

FAQs Regarding the Lawsuit Opposing the Dismantling of the NEH

This document offers information related to the lawsuit filed by [American Council of Learned Societies](#) (ACLS), American Historical Association (AHA), and [Modern Language Association](#) (MLA), opposing the illegal dismantling of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). This document was prepared by ACLS, AHA, MLA, [National Humanities Alliance](#) (NHA), and [Phi Beta Kappa Society](#). For other inquiries, please email alevy@historians.org.

The NEH terminated a grant that my organization or I had been awarded. Can my organization join the lawsuit, or can I join it as an individual?

The suit has been filed, and we are not taking additional plaintiffs in the interest of expediency. After an extensive evaluation of potential pathways, we determined this suit is the most expeditious and effective course for reversing the administration's actions, including the elimination of grant programs, staff, and entire divisions and programs.

If successful, will this suit restore my grant funding?

The suit aims to restore the NEH's grant programs, divisions, and staff capacity. It is possible that some or even most grants could be restored as part of the suit.

Why didn't you bring a class action lawsuit to restore cancelled grants?

We determined that bringing this suit in the manner that we have is the most efficient and straightforward way to obtain swift relief on behalf of all of those who benefit from NEH and its programs.

Why are ACLS, AHA, and MLA the plaintiffs in the lawsuit?

ACLS, AHA, and MLA are organizations represented on the NHA executive committee. All three organizations helped to found NHA in 1981 to allow humanities organizations to speak with one voice in support of the National Endowment for the Humanities. As organizations with cancelled grants, ACLS, AHA, and MLA have standing to bring this suit.

Which other organizations are involved in the lawsuit?

The Phi Beta Kappa Society and the NHA have played advisory and coordinating roles in developing the suit.

My NEH grant was terminated. Where can I learn about what other NEH grants were terminated?

Drawing on multiple sources, the Association for Computers and the Humanities has created what we believe is the most comprehensive database of cancelled grants. [Access the database.](#)

Are there additional resources for those with cancelled grants?

- [NEH General Terms and Conditions for Awards to Organizations](#) (for grants and cooperative agreements issued between January 1, 2022, and September 30, 2024)
- [Example Appeals Language](#)
- [MLA Appeal Strategies for NEH Terminated Grants](#)

Should I contact my Congressional representatives and urge them to support the NEH?

Yes! We need Congress to reaffirm its support for the NEH and underscore its intent by appropriating funding for it. [This form](#) allows you to send messages to your elected officials with the click of a button.

What other actions can I take now to support the NEH?

The American Historical Association has released a [statement](#) condemning the evisceration of the National Endowment for the Humanities, as the current administration's Department of Government Efficiency has terminated hundreds of grants and put 75 percent of staff on leave. "The NEH and the grants it administers nourish our democracy through research, education, preservation, institutional capacity building, and public programming in the humanities for the benefit of the American people," the statement reads. "This frontal attack on the nation's public culture is unpatriotic, anti-American, and unjustified."

We encourage AHA members to [contact](#) your congressional representatives today through the NHA's [action alert](#) and urge them to save the NEH. The NHA is also collecting information about current grants that have been canceled since March 31, 2025. If you or your organization has been affected by NEH grant terminations, please complete [this form](#).

Why are some individuals and their grants mentioned in the lawsuit?

As membership organizations, ACLS, AHA, and MLA can demonstrate standing in the suit by documenting how at least one of their members has been harmed by the NEH's actions.