

An American Legion Auxiliary Foundation (ALAF) Veterans Creative Arts Festival (VCAF) grant can enhance the art therapy programs at your local VAMC.

Up to \$2,500 is available for:

- art supplies (including, but not limited to, paintbrushes, easels, markers, canvas, calligraphy pens, guitar picks, et al.),
- awards/medals/recognition items for the participants,
- transportation for veterans to and from the local VCAF,
- festival venue fees, if any,
- photography/videography
- promotion of event (i.e., advertising, posters, printed materials, et al.).

The grant must be requested by an ALA entity – usually a Unit or Department – which is in good standing with the IRS (has an EIN and has regularly filed 990, 990-N, or 990-EZ forms).

Up to \$2,500 may be requested for each year's program. There is no requirement that the ALA entity provide additional funds for the program, although they certainly can! Funds cannot be used to reimburse expenses paid prior to the grant approval, so plan ahead!

Super-easy to do:

1. Ask your Unit to sponsor the grant application – it's only a 3-page form!
2. Contact the individual at your local VAMC who is responsible for art therapy or the local VAMC and explain the grant availability.
3. What's worked for previous applicants: ask your VAMC contact to create a wish list on Amazon, an art supply store, or other vendor; that list will provide details for your application. Simply enter "as per the attached list," the total requested, and attach a copy of the list!
4. Go to www.alafoundation.org, click on Grants, then on VCAF Grants, then on the application - you may complete it online or download it, print it, and complete it.
5. Submit your application - either online or (if you've printed it) by mail.

Grant applications will be considered by the ALAF Board of Directors at their next meeting on January 25, 2023. Please submit your application no later than January 6, 2023 (earlier is always welcome).

Need more information? Visit www.ALAFoundation.org – you can find more ideas for grant-eligible items or contact the staff for assistance in completing the application.