

GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIP

2027 COMPETITION

Application Guide



Last Updated: August 2026

GF gf.org

CONTENTS

How to Use This Guide

This guide walks you through every stage of the 2027 Guggenheim Fellowship application, from eligibility through submission. Click any item below to jump straight to that page.

Who Should Apply?.....	4
The Selection Process.....	5
Application Timeline.....	6
How to Apply.....	7
Application Components.....	8
Part 1. Applicant Information.....	8
Contact Information.....	8
Project Information.....	9
Addresses.....	10
Employment History.....	10
Languages.....	10
Professional Memberships.....	11
Education.....	11
Part 2. Documents and References.....	11
Career Narrative.....	11
Most Significant Works.....	12
Statement of Plans.....	12
Document Requirements.....	12
References (3 Required / 4 Maximum).....	13
Part 3. Work Examples.....	14
Portal Overview.....	14
Work Example Requirements by Field.....	15
Choreography.....	15
Climate Studies.....	15
Drama and Performance Art.....	15
Film-Video.....	15
Fine Arts.....	16
Humanities.....	16
Indigenous Studies.....	16

Music Composition.....	16
Photography.....	17
Social Sciences.....	17
Writing.....	18
Biography.....	18
Fiction, General Nonfiction, Poetry.....	18
Science Writing.....	18
Mailing Physical Materials (for Writers and Photographers).....	18
Completing and Submitting Your Application.....	19
Questions?.....	21
Appendix: 2027 Work Examples Requirements by Project Field.....	22

SECTION 1

Who Should Apply?

The Guggenheim Fellowship supports exceptional, mid-career professionals across a wide range of fields.

Eligibility is limited to:

- **U.S. and Canadian citizens or permanent residents**
- **Mid-career professionals (with or without university affiliations)**
- **Individuals who have NOT previously received Guggenheim Fellowships**

'Mid-career' is defined by your professional output, not by age or institutional affiliation. You must have made significant, recognized contributions to your field and show clear promise to continue to do so. A few things to consider:

- There is no target age for a Fellowship. Recent Fellows have ranged from their late twenties to their late seventies.
- Students, scholars whose only publications are based on their dissertations, and individuals who have not yet established a significant record of achievement in their field are usually not strong candidates for a Guggenheim Fellowship.
- Fellows are not required to hold a position at a university, and applicants without any institutional affiliation are considered on equal footing.
- What matters is the strength of your record, the merits of your proposed project, and your readiness to complete it to the highest degree of excellence.

SECTION 2

The Selection Process

Every application is reviewed by hand.

Fellowship selection is a rigorous process that takes over six months; it isn't determined by connections, luck, or an algorithm.

Reviewers are experts in the field selected by the Foundation from the pool of former Guggenheim Fellowship recipients. The group changes from year to year. The identities of readers and jurors are kept confidential throughout and after the process.

Each application is assessed in full by two to five reviewers. They identify the strongest applicants and make recommendations to the Committee of Selection, an interdisciplinary group of experts who must reach consensus before an applicant advances. Final awards are confirmed by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 3

Application Timeline

Date	Milestone
Mid-August 2026	Application opens
September 15, 2026	Application due
September 29, 2026	Work examples due or postmarked (if applicable to your field)
October 13, 2026	Reference letters due
Late April 2027	Announcement of Fellows

SECTION 4

How to Apply

Applicants must access our application portal at the following link: <https://competition.gf.org/signin>. If you don't already have an account, click the "Sign Up" link on that page to create one.

If you created an account in last year's competition, you may log in to that account to apply this year.

How to Apply Video with Vice President Laura Auricchio: [Link](#)



How to Apply for a 2027 Guggenheim Fellowship

SECTION 5

Application Components

Overview

The first section of the application asks you to enter the following information directly into the online portal:

- **Contact Information**
- **Project Information**
- **Addresses**
- **Employment History**
- **Languages**
- **Professional Memberships**
- **Education**

You will need to prepare and upload three documents:

- **Career Narrative (maximum 1,000 words / 4 pages)**
- **Most Significant Works (maximum 7)**
- **Statement of Plans (maximum 1,000 words / 4 pages)**

Once you have uploaded all required materials in the Supporting Documents section, you must also provide **References (3 required / 4 maximum)**.

