

**Music &  
Entertainment**

CITY OF AUSTIN  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

# Creative Space Assistance Program (CSAP), FY23

## *Program and Results*

Music & Entertainment Division

City of Austin Economic Development Department

# Purpose

To provide direct support to qualifying creative organizations facing temporary or permanent displacement, or to those previously displaced.



## Creative Space Assistance Program

Deadline to submit eligibility requirements:  
March 29  
[www.austintexas.gov/csap](http://www.austintexas.gov/csap)

# CSAP Program Overview

- Program Budget is \$1.5 Million for FY23
- Awards between \$5,000 - \$50,000
- Program eligibility includes:
  - Arts-focused nonprofits
  - Select for-profit creative businesses, as allowed by definitions within the program guidelines
  - Independent artists seeking support for short-term or month-to-month commercial lease
  - Property must be in Austin city limits or ETJ

# For-Profit Applicant Eligibility

- **Live Music Venue**: An establishment where live music programming is the principal function of the business and/or the business is a live music destination, and where the venue clearly establishes the ability of an artist to receive payment for work by percentage of sales, guarantee or other mutually beneficial formal agreement for every performance. A live music venue is a destination for live music consumers, and/or its music programming and is the primary driver of its business as indicated by the presence of at least five (5) of the following:
  - a) Defined performance and audience space;
  - b) Mixing desk, PA system, and lighting rig;
  - c) Back line;
  - d) At least two of the following: (i) sound engineer, (ii) booker, (iii) promoter, (iv) stage manager, or (v) security personnel;
  - e) Charges cover charge to some music performance through ticketing or front door entrance fee;
  - f) Markets specific acts through show listings in printed and electronic publications;
  - g) Hours of operation coincide with performance times; or
  - h) Programs live music at least five nights a week.
- **Performance Venue / Theater**: An establishment whose principal function and mission is to present live performances, plays, live music, film screenings, or other performances of artistic work produced by an artist, or arts and culture organization, accessible by public audiences.
- **Museum / Art Gallery**: Facility whose principal function and mission is to exhibit, present, and/or sell artistic work in a variety of media produced by an artist, artist collective, or arts and culture organization, accessible by public audiences. (For the purposes of this program's eligibility, this will not include City-run/owned, State-run/owned, or Federally-run/owned facilities.)

# Eligible Uses of Funds

- Rent stipend
- Gap financing for property acquisition
- Other space-related needs, such as facility improvements and displacement-related expenditures

# New for FY23

- **Benchmark-Driven Distribution instead of Reimbursement:** Gives money to the awardee up front and on a scheduled basis instead of after an expenditure is made.
- **Rent Stipend Calculation:** 30% base rent
- **Establishment of an Award Minimum:** Award amount of at least \$5,000.
- **New Recipient Bonus:** 10 bonus points for applicants who have not received: Creative Space Assistance Program, Creative Space Disaster Relief Program, Live Music Venue Preservation Fund, Legacy Business Relief Grant, Small Business Relief Grant, or Non-Profit Creative Relief Grant.

# New for FY23

- Due to staff capacity limitations, the Austin Economic Development Corporation partnered with the Economic Development Department to score and process applications.

# Creative Space Assistance Program - FY 2023 Scoring Matrix

Category	Criteria	Available Points
Access to Services	Applicant lacks access to services, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Access to traditional funding support</li> <li>•Healthcare coverage for employees</li> <li>•Applicant and/or project located in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT)</li> </ul>	Up to 30 Points
Compelling Project Need	The applicant demonstrates the funding will address a compelling project need.	Up to 20 Points
Urgency	The applicant demonstrates the level of urgency of need according to the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Most Urgent: Applicant displaced or requires immediate relocation, lease renewal, or renovation in 6 months to avoid displacement</li> <li>•Urgent: Applicant not displaced, but requires immediate relocation, lease renewal, or renovation in 7-13 months to avoid displacement</li> <li>•Less Urgent: Applicant not displaced, but requires immediate relocation, lease renewal, or renovation in 14-20 months to avoid displacement</li> </ul>	Up to 15 Points
Co-Location	Applicant Demonstrates co-location / sub-leasing opportunities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Co-location has served or advanced the applicant's mission, cultural use, or artistic production</li> <li>•Applicant has either increased access to affordable space to other creatives, or has benefited from increased income</li> <li>•Co-location has improved programmatic efficiencies/collaboration for the applicant</li> </ul>	Up to 15 Points
Community Benefit	Demonstrates impact to the community through such elements as mission, programs, events, and relationships.	Up to 5 Points
Equity	The applicant demonstrates that it's committed to equity and to serving historically underrepresented communities in Austin.	Up to 20 Points
New Recipient	The applicant has not received previous City funding, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Creative Space Disaster Relief Program</li> <li>•Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund</li> <li>•Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant</li> <li>•Austin Small Business Relief Grant</li> <li>•Austin Non-Profit Relief Grant</li> </ul>	10 Bonus Points



