



General Operating Support (GOS) Grant Amounts: Explained

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture uses a mathematical formula to calculate General Operating Support (GOS) grants. CAC has used the same baseline funding formula since 2008.

Did CAC invent this formula?

No. CAC uses a calculation based on the Ohio Arts Council's formula.

Why does CAC use a formula?

Using a funding formula ensures that:

- grants are determined in a fair and impartial manner; and
- funding is relative to each organization's budget size to ensure meaningful grants for all organizations.

What are the factors that contribute to the formula and my grant amount?

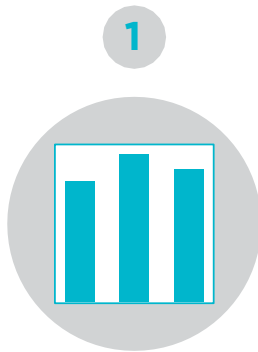
- Your organization's average eligible operating revenue for fiscal years 2020, 2021 and 2022;
- Your organization's average operating revenue compared to the combined average revenue of all other organizations within the GOS pool; and
- The total amount CAC allocated to the GOS program this cycle.

How does CAC determine how much to allocate to the GOS program?

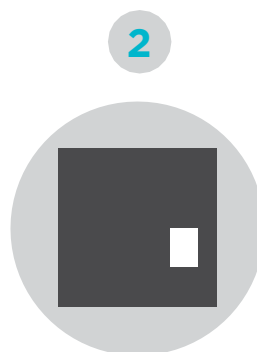
- CAC makes its grants based on actual dollars collected; it cannot make grants based on anticipated revenue collections or future projections.
- CAC analyzes its revenue projections and makes an allocation recommendation to the Board each year.
- The Board reviews the allocation recommendation and makes the final decision during public meeting(s), guided by the [Allocation Policy](#).

2024-25 General Operating Support Grant

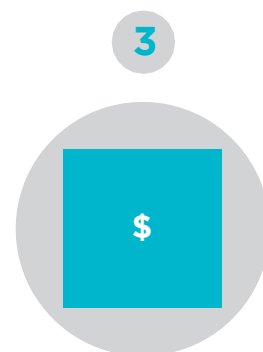
Factors contributing to your grant amount:



Your organization's average adjusted operating budget for fiscal years 2020, 2021, and 2022.



Your organization's average operating budget compared to the combined budgets of all other organizations in the GOS pool.



The total amount of funding CAC has allocated for GOS grants this cycle.



All grantees complete CAC's [Earned Revenue and Support Form](#) for the required years to determine their average ERS number for the past three years.

The 3-year average ERS number is what gets plugged into the funding formula.



Many groups' budgets have changed drastically in the past three years.

These changes will impact grant sizes, not necessarily in proportion to the organization's budget increase or decrease, but in relation to the entire pool.



CAC's revenue has continued to decline since the last GOS cycle, which means a smaller amount will be available to be allocated to the GOS program for 2024-25.

Questions? Contact a member of the [grantmaking team](#).