Depending on the field of your application, you might also be required to submit work examples (Part 3, if appropriate).

Details of Parts 1–3 appear below.

Part 1. Applicant Information

When entering applicant information, please do not use all UPPERCASE or lowercase characters when entering data. For example, enter your name as "John," not "JOHN," etc.

Contact Information

- Name prefixes such as Mr., Ms., Mx., or Dr. should be entered in the Prefix field and should not be included as part of your name.

INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION (IF ANY)

- If you are affiliated with an institution of higher learning, please search for your institution in the drop-down list.
- If your institution is not listed, please select "Other" and enter it.
- If you do not have an institutional affiliation, enter "none," "n/a," or "NA" in the Institution field. Guggenheim Fellows do not need to be affiliated with an institution.

CITIZENSHIP / RESIDENCY STATUS

- Eligibility is limited to citizens or permanent residents of the United States or Canada.
- If you are a citizen of the U.S. or Canada, your country of residence does not matter.
- If you are a permanent resident of the U.S. or Canada, your country of origin does not matter.
- If you were not born a U.S. or Canadian citizen, include your permanent residency or naturalization details (green card number, or date and place of naturalization) in the Citizenship Note field.
- If you are neither a citizen nor a permanent resident of the United States or Canada, your application will not be accepted.

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Select **Save Data** to save your information.
- When you have completed this section, select **Acknowledge Section and Continue**.
- To make changes after acknowledging the section, select **Unacknowledge Section**, make your edits, and acknowledge the section again.

Project Information

- Select the **one field** that most aligns with the work proposed in your application project.
- Note that "Field" refers to the field of your proposed project, which might not be the same as the field of your academic background, professional title, or primary area of expertise.
- **Please review the current field list carefully, as some field names have changed.**
- Your application should focus on a single, well-defined project. Applications that identify too many objectives are less competitive than those with a clear, focused goal.
- In scholarly fields, Guggenheim Fellowships support digital projects (e.g., e-books, multimodal works, and other emerging forms of publication) that:
 - Produce original knowledge;
 - Undergo successful peer or editorial review;
 - Articulate plans for long-term preservation.

JOINT APPLICATIONS

While most applicants will apply as single individuals, two individuals may apply jointly following the guidelines below:

- Please apply jointly if and only if you are proposing a co-authored, co-directed, or co-created project with one other person.
- Joint applications are appropriate only when there are two genuinely equal contributors to a single project. If you're simply working alongside others in pursuit of your own project, discuss that collaboration in your Statement of Plans and apply as an individual instead.
- Applications from groups of three or more individuals are not accepted.
- Each joint applicant must submit a separate application.
- Both applicants should check the 'Joint Application' box under 'Project Information' in the Application Portal.
- Both applicants should select the same field and list the same project title.

- Joint applicants' Statements of Plans should be identical with the sole exception of describing each individual's contribution.
- Applicants may, but are not required to, submit some (or all) of the same names as references.
- All other materials submitted (e.g., career narrative, most significant works, work examples) may differ as appropriate.
- If awarded, both applicants are named Fellows and share one monetary award.

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Select **Save Data** to save your information.
- When you have completed this section, select **Acknowledge Section and Continue**.
- To make changes after acknowledging the section, select **Unacknowledge Section**, make your edits, and acknowledge the section again.

Addresses

- You must include both home and emergency contact information.
- Your emergency contact must be someone other than yourself.
- You may include work contact information if you wish.
- If you enter a postal work address, please indicate whether home or work is your preferred address. The Foundation will send postal mail only to the address you select as preferred.

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Enter all address information manually rather than using your browser's autofill function.
- Select **Save Data** to save your information.
- When you have completed this section, select **Acknowledge Section and Continue**.
- To make changes after acknowledging the section, select **Unacknowledge Section**, make your edits, and acknowledge the section again.

