



AMHERST WRITERS & ARTISTS

AWA Training Application FAQs

What is Amherst Artist & Writers (AWA)'s core belief?

AWA's core belief is simple: every person is a writer, and every writer deserves a safe environment in which to experiment, learn, and develop craft. The AWA method, which is fully described in founder Pat Schneider's book *Writing Alone and With Others* (Oxford University Press, 2003), provides just such an environment.

What are AWA's Philosophy & Practices?

[Philosophy and practices](#)

How may I learn more about the AWA Method?

AWA Affiliates offer an array of workshops. A listing of these offerings can be found on the [event page](#). In addition, the Write Around the World program in May offers individuals an opportunity to write with a number of different AWA facilitators. This program is also a fundraiser for the organization.

Do you have to be an English teacher in order to participate in the Training?

Individuals who facilitate AWA Workshops come from a variety of backgrounds. The Training Committee reviews the experience of each applicant to determine their ability to work with groups. Each applicant has an opportunity to mention aspects of their personal experience that will assist them to facilitate a group and a process that encourages all voices to be equitably expressed and valued.

What is the schedule for the 2024 online Amherst Writers & Artists Training?

- **March:** Each day begins at 10 a.m. Eastern, 7a.m. Pacific. Each day ends no later than 5:30 p.m. Eastern, 1:30 p.m. Pacific.
- **June:** Each day begins at 10 a.m. Eastern, 7a.m. Pacific. Each day ends no later than 5:30 p.m. Eastern, 1:30 p.m. Pacific.
- **August:** Each day begins at 11 a.m. Eastern, 8 a.m. Pacific. Each day ends no later than 6:30 p.m. Eastern, 2:30 p.m. Pacific.
- **November:** The first Friday is 3-7 p.m. Pacific. Saturdays and Sundays are 8-3 p.m. Pacific.

Is financial assistance available for AWA Training?

Yes, if you apply by February 29, 2024 for trainings in the 2024 calendar year. Learn more at [AWA Financial Assistance](#).

Do I need to submit an application for financial assistance?

If you're interested in receiving aid, please [submit the standard application](#) and then fill out our [financial aid request form](#) by **February 29th**. If you're not able to afford the \$500 deposit before knowing about aid, we understand. You can choose "pay offline" to submit your application without a payment.

When do I need to submit my financial assistance application?

The deadline for submitting a Financial Aid application for **all** of the 2024 training is Thursday, February 29th.

Will you hold interviews?

Yes. Interviews will be scheduled on March 2nd and 4th in 2024. Once you've submitted your Financial Aid application, we will contact you to schedule a 15-minute interview.

If I am accepted for financial assistance, will I need to attend any additional training?

Yes. We ask that those who receive financial assistance attend a supportive 2-3 month long Launchpad group with their peers after their certification. These communities are proving invaluable to new facilitators.

If I receive financial assistance, but am unable to attend during the year it was awarded, will the funding carry over?

No. The Committee understands that unforeseen circumstances can occur that might affect an applicant's availability. In order to accommodate these situations, applicants may change their training date with one month of notice or more. Unfortunately, however, funding is only available in the calendar year it is approved. Applicants who are unable to use the funding during that time are encouraged to re-apply for assistance the following calendar year.