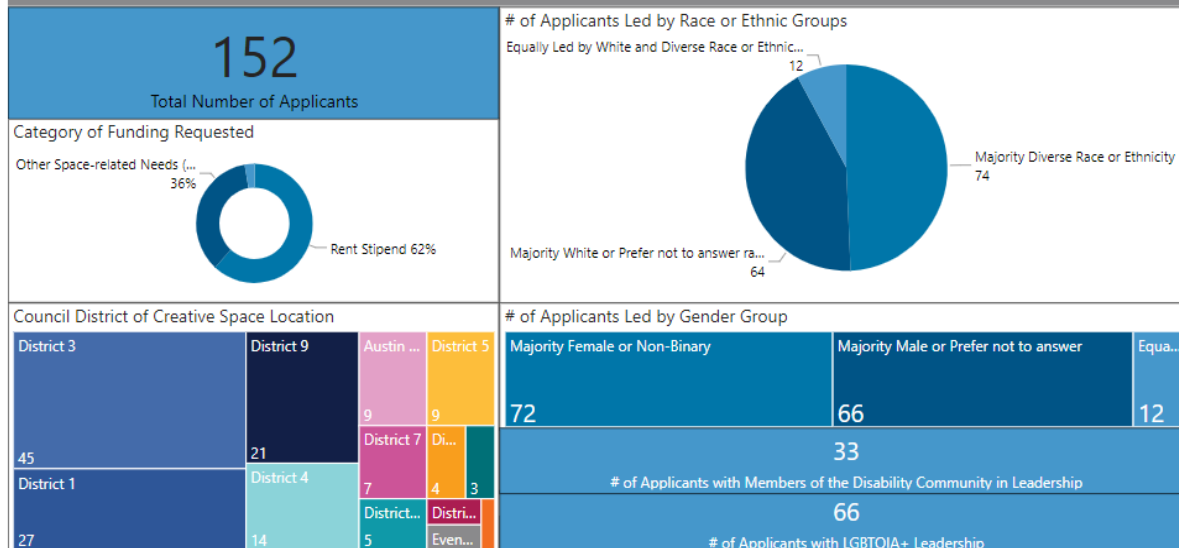
## Creative Space Assistance Program Dashboard

View a summary dashboard for the 2023 Creative Space Assistance Program applicants and awardees.

### Creative Space Assistance Program, 2023

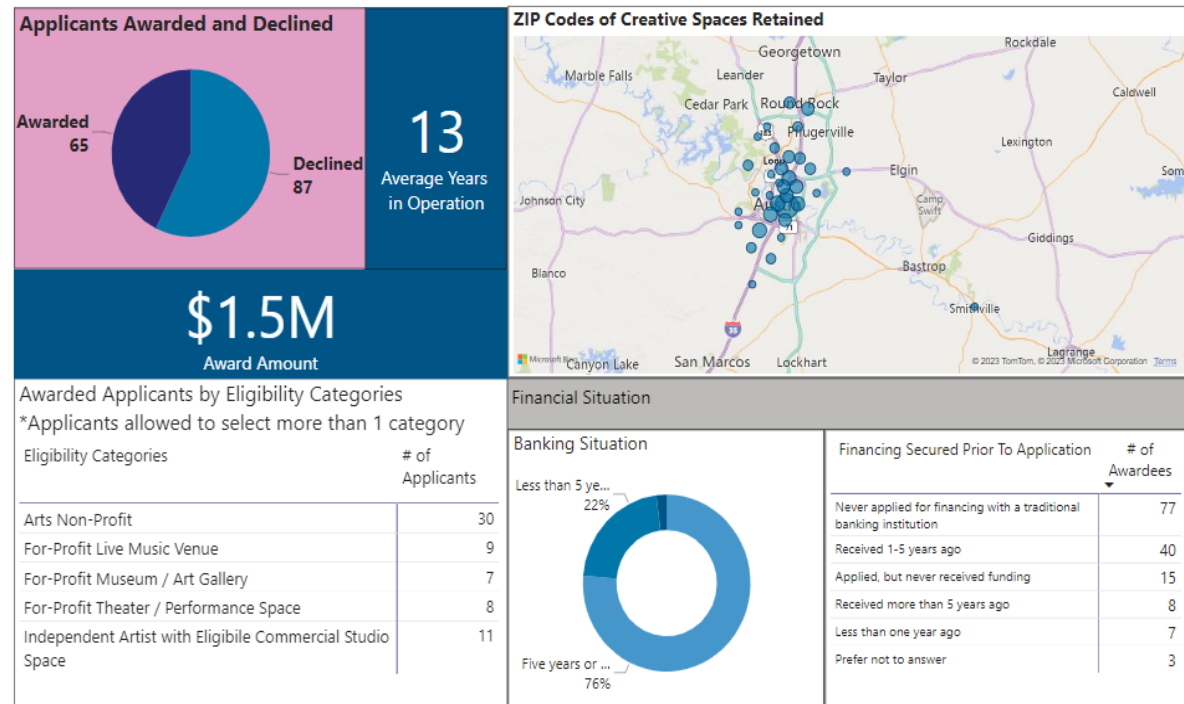
Program Details | <https://www.austintexas.gov/creative-space-assistance-program>