Employment History

- Enter professional, academic, administrative, business, freelance, self-employed, or independent positions.
- The list does not need to be exhaustive.
- List positions in reverse chronological order, beginning with your current or most recent position.
- If a position was not associated with an institution, enter "None" or "N/A" in the Institution field.

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Select **Save Data** to save your information.
- When you have completed this section, select **Acknowledge Section and Continue**.
- To make changes after acknowledging the section, select **Unacknowledge Section**, make your edits, and acknowledge the section again.

Languages

- Please enter all languages that you speak / read / write and your level of fluency in each.
- Please do not enter computer programming languages.

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Select **Add Language** to enter additional languages.
- Select **Save Data** to save your information.
- When you have completed this section, select **Acknowledge Section and Continue**.
- To make changes after acknowledging the section, select **Unacknowledge Section**, make your edits, and acknowledge the section again.

Professional Memberships

- Enter the information about professional organizations, membership associations, or learned societies to which you belong.
- Please do not list organizations where you have worked; those appear in the "Employment History" section above.
- Do not include memberships in social clubs or societies.

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Select **Add Professional Memberships** to enter additional memberships.
- Select **Save Data** to save your information.
- When you have completed this section, select **Acknowledge Section and Continue**.
- To make changes after acknowledging the section, select **Unacknowledge Section**, make your edits, and acknowledge the section again.

Education

- Enter information regarding your education history: institution, dates of attendance (month/year), degree (if applicable), major, etc.
- To add additional education records, click on the 'Add Education' button and repeat the steps above.

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Select **Add Education** to enter additional records.
- Select **Save Data** to save your information.
- When you have completed this section, select **Acknowledge Section and Continue**.
- To make changes after acknowledging the section, select **Unacknowledge Section**, make your edits, and acknowledge the section again.

Part 2. Documents and References

Preparing Your Supporting Documents

Career Narrative

- Your Career Narrative should demonstrate why you're the right person to complete your proposed project at a high degree of excellence.
- It is not a CV or a list of accomplishments.
- Tell us your story: Who are you? What led you to this project? How does it fit into the arc of your career? How will it advance your broader goals?
- Your Career Narrative should complement and contextualize your Statement of Plans.

- The maximum length for the Career Narrative is 1,000 words (approximately 4 pages double-spaced).

Most Significant Works

- This list should include up to seven of your most significant works.
- The work on this list does not need to match any work examples that you might submit as part of your application.
- Please present items in order of importance (e.g., books before articles, solo exhibitions before group shows).
- Although the emphasis should be on completed work that has been presented publicly, works with forthcoming public debuts may be included.
- This list reflects your subjective assessment; there is no right answer to the question of what makes a work "most significant." We want to know what you think.

For each listed work, include the following details as applicable:

- **Exhibitions:** titles, dates and venues.
- **Film, video, and new media productions:** titles, completion dates, venues and/or major public screenings, and your role in each production.
- **Music compositions:** titles and dates with optional details about premieres, published scores, or recordings.
- **Performances:** titles, dates and venues.
- **Publications:** titles, publishers, publication dates and locations, and optional links.

Statement of Plans

- The Statement of Plans should articulate a clear proposal about a single project that you are ready to pursue.
- This is an opportunity for you to persuade readers of the importance of the work and to demonstrate that you can undertake what you propose.

Please consider the following:

- Detail what you want to do and why it matters — to you, your field, and the world.
- Be clear about where the project stands now and what portion of it you can realistically accomplish in the six to twelve months of a Guggenheim Fellowship period.
- Write honestly and persuasively for both specialists in your field and non-specialists on the Committee of Selection.
- Do not include a budget or financial details; if you're nominated, that information will be requested separately.
- The maximum length for the Statement of Plans is 1,000 words (approximately 4 pages double-spaced).

