



Request for Expressions of Interest

On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Local Provider Model

DUE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2025 AT 11:59 PM EDT

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Overview

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) is issuing a Request for Expressions of Interest to those parties interested in partnering to deliver a localized version of the agency's training and fellowship program for creative entrepreneurs. Entities best positioned for this opportunity have the following:

- Interest in or presence of existing efforts to support the regional creative economy
- Seek to support or already support small business development
- Commitment to offering sustained programmatic opportunities for creative entrepreneurs regionally
- Experience leading and facilitating business development learning
- Willingness to coinvest alongside the Indiana Arts Commission direct programming funds in the delivery of this creative entrepreneurship program
- Understanding of local and regional arts and culture planning/assets

Section 1 – On-Ramp Program Background

From 2018-2024, the Indiana Arts Commission's On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator trained artists and creative professionals in entrepreneurship through a 3-day workshop focusing on the portfolio career model, and provided a subsequent 1-year, \$2,000 fellowship to put training into practice.

After a brief pause in 2025 for program evaluation, the 2026 cohort of the On-Ramp Accelerator will serve as the last **central cohort** of the program, with the program shifting towards a **local model** beginning in 2027.

The Indiana Arts Commission is seeking qualified entities wishing to take a leadership role in the local implementation of the On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator and impact their local/regional creative economies. Implementing a local model will allow more creatives across the state to participate in the program and allow for the potential customization of content and cohorts to respond to regional talent clusters.

[More information on the On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator can be found here.](#)

Section 2 – Information Requested

Respondents to this EOI are requested to submit the [On-Ramp EOI Form](#) providing the Indiana Arts Commission with information on both the entity and the programmatic delivery/implementation team (entities are encouraged to work with community partners

to build the delivery/implementation team), samples or descriptions of previous programmatic offerings (if applicable), and a letter of interest answering the following questions:

- How would delivering the On-Ramp program align with the entity's strategic goals and current offerings?
- How will the On-Ramp program develop the entity's capacity and support the local creative economy?
- If selected, how might the entity envision sustaining and growing the On-Ramp program and the broader creative economy?
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Section 3 – Submission Details

Those interested must submit their information no later than **December 19th. Please submit via the [On-Ramp EOI Form](#).**

A selection committee comprised of representatives of IAC's leadership, staff, and partners will review and evaluate qualified submissions based on the following criteria:

- Alignment with the mission and vision of the Indiana Arts Commission
- Understanding of the On-Ramp program, its values, and its outcomes
- Entities' commitment to advancing creative entrepreneurship and the creative economy
- Entities' implementation/delivery team experience, programmatic alignment with On-Ramp, and commitment to sustain the program

Questions regarding this EOI or additional questions related to the On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator program may be submitted via email to Jordan Adams, Artist Services Program Manager, or Eric Ashby, Director of Programs, at the emails below. Please make the subject line, "Questions Re: On-Ramp Local Liaison EOI."

- Jordan Adams – joadams1@iac.in.gov
- Eric Ashby – eashby@iac.in.gov

Additional Information

If selected as a trainee of the On-Ramp Accelerator Local Provider Model, the entity will receive:

- Training on the On-Ramp curriculum and delivery
- Opportunity to attend and shadow the delivery of the last central cohort of On-Ramp in 2026 in Indianapolis.
- Ongoing coaching on the local delivery of the On-Ramp program

Selection is finalized following successful completion of training and delivery of a plan to the IAC for implementation of On-Ramp in 2027.

Section 4 – Financial and Time Commitment

Entities selected as Local Providers for On-Ramp must be able to provide a cash match of \$15,000 to \$20,000 to support the administration of the On-Ramp program locally. The IAC will fund the individual fellowships following the training (approximately \$20,000).

Two members of the entities' delivery/implementation team must participate in the full training during the dates listed below.

- Virtual Training – 4-6pm ET
 - Session 1: April 21
 - Session 2: April 28
 - Session 3: May 5
- In-Person Workshop Shadowing & Observation
 - Session 4: May 12-15
- Virtual Debrief – 4-6pm ET
 - Session 5: May 19