



**Federation of State Humanities Councils
(FSHC)**



**NEH Federal/State Partnership
(F/SP)**

Mission	The Federation of State Humanities Councils, a membership organization, represents and strengthens the state humanities councils through advocacy, connection and support.	The Federal/State Partnership, a division within NEH, is a liaison between the state humanities councils and NEH. The state humanities councils are the Federal/State Partnership’s sole grantees.
History	Founded in 1977 as a vehicle for exchanging information and ideas among the councils, FSHC is now the councils’ national collective voice articulating and representing their value and interests with Congress, NEH and other national organizations.	The office of the F/SP was created in the mid-1990s to replace the previous Division of State Programs. The F/SP is directly under the jurisdiction of the NEH Chairman’s office.
Collaboration and Advocacy	<p>FSHC participates in the National Council F/SP committee meetings and collaborates with F/SP on such activities as the orientation for new directors.</p> <p>FSHC advocates for overall NEH funding and for the F/SP line in the NEH budget, which directly supports council grants.</p>	<p>F/SP relies on the Federation’s communication tools to share information with councils and consults with the Federation on policy changes that affect councils.</p> <p>As a federal government entity, the F/SP is not permitted to advocate for funding.</p>
Relationship to: the State Humanities Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNITES councils into a community of common mission • ENABLES councils to share information, providing tools and opportunities that lead to mutual learning • ORGANIZES events for council representatives, including: the National Humanities Conference, Humanities on the Hill, Executive Director retreats and Program Officer meetings • SEEKS funding for the councils from the federal government and other national entities • PROVIDES services to councils funded by membership dues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LINKS the NEH with the councils to help achieve two primary collaborative goals: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Advance knowledge and understanding of the humanities 2) Increase awareness, access and support of the humanities • OVERSEES the councils’ congressionally appropriated general operating support grants • CARRIES OUT onsite visits to review council operations and programs • PROVIDES councils with general liability insurance
Relationship to: Other Humanities Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROMOTES council capabilities by actively pursuing partnerships with national organizations • WORKS TO STRENGTHEN the connection between academic and public humanities to increase their collective impact • COLLABORATES with national organizations to increase opportunities for councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HELPS ENABLE councils to make humanities education and lifelong learning readily available at the local level through grants to local organizations • TRACKS trends and ideas in the broader nonprofit and grantmaking worlds to provide councils information about current research, analysis and best practices.