

VOLUME III: EDUCATION

**RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL ON THE
ARTS**

Agency Summary

Rhode Island Council on the Arts

Agency Mission

Through grantmaking, programming, convening, policy-building, and education, RISCA ensures that arts and culture will plan an ever more significant part in the well-being and experience of all our residents.

Agency Description

The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts (RISCA) was established in 1967. RISCA achieves its mission by distributing grants and offering technical assistance and support to artists, folk and traditional artists, arts and culture organizations, schools, community centers, social and human service organizations, community development organizations, and local governments. RISCA employs a variety of methods to carry out its work, including grant-making, convening, strategic partnerships, and public outreach.

Funding within the agency's various grant categories allows the Council to address its primary function by awarding grants to artists and nonprofit organizations to support arts programming in local communities, schools, and other settings. RISCA-supported cultural programs have a significant impact on the local and state economy, providing jobs for artists and the many businesses that depend on a vibrant arts community. RISCA grants also play an important role in providing a complete education for all Rhode Island children and youth, helping students develop creativity and problem-solving skills that will contribute to their success in life.

RISCA is involved in a series of strategic partnerships with major institutions and entities from the public and private sectors to broaden support for the arts in the State. A few current partners include: the National Endowment for the Arts, the New England Foundation for the Arts, the Rhode Island Foundation, the Rhode Island Alliance for Arts Education, the Rhode Island Teaching Artists Center (RITAC), ArtsEquity, the Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MassMoCA), the UMass Amherst Arts Extension Service, among others.

RISCA provides technical assistance and information services to many individuals and entities. These services include management assistance to individual artists and arts organizations, workshops, and general dissemination of information through a wide variety of media including the RISCA website and blog, the monthly newsletter, and RISCA's social media accounts. RISCA manages Rhode Island's Art for Public Facilities Program, which allows the Council to commission or acquire works of art for state buildings through the Allocation for Art for Public Facilities Act, which sets aside a portion of funds for the construction or renovation of state facilities for the acquisition of art. The Council coordinates the process for commissioning art in public facilities in compliance with the Act, providing opportunities for the general public to experience art as part of their interaction with state government.

RISCA houses the RI Film and Television Office. Motion pictures and television play a significant role in the cultural life of the State. Film and television have grown during the past several decades into an important art form, and both on a national and international level are a formidable economic engine. The combination of the Rhode Island Film and Television Office with the Rhode Island Council on the Arts reinforces state support for all art forms, enhances the attractiveness of the state to national and international productions, and facilitates economic progress.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-75 defines the role of the Council and R.I.G.L. 42-75.2 describes the Allocation for Art for Public Facilities Act.

Budget

Rhode Island Council on the Arts

	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals	2025 Enacted Budget	2025 Revised Budget	2026 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Central Management	3,399,615	3,445,438	3,976,337	4,084,272	4,242,454
Total Expenditures	3,399,615	3,445,438	3,976,337	4,084,272	4,242,454
Expenditures by Object					
Salary and Benefits	1,164,964	1,277,214	1,405,289	1,403,811	1,561,665
Contract Professional Services	203,497	265,130	83,000	306,500	340,363
Operating Supplies and Expenses	175,289	210,200	187,042	217,249	208,924
Assistance and Grants	1,759,671	1,619,040	1,766,006	1,593,502	1,593,502
Subtotal: Operating	3,303,420	3,371,584	3,441,337	3,521,062	3,704,454
Capital Purchases and Equipment	96,195	73,854	535,000	563,210	538,000
Subtotal: Other	96,195	73,854	535,000	563,210	538,000
Total Expenditures	3,399,615	3,445,438	3,976,337	4,084,272	4,242,454
Expenditures by Source of Funds					
General Revenue	2,129,661	2,297,462	2,395,211	2,412,492	2,414,685
Federal Funds	1,082,807	976,489	996,126	1,011,780	1,022,711
Restricted Receipts	33,164	0	0	0	115,058
Operating Transfers From Other Funds	153,983	171,487	585,000	660,000	690,000
Total Expenditures	3,399,615	3,445,438	3,976,337	4,084,272	4,242,454
FTE Authorization	9.6	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0

