiliation(s) (optional)

Please describe.

Descendant - Tribal Affiliation(s) (optional)

Please describe.

Are you an immigrant or a first-generation American?

What is your age?

Which of the following describes your gender identity?

- Woman, girl
- Man, boy
- Non-binary (including gender non-conforming, genderqueer or genderfluid)
- Indigenous Two-Spirit
- Transgender
- Questioning
- No Gender or Agender
- My identity is not listed here.
- I prefer not to answer
- Other, please describe in the space below

Please select ALL that apply.

If your gender is not listed above, prefer to self-identify and/or tell us your pronouns, please do so below. (optional)

Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQIA2S+ community? (optional)

This includes those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or gender expansive, queer and/or questioning, intersex, asexual, and two-spirit

Do you identify with having or living with a disability?

If yes, please describe the nature of your disability. (optional)

- Mobility or other physical disabilities
- Visual
- Hearing
- Intellectual, Developmental, Cognitive
- Speech or Communication
- Mental Health
- Neurodivergence
- Invisible
- I prefer not to answer
- Not listed above, please describe in the space below.

Please select ALL that apply

If your disability is not listed above, please describe below. (optional)

AWARD TIMELINE

Awards will be announced in mid-November 2025 and distributed in December 2025.

AWARDEE RESPONSIBILITIES & REPORTING

- Grantees must provide a signed grant agreement and documentation of legal address in one of the following zip codes: 970xx, 971xx, 972xx. All grantees will receive an IRS Form 1099 for the tax year they are dispersed.
- **Grantees agree to acknowledge the City of Portland's Office of Arts & Culture and MusicOregon in all external promotion and publicity of projects funded by the Echo Fund.** Grantees will receive digital assets (logos, etc.) in their award packet. Please reach out to us at contact@musicoregon.org if you have challenges with this requirement so we can help.
- Funded project activities must be completed in full by June 30, 2026. You agree to contact MusicOregon if you experience any issues that affect your ability to complete the project on time.
- Provide a final, brief, oral and/or written report on the ways you used the funding, and provide proof of completion by July 31, 2026.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** In order to be eligible for the 2025-26 grant cycle, applicants must have completed any outstanding grant reporting requirements from the previous Echo Fund cycle(s).

EVALUATION

Our evaluation process begins with a staff review of submitted applications to determine basic eligibility. Applications are then reviewed in two rounds by a panel of music professionals and working musicians. Panelists score applications based on the criteria described in detail below.

PANEL REVIEW CRITERIA

Panelists will review applications and select awardees using the following criteria:

- **Benefit to the applicant** Does the project support the applicant's artistic growth? Does the project enhance the artist's career development?
- **Demonstrated planning and preparation** Does the application have a clear timeline of activities? Does the application list participants and vendors? Does the budget break down costs and include links or other supporting material? If applicable, if the overall budget exceeds \$5,000, does the budget list additional sources of funding?
- **Does the applicant have a demonstrated presence in the community as evidenced by online and/or other means of documentation?**
- **Local impact** Does the applicant plan to use vendors, contractors, and resources from our local music community? *The Echo Fund prioritizes applicants who use local artists and vendors.*

Each application is scored on a 1-7 point system. The review committee will score the applications in two rounds. After round one, the top 50% of applicants progress to round two, and are scored based on the same criteria and point system. Grants are then assigned to the top point-scoring applications, in order, until all available funds are awarded.

Need Help?

- First, check our FAQs [here](#)
- Applicant information session: Monday August 11, 2025, 6-7:30 pm
- Grant Writing Workshop: [Monday August 25, 2025, 6-7:30 pm](#) (recording)
- Applicants who have accessibility needs can contact@musicoregon.org for assistance. We will make our best effort to support all who seek to apply.
- Contact the Program Manager, Missi Hasting, at contact@musicoregon.org