NEH SUMMER STIPEND AWARDS 2022

Internal Limited-Submission Deadline: Friday, August 20, 2021 by 5:00 p.m.

Applications are invited for the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend Program for summer 2022. The purpose of this program is to stimulate new research in the humanities and its publication. The Summer Stipends program provides $6,000 to support full-time research and writing on a humanities project for a period of two consecutive months. NEH funds may support recipients’ compensation, travel, and other costs related to scholarly research. Projects may begin as early as May 1, 2022. NEH invites research applications from scholars in all disciplines of the humanities and related social sciences, and it encourages submissions from independent scholars and junior scholars. Tenure-line faculty members must be nominated by their home institution, and only two nominations from each institution are permissible (see below for Urbana Campus Limited Submission process).

Summer Stipends support individuals to pursue research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. The program supports projects at any stage of development, but especially early-stage research and late-stage writing in which small awards are most effective. Applicants may seek funding for projects based on completed dissertations; please see page one of the application guidelines/official notice of funding opportunity, for specific guidance in this case. An individual may not hold more than one NEH individual award at the same time, nor may an individual work on a project supported by an NEH institutional award while holding an NEH individual award. (NEH Summer Stipends do not require cost sharing and do not include indirect costs. Summer Stipends are awarded to individual scholars; organizations are not eligible to apply.)

NEH is especially interested in supporting projects that advance humanities work in the following areas:

1) Projects that promote a deeper understanding of American history and culture and that advance civic education and knowledge of our core principles of government, as part of the agency-wide “A More Perfect Union” Special Initiative Advancing Civic Education and Commemorating the Nation’s 250th Anniversary, to help Americans better understand the world’s oldest constitutional democracy and how our founding ideals are met in a modern, pluralistic society.

2) Consideration of diverse topics in American history, from Native American culture to rural life to the rise of the industrial city, from the Civil War to the Cold War to the Civil Rights movement, etc.; projects that examine foundational documents in U.S. history; and projects that examine historical objects, places, traditions, events, and individuals who collectively shaped our states and nation. Applications about the contributions of under-represented communities are highly encouraged.

Please review the NEH Summer Stipend guidelines (page 14) for examples of projects and activities that are not supported by NEH. Full guidelines, application materials, and sample application narratives can be found at the program web page.

As a taxpayer-supported federal agency, NEH endeavors to make the products of its awards available to the broadest possible audience. The goal is for scholars, educators, students, and the American public to have ready and easy access to the wide range of NEH award products. All
other considerations being equal, NEH gives preference to those that provide free access to the public.

Faculty members with tenured or tenure-track positions who teach full-time at institutions of higher education must be nominated by their institutions to apply for a Summer Stipend. Only two nominations (at any rank) may be made to NEH by each university. If you are a full-time tenure-stream University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign faculty member, please do not submit an application directly to NEH; you must apply first to the internal Urbana campus competition (procedures below), and only if you are selected as a campus nominee, can you proceed to apply to NEH. (Emeritus/retired faculty, non-tenure-track faculty, university staff members who are not faculty and who will not be teaching during the academic year prior to the award, as well as independent scholars and community college faculty are all exempt from campus nomination and may apply directly to NEH.)

Eligibility
All applicants must have completed their formal education by the application deadline. U.S. citizens are eligible to apply. Foreign nationals who have been living in the U.S. or its jurisdictions for at least three years immediately prior to the application deadline are also eligible. Specialized faculty, academic professionals, and unaffiliated scholars may apply directly to NEH; please consult the NEH guidelines for details. Applicants who have satisfied all requirements for a degree but are awaiting its conferral may apply, but require additional documentation; see the NEH guidelines for details, especially page three. While applicants need not have advanced degrees, individuals currently enrolled in a degree-granting program are ineligible to apply.

