

Justification for Change

FY2027 Museum Empowered Notice of Funding Opportunity (3137-0107)

IMLS requests approval for non-substantive changes in the FY2027 Museums Empowered Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to update key calendar dates and to amend, clarify, and simplify instructions for applicants. The current OMB approval expiration date is 8/31/2027.

Request abstract:

Through this clearance submission and accompanying justification, IMLS seeks approval of non-substantive changes to OMB Clearance Number 3137-0107 for the FY2027 NOFO for Museums Empowered, a discretionary grant program that supports American museums.

The changes consist of:

- Updating the application due date, date of award decision notifications, and beginning date of the period of performance.
- Copyediting text to further simplify descriptions, standardize terms, and streamline instructions for applicants.
- Updating the maximum amount of individual awards to \$350,000.
- Updating the Executive Summary to more fully describe the scope and goals of the program.
- Adding a statement that the finalized 2 C.F.R. § 200 updates will apply to all awards made on or after October 1, 2026.
- Adding a statement that the agency may update the General Terms and Conditions for IMLS Discretionary Grant and Cooperative Agreement Awards before making awards.
- Updating text for Eligibility and Completeness Checks to further clarify agency requirements.
- Updating instructions for applicants on how to complete and submit the IMLS Museum Program Information Form.
- Updating IMLS's office mailing address.

Burden Estimate:

The respondent burden remains the same.