Document Requirements

- All text should be in 12-point standard fonts and double spaces.
- Documents must be prepared as PDFs that are:

- unsecured (no password protection)
- portrait orientation (vertical)
- maximum 5MB file size

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- Drag and drop each PDF file or use the file selection tool to locate your document.
- Select **Upload File(s)** to attach the file to your application.
- To replace a document, delete the existing file and upload a revised version.
- Once all three are uploaded, select **Acknowledge Section and Continue**.
- **Please review your documents carefully before acknowledging this section: once acknowledged, the Supporting Documents section cannot be unacknowledged.**

References (3 Required / 4 Maximum)

SELECTING REFERENCES

- You must identify three references and may identify a fourth.
- Choose individuals who know you and your work well enough to write persuasively on your behalf about your abilities, particularly in relation to your proposed project.
- Before listing anyone, be sure to obtain their permission and confirm that they understand the submission timeline.
- References do not need to be Fellows themselves.
- We recommend avoiding references who have a direct business or financial interest in your work — such as dealers, agents, or editors — because they may not be viewed as impartial.
- We also encourage you to share your application materials with the individuals you ask to write on your behalf so that they can tailor their remarks to the specific project.
- Letters submitted through dossier services such as Interfolio are not accepted.

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

For each reference, please provide their:

- Full name, using standard capitalization
- Institutional affiliation, if any ('N/A' if none)
- Verified email address
- Postal address
- All other required information marked with an asterisk

Please ensure that all contact information is accurate; the Foundation will contact all references using the information you enter here. Reference requests sent to incorrect addresses will not reach their intended recipients.

To enter this information:

- Enter only one person per reference record.
- Enter the complete contact information for your first reference.
- Select 'Add References' to enter each additional reference, up to a total of four.

- Select 'Save Data' to save your entries.
- When the section is complete, select 'Acknowledge Section and Continue.'

Submitting your application will automatically generate and send an instructional email to the addresses you provided for your references.

To ensure your references receive these instructional emails, please ask them to add @gf.org and @mail.gf.org to their approved sender lists.

All letters of reference are held in strict confidence. The Foundation will not disclose to applicants the submission status or contents of letters. To confirm that a letter has been submitted, please contact the reference writer directly. Applicants will not be contacted regarding the status or content of their references.

Part 3. Work Examples

- Submitting your application will automatically generate a confirmation email outlining next steps, if any.
- If your field does not accept work examples, the email will indicate that your application is complete.
- If your field accepts or requires work examples, instructions will be included in that email.
- Please wait for this email before submitting any work examples.
- Submitted work examples should emphasize your most recent work.

DEADLINE

All work examples must be **submitted or postmarked by September 29, 2026.**

Portal Overview

- Use the sections in the left menu to enter your work examples.
- Requirements, submission limits, and any discipline-specific instructions are provided on Work Example Guidelines and within each section.
- To add a new work example, click the blue **Add** in the upper right corner of the section.

DOCUMENTS

- PDF only
- Maximum file size: 100 MB per document

IMAGES

- JPG, JPEG, or PNG
- Maximum file size: 5 MB per image
- Maximum dimensions: 2048 × 2048 pixels

MEDIA LINKS

The portal accepts links from:

- Vimeo
- YouTube

- SoundCloud

Work Example Requirements by Field

- If your field isn't listed below, please consult the appendix for the complete table of fields.
- In fields that accept multiple types of work (e.g., still images and time-based media) applicants should submit only works in the formats that are relevant to their practices.
- Submission limits are specific to each section. Submitting materials in one section does not reduce the number of materials you may submit in another section.

CHOREOGRAPHY

- Required: up to 3 links to performances
- Full-length works are preferred
- Accepted links: Vimeo or YouTube only
- Not accepted: Personal websites, Bandcamp, Dropbox, or Google Drive
- Works for which you were the sole choreographer are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include works that were created jointly.

CLIMATE STUDIES

- Varies: please follow the guidance for the field of your proposed project (e.g., a geological project would not require work examples; a photography project would require work examples).

