

TORONTO ARTS _ COUNCIL

TAC ACCESSIBILITY GRANT 2026 PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis from January to mid-November

TAC is committed to equity and inclusion and welcomes applications from diverse cultural and geographic communities within the City of Toronto. Specific equity measures or targeted programs are in place to ensure full access and participation by Black artists, Indigenous artists, artists of colour, artists who are Deaf, have disabilities or are living with mental illness, artists who self-identify as 2SLGBTQIAP, newcomer and refugee artists, young and emerging artists and artists working outside the downtown core. Learn more about what we are doing to make TAC more accessible and inclusive in our [Equity Framework](#).

Purpose

The TAC Accessibility Grant program provides funding to recipients of a TAC project or strategic grant (“associated project grant”), who identify as Deaf or disabled, or work with key project contributors identifying as Deaf or disabled, to cover the accessibility costs for artists incurred during the funded project.

What does this program support?

Eligible accessibility costs include but are not limited to:

- sign language interpretation
- audio description
- captioning
- communications assistants
- support workers or attendant care (including helpers for Elders)
- transportation
- equipment and technology rentals
- software licenses for the duration of the project
- Equipment, hardware and software purchases of less than \$100
- mental health supports that are directly related to the project
- other supports required to meet artists’ and key project contributors’ accessibility needs

Note:

Eligible expenses are not limited to the examples above. TAC recognizes that applicants and project contributors who are Deaf or living with disability are best able to determine what they need to carry out the project. Eligible expenses must be directly related to activities described in the associated project grant application.

The maximum grant amount is \$5,000. Applicants may receive less than the full amount requested. You may apply for multiple TAC Accessibility Grants for the same projects for a total maximum of \$5,000.

Recipients of multiple project grants are eligible to apply for up to \$5,000 in Accessibility Grants for each TAC funded project.

Who can apply?

This grant program is open to **grant recipients** in any TAC discipline or strategic program, who have not completed their projects and are still within the 2-year window from the notification letter date.

The funding requested is to cover upcoming accessibility costs for the artist working on the project and directly related to the delivery of the project. Artists and key contributors who are Deaf or disabled must be confirmed as participating in the project at the time of application.

For Individuals:

Individuals who identify as Deaf or living with disability and/or who work with key project contributors identifying as Deaf or disabled, on the specific project for which the Accessibility Grant is requested.

For Organizations and Collectives:

Organizations and collectives that have members of their artistic or leadership team who identify as Deaf or living with disability and/or who work with key project contributors identifying as Deaf or disabled, on the specific project for which the Accessibility Grant is requested.

If you are a first-time applicant or have questions about your eligibility or your application, please contact the program manager of your associated project grant.

The applicant for TAC Accessibility Grant must match the applicant on the associated project grant application. (i.e. if the funding is to cover accessibility costs for the contributing artist participating in an organization's TAC-funded project, that organization will be an applicant for TAC Accessibility Grant).

All applicants to TAC Accessibility Grant must meet general eligibility requirements for TAC funding, i.e. their eligibility must not have changed since applying to the associated project grant.

This program does not fund:

- Accessibility costs for the project audience members or participants*
- Capital purchases, building renovations, long-term rentals
- Artist fees
- Expenses related to artists and project contributors who not yet confirmed as project contributors
- Support for writing a TAC grant application or final report; this may be covered by Application Accessibility Support.

* There could be a few exceptions to this, such as when the collaborative and/or disability centered nature of the project makes delineating between key contributors and participants irrelevant. Please discuss this with the program manager of the associated project grant program before applying to TAC Accessibility Grant to establish eligibility.

When can I apply for and use TAC Accessibility Grant?

You can apply for TAC Accessibility Grant at any point during the delivery of your associated project grant, so long as the final report for that grant is not overdue. You can apply for multiple TAC Accessibility Grants for the same project for a total maximum of \$5,000.

How do I apply?

Register and submit the application on TAC Grants Online (<https://tac.smartsimple.ca>). **Applications can be submitted on an ongoing basis from January through mid-November.**

TAC does not accept applications by any other means of delivery. You will receive a confirmation email when your application is submitted. Check your spam/junk mail folder if it doesn't arrive in your inbox.

Application Accessibility Support

Applicants who are Deaf, have a disability, or need support to complete their grant applications can apply for funds to cover the costs of assistance from Application Support Service Providers. Up to \$500 is available per eligible applicant in each calendar year. Please contact your Grant Program Manager at least six weeks before the grant program deadline to determine eligibility, request application support funding, and to review the process for payment to be made to your Service Provider. Requests for application support require approval from the Grant Program Manager.

What do I need to prepare?

The two main sections of the TAC Accessibility Grant are project details and the budget.

- **Project Details:** application number for associated project grant, list of project contributors and summary of accessibility costs for the artists and project contributors working on the project.
- **Accessibility Expenses:** PDF with detailed breakdown of accessibility expenses.

How is my application assessed?

TAC Accessibility Grant requests are processed by TAC staff and are not subject to peer assessment process. The staff only assesses the eligibility of the expenses included in the budget. All eligible expenses will be covered for up to \$5,000 per associated project. In certain cases, after submitting your application you may receive a communication from TAC staff to discuss eligibility. Please note that TAC staff will only ask you to clarify the required accommodations. You never are required to disclose your specific disability or provide any documentation, unless you choose to.

The staff recommendations are approved by TAC Director and CEO.

How and when do I find out the application results?

TAC will send you an email when the results are available and you will log in to TAC Grants Online to receive the results. Notification will generally be issued within **four weeks** of the submission date. Note: the application is open until November 15 and then closes until January.

What if my project changes?

Grants may be used only for the purposes outlined in the application. Changes to the project contributors or project details as described in the application must be reported promptly to TAC. In such cases, TAC may require full or partial repayment of the grant.

What do I do when I have completed the project?

Recipients are required to file a final report on their associated project grant that includes information on their TAC Accessibility Grant. The final report is filled out and submitted online through TAC's granting portal. The due date for the final report will be included in the associated project grant notification letter.

What are the rules or requirements for this funding?

- Successful applicants will receive a Letter of Understanding. The Letter of Understanding will detail the terms and conditions of the funding. The Letter of Understanding must be signed and uploaded to TAC Grants Online before funding can be released. The Letter of Understanding also describes situations that would require grant repayment.
- Submission of a Social Insurance Number will be required for Individual grant recipients only. Individual grant recipients will receive a T4A for the grant amount.

- Toronto Arts Council has moved to electronic payments. If your application is approved, you will be required to enter the bank account information of the grant recipient that corresponds to the Applicant Name on your Notification Letter. Bank information is submitted along with your Letter of Understanding and other Notification Letter Requirements.
- The City of Toronto requires that all organizations and individuals adopt a policy of non-discrimination as a condition of receiving a grant from the City. All successful applicants will be required to submit a signed Declaration of Compliance with Anti-Harassment/Discrimination Legislation and City Policy. [A copy of the following City documents can be downloaded from TAC's website](#): Anti-Racism, Access and Equity Policy Guidelines, Hate Activity Policy and Procedures and Human Rights and Harassment Policy and Procedures.

Further questions

Contact TAC Senior Coordinator, Grants Support, Sarah Miller-Garvin

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