

INSTITUTE FOR ANARCHIST STUDIES
How to Apply, 2025 Grant Cycle

GUIDELINES AND CHECKLIST FOR GRANT PROGRAM FROM INSTITUTE FOR ANARCHIST STUDIES AND ANARCHIST AGENCY

These guidelines were developed to help you prepare the best possible application, one that closely aligns with our selection process. Our goal in providing this information is transparency leading to a successful round of exciting grants.

Feel free to reach out to info@anarchiststudies.org or coorindator@anarchistagency.com with questions and see the IAS and Agency websites for examples of previous grantees.

About the Grants (in general)

For nearly thirty years, the Institute for Anarchist Studies has funded creative intellectual work that furthers anarchist ideas and makes them accessible to a broad audience. Since 2023, we've collaborated with Anarchist Agency to offer two grant programs: the Anarchist Horizons Grant and the Jen Angel Anarchist Media Grant. We typically award several grant requests between \$300 and \$1500, prioritizing smaller proposals so that we can fund multiple projects each year. Priority is given to creators who are BIPOC, queer and trans/nonbinary, currently incarcerated, low-income, and/or working outside of academia. International applications welcome.

About the Grants (in specific)

The Anarchist Horizons grant program supports a variety of radical projects, including written works, translations, artwork, performance, workshops, and events.

The Jen Angel Anarchist Media Grant was founded in 2023 in memory of Jen Angel, long-time anarchist and media activist. This grant specifically supports multimedia projects that help translate anarchist ideas and practices for the general public.

THE APPLICATION COMPONENTS
What They Are and Why We Ask for Them

Demographic Information

You'll be asked to use a few checklists to self-identify in a series of demographic categories including race / ethnicity, gender, sexuality, veteran status, income level, and institutional affiliation. We recognize that these categories are all imperfect in their own way. Our purpose in asking for this kind of information is so that we can have some data to help us assess whether we are meeting our goals of supporting grantees whose work is often poorly represented within the milieu and who might not otherwise have strong institutional support for the development and dissemination of their work.

Outreach + Completion Plan

Alongside our goal of supporting the production of broad visions of anarchist work, we are also focused on making this work widely accessible. In this section, we'll ask you to provide a clear plan for outreach and timeline for completion. This will include short descriptions of: your intended audience and impact; your plan for outreach and dissemination of your proposed project; your proposed timeline for completion.

Project Information + Budget

This is the primary part of the application, where you get to tell us about your proposed project and what amount of funding you're requesting to complete it. This helps us get a sense of your vision and enables us to assess how our grants can be most useful in bringing completed projects into being. In this section of the application, you'll be asked to:

- Specify to which grant program you are applying
- Confirm the medium in which your proposed project will be produced
- Provide a narrative description of your proposed project, including how it engages with the topics and themes of our Call for Proposals
- Offer a line-item budget for the total amount of funding required to complete the project, including other sources of funding
- Clarify the specific amount of funding you're requesting through this grant program and how it will be used (may include living expenses)

NEXT STEPS

How and When Do We Make Our Decisions

Our Selection Criteria

We use a rubric that is closely aligned with our application form and Call for Proposals. Each person evaluating the applications rates them in the following categories: quality of ideas, financial need, clarity and reasonableness of budget, applicant's positionality, how the project furthers anarchist thought / contains anarchist content, clarity of proposal, and shareability of the work proposed.

Our Selection Process

Once applications are closed, we each read the applications carefully and use a rubric grounded in our selection criteria to identify proposals that have strong support and have a high likelihood of completion within the grant period. We then meet to discuss possible selections, taking into consideration the diversity of projects for this grant cycle, the balance of available funds, the relationship of proposed projects to our initial Call for Proposals, and the potential for effective dissemination and completion timelines.

Our Timeline

Grant applications open November 30th, 2024 and close March 31st, 2025. All applicants will be notified of a decision by June 30th, 2025.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Some General Things You Might Be Wondering

Can people outside the US apply for a grant?

Yes, we welcome applications from all over the world for both grant programs.

Does the project need to be in English?

Your project does not need to be completed in English. In fact, one of our targeted interests in our Call for Proposals continues to be translation projects that make anarchist materials published in English available in other languages and vice versa.

Does the application have to be in English?

While we have varying degrees of familiarity and capability with non-English languages on the board, it is best to submit your application in English since our evaluation rubrics and deliberations are all in English.

Can people who are currently incarcerated apply for a grant?

Yes, we prioritize these projects. If the online form submission provides challenges to application, note that applicants are welcome to have an outside partner submit their grant on their behalf and/or we can arrange for a handwritten application to be submitted. We can also arrange payment to a trusted partner on the outside and/or accounts held within facilities. Please feel free to reach out to info@anarchiststudies.org with questions or requests for accommodation.

Can I apply for a grant if I'm an academic?

Yes, though we do prioritize funding grants from applicants outside of academia since academics tend to have access to more robust programs of funding.

How much funding should I request in my application?

Ask for what you need for your project according to your budget, but be aware that smaller amounts may be prioritized in order to fund more projects. We rarely fund projects with requested amounts above \$1500.

If I receive a grant, what will be expected of me and when?

You will be expected to officially accept the grant by July 31st, 2025, so please make sure to check the email account that you applied with, and be ready to accept payment. If you decide to accept the grant, you will be connected with an IAS or Agency board member as your point person (depending on which grant you applied for) for the duration of the project. In this role, they will coordinate information between you and IAS or Agency, facilitate the development of an appropriate timeline, provide any necessary support for the ongoing project, and eventually help disseminate your work when it is complete. In general, we expect funded projects to be completed with a year.