DRAMA AND PERFORMANCE ART

- Required: up to 3 works
- Works for which you were the sole creator are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include works that were created jointly.
- Plays and screenplays:
 - up to 3 titles
 - may include unpublished works
 - Must be submitted in both digital and physical formats:
 - 1 PDF (max 100MB) copy of each and
 - 2 mailed copies of each.
- Performance Art:
 - up to 3 links
 - full-length works are preferred
 - Accepted links: Vimeo, YouTube, or SoundCloud only
 - Not accepted: Personal websites, Bandcamp, Dropbox, or Google Drive

FILM-VIDEO

- Required: links to up to 3 full-length works
- Trailers are not accepted

- Works for which you were the sole director are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include works that were jointly directed.
- Accepted links: Vimeo, YouTube, or SoundCloud only
- Not accepted: Personal websites, Bandcamp, Dropbox, or Google Drive
- For works running 30 minutes or longer, cue points must be provided. For works shorter than 30 minutes, enter "n/a."
- Subtitles are required for non-English projects

FINE ARTS

- Required: up to 20 digital images AND/OR up to three links to time-based media
- Work examples should emphasize pieces produced in the last five years
- Works for which you were the sole creator are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include works that were created jointly.
- Still images and installation views:
 - up to 20 digital images
 - JPG, JPEG, or PNG;
 - maximum size per image: 5MB; 2048×2048 pixels; 72 DPI
 - uploaded in any order you prefer
- Time-based media:
 - up to three links
 - full-length works are preferred
 - Accepted links: Vimeo, YouTube, or SoundCloud only
 - Not accepted: Personal websites, Bandcamp, Dropbox, or Google Drive

HUMANITIES

- Optional: up to 3 books in PDF format, max 100MB each
- Books for which you were the sole author are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include works that were co-written.
- No articles/chapters/essays

INDIGENOUS STUDIES

- Varies: please follow the guidance for the field of your proposed project (e.g., an economics project would not require work examples; a fiction project would require work examples).

MUSIC COMPOSITION

- Required: links to recordings of up to 3 full-length works
- Full-length works are preferred
- Pieces for which you were the sole composer are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include works that were co-written.
- Accepted links: Vimeo, YouTube, or SoundCloud only
- Not accepted: Personal websites, Bandcamp, Dropbox, or Google Drive

- Include PDF scores if notated.

PHOTOGRAPHY

- Required: up to 20 digital images AND/OR up to three links to time-based media
- Work examples should emphasize pieces produced in the last five years
- Works for which you were the sole creator are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include works that were created jointly.
- Still images and installation views:
 - Up to 20 digital images
 - JPG, JPEG, or PNG;
 - maximum size per image: 5MB; 2048×2048 pixels; 72 DPI
 - uploaded in any order you prefer
- Time-based media:
 - Up to 3 links to works
 - Full-length works are preferred
 - Accepted links: Vimeo, YouTube, or SoundCloud only
 - Not accepted: Personal websites, Bandcamp, Dropbox, or Google Drive
- Optional: Up to 3 photography book PDFs
- Optional: physical prints/books (must match digitals).
- Prints: max 32", max 40 lbs total, labeled on back. See mailing / drop-off instructions below.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR PHYSICAL PHOTOGRAPHY MATERIALS RETURNED

- Applicants who wish to have physical materials returned must complete the **Photography Return Request Form**: [Link](#).
- The Photography Return Request Form must be submitted by the work example deadline: **Tuesday, September 29, 2026**.
- Applicants requesting the return of materials are strongly encouraged to include a FedEx or UPS prepaid return shipping label with their submission package or send it as a PDF via email.
- Alternative return methods are available and are described on the Return Request Form. Note: The Foundation can only facilitate returns through FedEx or UPS. We do not accommodate returns through USPS, DHL, or other carriers. If you are providing a prepaid label or account information for return shipping, it must be for FedEx or UPS.
- Physical materials for which no Return Request Form has been received by the deadline will be discarded after the conclusion of the competition.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Optional: Up to 3 books in PDF format, max 100MB each
- Books for which you were the sole author are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include works that were co-written.
- No articles/chapters/essays
- We understand that scholars in some Social Sciences fields do not typically produce books. In those fields, there is no need to submit work examples because reviewers can access your articles readily.