last updated 8/31/2023



## Creative Space Assistance Program Dashboard

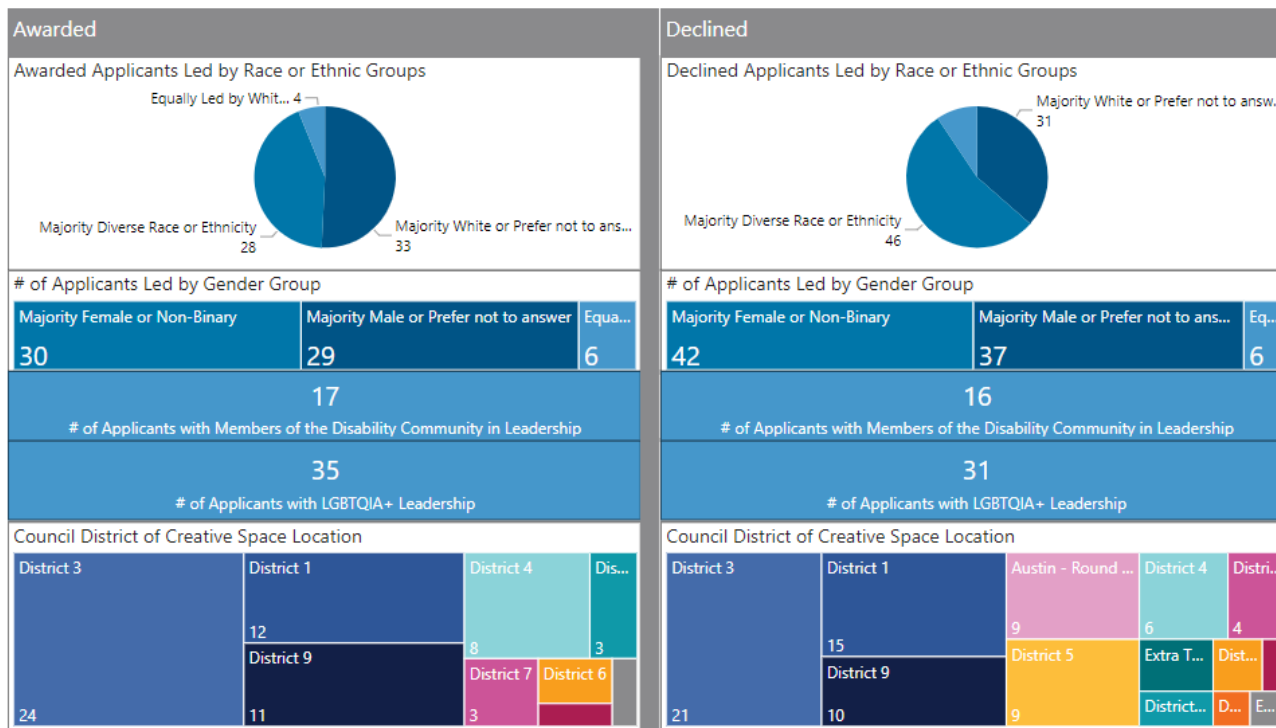
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# Program Contact

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[CREATIVE SPACE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM \(CSAP\) | AUSTINTEXAS.GOV](https://austintexas.gov/creativespace)

