



National Historical Publications and Records Commission

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) is the “grant-making arm” of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). It was established by Congress in 1934, along with NARA, to promote preservation and use of the American documentary record. NHPRC grants support a wide range of activities directed to preserving and increasing access to historical records, including print and electronic publication of the papers of significant figures and themes in U.S. history.

CURRENT FUNDING STATUS: NHPRC currently is funded at \$6 million, a \$1 million increase over the FY 2016 level. Despite this increase, NHPRC has not recovered from a major cut in FY 2011 that reduced its appropriation from \$13 million to \$7 million. When adjusted for inflation, NHPRC has seen a 60% decrease in its appropriation since FY 2010. NHPRC is funded under the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill.

ACTION NEEDED: For FY 2019, we urge Congress to:

- Reauthorize NHPRC at its last reauthorization level of \$10 million.
- Provide at least \$6 million for the NHPRC grants program.
- Oppose any efforts to eliminate the program.

NHPRC funding has been cut substantially in recent years, and it is important to ensure that its capacity is not depleted further. NHPRC is currently funded at FY 2017 levels under a continuing resolution.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

NHPRC Annual Appropriations, FY 2010 to Present (in millions of dollars)

FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
\$13	\$10	\$5	\$4.75	\$4.5	\$5	\$5	\$6	\$6

NHPRC SERVES NATIONAL NEEDS: This small grants program enables NARA to provide:

- National leadership through grants that support exploration of major archival issues, such as electronic records, and coordination and communication among state archivists nationwide.
- Grants to create documentary editions (both physical and electronic) of the papers of individuals and institutions that have been identified as nationally significant, such as the Ratification of the U.S. Constitution project, the Papers of Abraham Lincoln, and the Papers of George Washington. NHPRC is committed to promoting increased public and educational access to these publications through digitization.

NHPRC grants leverage state, local, institutional, foundation, and other private funding by requiring 50% cost sharing. NHPRC grants are the linchpin of the funding structures for most grant recipients.



The **Society of American Archivists (SAA)** is the oldest and largest national professional association of archivists in North America, representing more than 6,200 archivists employed by businesses, universities, governments, libraries, and historical organizations. Archivists are the professionals who collect, preserve, and make available for research historically significant documents, vital records, and other materials. Read more at www.archivists.org.

The **Council of State Archivists (CoSA)** is a nonprofit membership organization of the state and territorial government archives in the fifty states, five territories, and District of Columbia. Through collaborative research, education, and advocacy, CoSA provides leadership that strengthens and supports state and territorial archives in their work to preserve and provide access to government records. CoSA facilitates networking, information sharing, and project collaboration among its member organizations to help state and territorial government archives with their responsibilities for protecting the rights and historical documents of the American people. Read more at www.statearchivists.org.

The **National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA)** is dedicated to the improvement of federal, state, and local government records and information management and the professional development of government records administrators and archivists. Members include county, municipal, and special district governments; state agencies (state records centers, archives and libraries); federal agencies and employees; public universities; and provincial and institutional programs. Read more at www.nagara.org.

The **Regional Archival Associations Consortium (RAAC)** provides a venue for information exchange among the leaders of regional archival organizations and between the regional organizations and the Society of American Archivists. RAAC fosters collaboration to streamline actions, reduce costs, and increase services to archivists around the nation in such areas as advocacy, public awareness, education, disaster planning/recovery, and grant development. Read more at www.archivists.org/groups/regional-archival-associations-consortium-raac.