WRITING

- Required: up to three published titles
- Books for which you were the sole author are preferred. However, if you are applying jointly, you may include co-written work.

BIOGRAPHY

- Up to 3 published books
- Uploaded in PDF form only, max 100MB each

FICTION, GENERAL NONFICTION, POETRY

- Up to 3 published titles
- All work must be submitted in both digital and physical formats:
 - PDFs, max 100MB each
 - 2 mailed physical copies of each title
 - See mailing instructions below

SCIENCE WRITING

- Up to 3 published books
- Uploaded in PDF form only, max 100 MB each

MAILING PHYSICAL MATERIALS (FOR WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS)

Include a printout of your confirmation email in the package. Address to:

Attn: Work Examples/(Creative Writing or Photography)
John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation
90 Park Avenue, 33rd Floor
New York, NY 10016

In-person drop-off is available Monday–Friday, 10am–4pm, via the Messenger Center at 90 Park Avenue. The Messenger Center will deliver your materials directly to our office.

SECTION 6

Completing and Submitting Your Application

Section-By-Section Confirmation

- As you complete each section of your application, select 'Acknowledge' to mark it complete before advancing to the next section.
- Even after clicking "Acknowledge" you can return to any section to make changes at any time before final submission.
- To make changes after you have Acknowledged a section, select 'Unacknowledge Section' and enter your changes.
- You will need to 'Acknowledge' the section again when you have entered the changes.
- **The Supporting Documents section is the exception: once acknowledged, it cannot be unacknowledged. Please review your uploaded documents carefully before selecting Acknowledge Section and Continue.**

Attestation and General Release

Before submitting your application, you will need to attest to the originality of your work and consent to release certain rights by placing checkmarks in the relevant boxes.

ATTESTATION

By checking the box below, I hereby affirm that:

- This application, including all supporting materials, documentation and information, represents my own original work and intellectual property.
- I have not copied, paraphrased, or otherwise used another person's work or intellectual property in connection with this application without proper authorization and attribution.
- To the extent I used any generative AI tools in preparing this application, I used them only to assist with brainstorming, researching, editing, or formatting; the substantive ideas, analysis, and conclusions presented are my own and were not generated by any AI tool.

☐ I hereby attest that the statements above are true. I understand that misrepresentation of authorship or originality may result in disqualification.

GENERAL RELEASE

☐ I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understood and agree to the [Privacy Notice](#) and I hereby grant to the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation and its affiliates, successors and assigns (the "Foundation") a perpetual, irrevocable, worldwide, sublicensable, transferable, royalty-free, fully paid-up, non-exclusive right and license, with respect to any and all materials, information and data included in my application or otherwise submitted by me or on my behalf to the Foundation (collectively, "Materials"), to archive, reproduce, publish, distribute, publicly perform, publicly display, modify, adapt and otherwise use such Materials (subject to the Privacy Notice, with respect to any personal information included the Materials), in each case in furtherance of the Foundation's mission, including, but not limited to, determining my eligibility for the Foundation's fellowships or other awards; publication of content on or as part of the Foundation's or third-party social media, websites, podcasts, books, magazines or any

other form or format of media now known or hereafter devised; display as part of historical or cultural exhibits or exhibitions; and other uses furthering the Foundation's promotional and fundraising activities.

Final Submission

- **You must submit your application by selecting the 'Final Submit Application' button no later than the deadline.**
- If you do not select "Final Submit Application," your application will not be considered.
- You will receive an acknowledgment email immediately after you submit.
- If you have applied in any field in the Sciences, the acknowledgement will indicate that your application is complete.
- If you have applied in any other field, the application will contain information about work example requirements.
- We recommend downloading a PDF copy of your completed application before submitting to review for accuracy.

After You Apply

All applicants will be notified of results by email in late April.