Internal Application Procedure (For Tenure-line Faculty)
One digital copy of the application, consisting of:

- a project narrative (prepared exactly as specified in NEH guidelines pages 9–11 and using NEH’s headings) and not to exceed three single-spaced pages;
- a bibliography, not to exceed one page single-spaced (guidelines page 11); and
- a résumé of no more than two single-spaced pages (prepared according to pages 11–12 of NEH guidelines).

must be submitted to the Humanities Research Institute (HRI) by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 20, 2021. Send all materials as one pdf attachment to apply-hri@illinois.edu. HRI will review the submissions—with an ad hoc review panel—and make the nominations in early September 2021. N.B.: While letters of recommendation are not required for the internal campus competition, they are part of the NEH application. As the turnaround time for submission to NEH after the campus selection is complete is quite brief, HRI recommends applicants apprise their potential referees of their interest in applying to NEH prior to the internal campus deadline. (Campus nominees’ reference letters must be submitted online to NEH no later than October 15, 2021.)

Deadlines
Completed applications are due to HRI no later than Friday, August 20, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Send all materials as a pdf attachment to apply-hri@illinois.edu. Nominees will be notified by
September 10, and all applicants will be notified when the selection process is concluded. Applicants who are chosen as campus nominees must submit their materials to the NEH by September 22 (11:59 P.M. Eastern Time).

NEH Application Process
Following their selection, U of I nominees must submit their complete applications to NEH using Grants.gov Workspace. Campus nominees who have never registered as individual applicants on Grants.gov will need to go to the requisite registration page, and will need to complete an individual profile in order to be able to apply for NEH Summer Stipends.

NEH recommends completing the registration at least two weeks prior to the deadline. Applicants who have already registered at Grants.gov and created an “individual” profile need not re-register to submit their applications. NEH encourages such applicants, however, to check their accounts ahead of the deadline to confirm that it is still active and that the password has not expired. For problems registering with Grants.gov or adding an “individual applicant” profile, contact the Grants.gov help desk at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov. Please be sure to use a Grants.gov individual profile. Summer Stipend applications may not be submitted through institutional accounts.

Applications are due to NEH by September 22, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. NEH also recommends submitting by noon Eastern time on the day of the deadline.

After submission, Grants.gov will send you up to five e-mail messages confirming receipt of your application. These messages represent different stages in the application acceptance process. Applicants should verify that they have received all confirmation messages. It is the applicant’s responsibility to confirm that Grants.gov and subsequently NEH has received the application. NEH will assign a tracking number beginning with FT- to an application when it has been received by the agency. The assignment of a tracking number does not guarantee that the application is free of technical problems (such as missing attachments or failure to convert attachments to PDFs). If NEH’s system detects a technical problem with the application after retrieving it from Grants.gov, NEH will send the applicant an email notification, provided an e-mail address is included in the application. Once an applicant formally submits an application, NEH will not comment on its status except with respect to issues of completeness and eligibility.

Applicants will be notified of the results of their applications by email in April 2022. Notice will be sent to the email address supplied in the application. All applicants may obtain the evaluations of their applications by sending an email message to stipends@neh.gov.

Information can be found at the NEH website, including examples of previously funded projects and sample application narratives.

Help from NEH
Because of the large number of applications, NEH staff members are not able to read and comment on drafts. NEH staff will, however, answer questions about the program and questions and concerns that arise in preparing the proposal and about eligibility. Staff members may be reached at (202) 606-8200 and at stipends@neh.gov. Applicants are encouraged to review the samples of previously funded applications, as well as the broader list of projects.
Tenure-line U of I faculty members who are planning to apply may contact HRI Deputy Director Nancy Castro with questions regarding the internal application process.

Please be aware, also, that the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, through the Office of Research Advising and Project Development (RAPD), offers summer proposal writing groups for those preparing applications for the fall. They are also glad to meet individually and/or provide feedback on drafts via email. Interested parties may contact Maria Gillombardo, Research Development Manager - RAPD, at gillomba@illinois.edu.

For more information about the NEH Summer Stipends internal Urbana Campus nomination process, please contact Nancy Castro at ncastro@illinois.edu or 244-7913.