

## **COVID RECOVERY PROGRAMME for ARTS ORGANISATIONS**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**NB: Please refer to the Guidance Notes for full criteria**

#### **What is the purpose of this programme?**

- To help organisations recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

#### **When is the application deadline?**

- The closing date for applications is **12 noon on Friday 28 January 2022.**

#### **How much can we apply for?**

- Most grants will be £50,000 or under but others may need more. If you do, you must contact us.
- Where an organisation fails to consult with the Arts Council in advance of submitting an application for a greater amount, the £50,000 funding limit shall apply.

#### **If my application is for funding over £50,000, must I contact the Arts Council?**

- Yes, you must contact the Arts Council if you are requesting more than £50,000
- Where an organisation fails to consult with the Arts Council in advance of submitting an application for a greater amount, the £50,000 funding limit shall apply.

#### **If I need less than £10,000 who can I contact?**

- If you need less than £10,000 you must contact Community Finance Ireland:
  - Website - - [home – Community Finance Ireland](#)
  - Email - [hello@communityfinanceireland.com](mailto:hello@communityfinanceireland.com)
  - Phone – 028 9031 5003

### **When will we hear if our application is successful?**

- We aim to communicate decisions to you before the end of March 2022.

### **Do we need match funding?**

- No. You do not need to show match funding for this award

### **Who can submit an application?**

- Constituted organisations/companies whose primary purpose relates to the categories below and which carry out the majority of their work in Northern Ireland
- Arts, cultural and community venues whose main use is for one of the categories below
- Arts, culture and community organisations whose primary role is to create, present or support one or more of these categories:
  - Dance
  - Drama
  - Literature
  - Music and Opera
  - Traditional Arts
  - Visual Arts
  - Performing arts and theatre
  - Festivals and cultural events
  - Participatory Arts
  - Comedy
  - Cross Art form
  - Community Arts
  - Craft

### **Who cannot submit an application?**

- Applicants who demonstrate a deficit of **less than £10,000** – please use the Financial Template (Annex A) to determine level of deficit and your eligibility to apply to this Programme.
- If your current deficit is **less than** your pre-Covid deficit you will not be eligible for this Programme - please use the Financial Template (Annex A) to determine this
- Individuals including sole traders
- Commercial organisations
- Broadcasters (excluding community service broadcasters)
- Central Government Departments
- Applicants to other Covid Recovery Programmes funded by the Department for Communities
- Local Councils

## **Who cannot submit an application? (cont'd)**

- Creative Industries in the following segments:
  - Advertising and Marketing
  - Architecture
  - Independent Cinema
  - IT, Software and Computer Services
  - Museums and Libraries
  - Product Design, Fashion Design, and Graphic Design;
  - TV, Video, Photography, Film, and Radio;

## **Can we make more than one application?**

- No. You may submit only one application.

## **Do we have to apply online?**

- Yes. We will only accept online applications
- Online applications may be edited, saved, and returned up to the closing date, 12noon on Friday 28 January 2022
- You must submit all mandatory enclosures associated with the application at the same time as your application. Failure to do so will render your application ineligible.

## **What can we apply for?**

- Operating deficits for the period 1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022

## **What can we not apply for?**

- Deficits not directly related to Covid-19
- Costs or losses not incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Costs already covered by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, , other funders or Government COVID-19 schemes ' Please note that we will check and you will be asked to sign an anti-fraud statement in your application
- Costs you will incur after 31 March 2022
- Anything that contravenes Governments' advice on COVID-19

## **What other information do I need to provide in support of my application?**

In addition to providing financial information we will ask in your application form for details on the following:

- How has your organisation's sustainability and services been impacted because of negative COVID-related financial impacts sustained during April 2021 – March 2022?

- Are there any jobs at risk due to negative COVID-related financial impacts sustained during April 2021 – March 2022? If so, please provide details. If not, please enter 'not applicable'.
- If you were not to receive a grant award, please explain the likely impact on the level of the services that your organisation provides, and what alternative plans you would consider.

### **On what grounds could my application be deemed as ineligible?**

Applications will be deemed ineligible for one or more of the following reasons:

- The mandatory enclosures have not been provided

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the application form is fully and accurately completed and submitted with all mandatory enclosures.

### **Who should we contact for help?**

- The Arts Council staff list is on our website: <http://artscouncil-ni.org/contact-us>

**Arts Council will update these regularly throughout the duration of the submission period.**