- If your application is not successful, please bear in mind that success rates have hovered around 5% in recent years; 95% of applications are not successful.
- Most Fellows are successful only after multiple submissions.
- The strongest re-applications come from candidates whose track record has meaningfully changed since their last submission: new work, new recognition, new momentum. Reapplying with the same materials rarely changes the outcome.
- Regrettably, we do not have sufficient staff to provide feedback on unsuccessful applications.
- For over a century, the Guggenheim Fellowship has given exceptional individuals the freedom to pursue their most ambitious work. Whether or not this is your year, we're glad that you are part of that pursuit.

SECTION 7

Questions?

Please reach out to us! We are happy to help.

competition@gf.org

(212) 687-4470

www.gf.org

We are available Monday through Friday, 9–5. If you contact us when we are out of the office, please rest assured that we will respond as soon as possible upon our return.

APPENDIX

Appendix: 2027 Work Examples Requirements by Project Field

How to Determine Your Work Example Requirements

Whether work examples are required as part of your application depends on the field in which you are applying. Find your field in the table below to see what, if anything, you need to submit.

Key: Work Example Requirement Categories

Category	What It Means
● Not Accepted	Work examples should not be submitted.
● Optional	Work examples may be submitted digitally but are not required.
● Required — Digital Only	Work examples must be submitted in digital format only.
● Required — Digital + Physical	Work examples must be submitted in both digital and physical formats.
● Required — Digital (Physical Optional)	Digital work examples are required. Physical materials (such as prints, portfolios, or books) may also be submitted but are optional.
● Varies by Project Type	Requirements depend on the nature of the project. Interdisciplinary applications should follow the guidelines for the category most closely aligned with the proposed work (e.g., Creative Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, or Sciences).

Note: If it is unclear which category applies, applicants should contact the Foundation for guidance before submitting materials.

Work Example Requirement by Project Field

Project Field	Work Example Requirement
African Studies	● Optional
American Literature	● Optional
Anthropology & Cultural Studies	● Optional
Applied Mathematics	● Not Accepted
Architecture, Planning, & Design: History, Theory, & Criticism	● Optional
Art: History, Theory, & Criticism	● Optional
Asian Studies	● Optional
Astronomy-Astrophysics	● Not Accepted
Biography	● Optional
Biology	● Not Accepted

Project Field	Work Example Requirement
Chemistry	● Not Accepted
Choreography	● Required — Digital Only
Classics	● Optional
Climate Studies	● Varies by Project Type
Computer Science	● Not Accepted
Constitutional Studies	● Optional
Dance Studies	● Optional
Drama & Performance Art*	● Required — Digital + Physical
Earth Science	● Not Accepted
Economics	● Optional
Education	● Optional
Engineering	● Not Accepted
English Literature	● Optional
European & Latin American History	● Optional
European & Latin American Literature	● Optional
Fiction	● Required — Digital + Physical
Film, Video, & New Media Studies	● Optional
Film-Video	● Required — Digital Only
Fine Arts	● Required — Digital Only
General Nonfiction	● Required — Digital + Physical
Geography & Environmental Studies	● Optional
History of Science, Technology, & Economics	● Optional
Indigenous Studies	● Varies by Project Type
Intellectual & Cultural History	● Optional
Law	● Optional
Linguistics	● Optional

**Requirements within Drama & Performance Art differ by work type: playwrights and screenwriters must submit both digital and physical copies, while performance artists are required to submit digital work samples only (physical materials are not required). See the 2027 Application Guide for full details.*

Project Field	Work Example Requirement
Literary Criticism	• Optional
Mathematics	• Not Accepted
Medicine & Health	• Not Accepted
Medieval & Early Modern Studies	• Optional
Music Composition	• Required — Digital Only
Music: History, Theory, & Criticism	• Optional
Near Eastern Studies	• Optional
Neuroscience	• Not Accepted
Philosophy	• Optional
Photography	• Required — Digital (Physical Optional)
Physics	• Not Accepted
Poetry	• Required — Digital + Physical
Political Science	• Optional
Psychology	• Optional
Religion	• Optional
Science Writing	• Optional
Slavic Studies	• Optional
Sociology	• Optional
Theatre Arts & Performance Studies	• Optional
Translation	• Optional
U.S. History	• Optional

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation • 2027 Fellowship Competition • Last updated August 2026