

**The African American Civil Rights Network** is a collection of resources consisting of properties, facilities, and programs that offer a comprehensive overview of the people, places, and events associated with the African American Civil Rights movement and history. The Network is an opportunity to ensure that the histories and stories of African American civil rights and the sacrifices made by those who fought for its cause are told and commemorated.

### **What is the African American Civil Rights Network?**

1. The African American Civil Rights Network is a collection of resources consisting of properties, facilities, and programs that offer a comprehensive overview of the people, places, and events associated with the African American Civil Rights movement and history. The Network is an opportunity to ensure that the histories and stories of African American civil rights and the sacrifices made by those who fought for its cause are told and commemorated.

### **Who is encouraged to apply to the network?**

2. All individuals, organizations, foundations, schools, and properties that promote the history, commemoration, and involvement of African American civil rights movement and stories. All activities, all histories related to gain full citizenship and personhood here in the U.S. and globally. The Network recognizes that African American civil rights begins when the first enslaved Africans arrived in the United States and contributed to the succession of civil rights and equality.

### **Do I need a significance to African American Civil Rights?**

3. Yes. A **verifiable** connection to African American civil rights. Explain your resource's significance, relevance, and connections to African American civil rights to a property, facility, or program.

### **What to expect after submitting your application?**

4. The Network accepts all applications on a rolling basis and is not a competitive program. The review process takes 30 business days to review applications after the submission process is completed. The selection of new members is announced on a quarterly basis.

### **What are the benefits of joining the Network?**

5. While the network does not offer direct funding, AACRN membership does provide avenues to assist members with funding opportunities and mini grants. Common funding opportunities exist within the State, Tribal, and Local Plans and Grants Division (STLPG) which includes the African American Civil Rights Grant (*not affiliated with AACRN*), the Underrepresented Communities Grant, HBCU grant, and other preservation competitive grants. In addition, only AACRN members are eligible to apply for a competitive grant with the Association of African American Museums (AAAM) for up to \$25,000. [AAAM-AACRN Grant Opportunity](#)

## *How to Join the Network*

- **Criteria**

Individuals and organizations wishing to join the African American Civil Rights Network are required to meet criteria as explained in the African American Civil Rights Act of 2017.

Incoming applicants should express in their applications the following,

- a. To recognize the importance of the African American civil rights movement.
- b. The sacrifices made by the people who fought against discrimination and segregation.
- c. To express the activities/events that commemorate, honor, and interpret the history of the African American civil rights movement and the significance of the civil rights movement as a crucial element in the evolution of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
- d. The relevance of the African American civil rights movement in fostering the spirit of social justice and national reconciliation.

- **Permission of Ownership**

The applicant *must have* the permission of the resource owner in order to become part of the Network. An owner permission template is accessible via the AACRN webpage.

- **For Properties Only**

All Properties such as historic houses, buildings, and spaces must either be listed in, or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. This does not apply to Facilities or Programs.

- **Completing the Application**

All applicants are required to submit an electronic application via the AACRN website. You must register an account, either as an individual or an organization to start your application. Please fill out the form and submit all required and supplemental documents in PDF format *only*.

**Note:** *You can edit any existing application prior to submission. Once the application is submitted, however, it cannot be edited further.*