



For field trips occurring during the 2018-2019 school year

Questions?

Contact Julie Hale, Program Specialist for Arts Education, at julie.hale@ded.mo.gov or 314-340-6853.

Big Yellow School Bus grant provides up to \$300 to help schools meet the transportation costs of educational field trips to arts institutions and activities in Missouri that are funded by the Missouri Arts Council. Eligible destinations include art museums and music, dance, and theater performances and programs. Applicants are responsible for making all transportation and destination arrangements. The grant does not pay for other costs including teacher or administrative costs or admission fees.

Experiential learning through cultural institutions is critical to a child's academic development. These visits help foster creativity and innovation, among the most important skills for students to develop today. Big Yellow School Bus encourages schools to explore and experience all that Missouri's cultural life has to offer.

Grant Request

No match is required for this grant which will pay up to \$300 for one or multiple field trips. The amount will be determined by the actual cost indicated on the invoice or bill from the transportation company (which must be submitted with the invoice and final report). An eligible school may receive one Big Yellow School Bus grant for field trips that occur during the 2018-2019 school year.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible the school must be a Missouri-based, public, private, or charter school that provides daily education to K-12 grade students. If private or charter school, it must also be recognized as tax-exempt by the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) and registered with the Missouri Secretary of State as a nonprofit organization.

MAC grant recipients in the "Arts Council" operating or project support categories may apply on behalf of local schools without affecting their own MAC grant opportunities. This is intended to expand the number of schools receiving arts education funds and reduce their grant administration burden.

Eligible Destinations and Activities

Eligible destinations are programs that are funded by the Missouri Arts Council. A list of MAC grant recipients by community can be found [here](#). MAC will not fund travel to student competitions, student performances, or musical clinics.

If you believe your destination is funded by MAC and is not shown on the list, please contact [Julie Hale](#), Program Specialist for Arts Education.

Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted by the first Monday of any month and at least 6 weeks in advance of the field trip. For example, if the field trip occurs November 19, the deadline is the first Monday of October. If the first Monday falls on a holiday, the deadline will be Tuesday.

To encourage advance planning, MAC accepts early applications. Applicants will receive informal notification of funding within six weeks of the deadline submission. This grant is not competitive and will be awarded as funds are available.

Getting Started

1. Before you begin the application contact [Julie Hale](#), Program Specialist for Arts Education, to discuss the destination and field trip date.
2. Make necessary arrangements with representatives at the field trip destination.
3. Before submitting the application, public schools must get approval from their superintendent. Private and charter schools need approval from their school principal (or equivalent position). If awarded the grant, their **physical** signature will be required for the grant agreement.
4. Locate the FEIN and DUNS numbers. The school district administration office should be able to provide these. Both are required for government grants. Whoever handles reporting for Free and Reduced Meals will know.
 - a. The FEIN number is the Federal Employee Identification number.
 - b. The DUNS# is a unique 9-digit identification number; it stands for Data Universal Numbering System. Click [here](#) to search for your school district's DUNS #.
5. Register your school district (or school if yours is a charter or parochial school) at: <https://missouriarts.smartsimple.com>. Registration instructions can be found at: | [Word](#) | [Video\(MP4\)](#) |
6. Complete the FY19 Big Yellow School Bus grant application at https://missouriarts.smartsimple.com/s_Login.jsp.
7. Applications may be submitted early, but must be submitted by the first Monday of the month that is at least six weeks before the field trip.

Getting Prepared for Post-Award Activities

- **Detailed instructions** will be provided with the award letter, grant agreement (contract), final report, and invoice.
- After you receive the **grant agreement**, print TWO COPIES (all 3 pages). Then have your authorizing official sign both copies and send to MAC office by postal mail. For grant purposes, MAC considers the authorizing official to be the superintendent for public schools and principal (or equivalent position) for private or charter schools.
- MAC executive director will countersign the grant agreement and return one copy to you by mail. The signed grant agreement is due 30 days from email date. MAC will return a signed copy for your records.

- **MAC Acknowledgement**

- **Required:** Grant recipients must notify the governor, state representative and senator of their MAC grant award. And then provide a copy of these letters with the final report. A sample of a legislator letter may be found [here](#) (scroll to bottom of webpage).
 - **Extra Credit:** MAC appreciates any acknowledgement of our funding support to the school community. This may be done in a school newsletter, take home flier, permission slip, or website. You may download eight versions of [MAC logo](#) in three different formats. JPEG is the most commonly used format. You also may use the phrase, “Financial assistance for this field trip has been provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency.”
- **All expenses must be paid by the applicant prior to invoicing MAC** for the grant money. This means that you must have sufficient cash reserves to pay for the expenses upfront and then wait at least 4-5 weeks for reimbursement. The processing will be delayed if the invoice was completed incorrectly.
 - **Once the field trip is completed, it is time for you to prepare the [MAC Invoice and Final Report](#)** for reimbursement. All final paperwork must be submitted no later than 30 days after the last field trip.
 - **HOWEVER**, if the MAC funded field trip occurs late in the school year (like May or June), the school/grant recipient must submit the MAC Invoice as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, June 18, 2019. The Final Report will be due 30 days after the last field trip or July 16, 2019, whichever date occurs first.
 - **Changes:** MAC understands that changes happen. It’s important that you contact [Julie Hale](#), Program Specialist for Arts Education, when this occurs. While the changes might seem small to you, problems can occur if MAC doesn’t know about them. Changes may include: Date and destination of field trip; contact information; mailing address; and authorizing official.

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