Personnel Agency Summary

Rhode Island Council on the Arts

	FY 2025		FY 2026	
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Unclassified	10.0	877,266	10.0	926,592
Subtotal	10.0	877,266	10.0	926,592
Turnover		(48,439)		(1,824)
Total Salaries		828,827		924,768
Benefits				
FICA		63,405		70,746
Health Benefits		186,704		208,606
Payroll Accrual		4,848		5,391
Retiree Health		32,655		30,056
Retirement		263,334		295,281
Subtotal		550,946		610,080
Total Salaries and Benefits	10.0	1,379,773	10.0	1,534,848
Cost Per FTE Position		137,977		153,485
Statewide Benefit Assessment		24,038		26,817
Payroll Costs	10.0	1,403,811	10.0	1,561,665
Purchased Services				
Clerical and Temporary Services		151,500		155,363
Management & Consultant Services		71,000		74,000
Other Contracts		84,000		111,000
Subtotal		306,500		340,363
Total Personnel	10.0	1,710,311	10.0	1,902,028
Distribution by Source of Funds				
General Revenue	7.0	1,034,478	7.0	1,176,019
Federal Funds	3.0	552,833	3.0	573,009
Operating Transfers from Other Funds	0.0	123,000	0.0	153,000
Total All Funds	10.0	1,710,311	10.0	1,902,028

Personnel

Rhode Island Council on the Arts

Central Management

	FY 2025		FY 2026		
	FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost	
Unclassified					
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	0316 A	1.0	53,709	1.0	55,928
ARTS PROGRAM SPECIALIST	0326 A	3.0	222,297	3.0	235,402
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (RISCA)	0836 A	1.0	101,407	1.0	109,319
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (ARTS COUNCIL)	0843 A	1.0	137,685	1.0	149,383
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OFFICE OF FILM & TELEVISION	0839 A	1.0	135,150	1.0	140,556
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE	0321 A	2.0	136,020	2.0	141,367
SENIOR SYSTEMS DESIGN PROGRAMMER	0328 A	1.0	90,998	1.0	94,637
Subtotal Unclassified		10.0	877,266	10.0	926,592
Subtotal		10.0	877,266	10.0	926,592
Turnover			(48,439)		(1,824)
Total Salaries			828,827		924,768
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Performance Measures

Rhode Island Council on the Arts

Central Management

Eligible Program Grant Applications

Through its grantmaking activities, RISCA supports non-profit organizations, schools, individual artists and culture bearers in order to build a strong ecosystem of arts education, cultural development, economic development, social cohesion, public health and cultural expression in the state of Rhode Island. RISCA's efforts focus on broad outreach to communities across the state. The figures below represent the number of eligible applications received by RISCA. [Note: This was a new performance measure in FY 2023 and historical targets are not available.]

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Target	--	580	620	375	550
Actual	5	599	679	--	--

Funded and Approved Grants

Through its grantmaking activities, RISCA supports non-profit organizations, schools, individual artists and culture bearers in order to build a strong ecosystem of arts education, cultural development, economic development, social cohesion, public health and cultural expression in Rhode Island. RISCA's efforts focus on broad outreach to communities across the state. The figures below represent the numbers of eligible applications funded and approved by the Governor's appointed council. [Note: This was a new performance measure in FY 2023 and historical targets are not available.]

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Target	--	250	250	166	220
Actual	214	289	277	--	--

Grant Awards

Through its grantmaking activities, RISCA supports non-profit organizations, schools, individual artists and culture bearers in order to build a strong ecosystem of arts education, cultural development, economic development, social cohesion, public health and cultural expression in the state of Rhode Island. RISCA's efforts focus on broad outreach to communities across the state. The figures below represent the dollar amounts granted during the fiscal year. [Note: This was a new performance measure in FY 2023 and historical targets are not available.]

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Target	--	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$963,903	\$1,000,000
Actual	\$981,692	\$1,048,209	\$1,125,452	--	--

Total Dollar Request of Eligible Applications Received

Through its grantmaking activities, RISCA supports non-profit organizations, schools, individual artists and culture bearers in order to build a strong ecosystem of arts education, cultural development, economic development, social cohesion, public health and cultural expression in the state of Rhode Island. RISCA's efforts focus on broad outreach to communities across the state. The figures below represent the dollar amounts that RI organizations and artists requested during the fiscal year. [Note: This was a new performance measure in FY 2023 and historical targets are not available.]

	<i>Reporting Period: State Fiscal Year</i>				
<i>Frequency: Annual</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Target	--	\$2,500,500	\$2,500,500	\$1,969,678	\$2,100,000
Actual	\$2,735,992	\$2,378,458	\$2,944,191	--	--