



Awarding funds from  
**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY®**

# Introduction first time applications

# Welcome

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# This presentation will cover

- Who are Arts Council England?
- About **National Lottery Project Grants [and Touring Grants]**
- What you can & can't apply for
- Project Grants and our strategy, Let's Create
- How to apply on Grantium
- The application form and processes
- Contact us
- Any Questions?

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## Arts Council England: a bit about us

We want to:

- grow skills and knowledge
- create opportunities for creativity and culture across the country



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## What is it?

### National Lottery Project Grants is



- our open-access funding programme for **arts, museums and libraries** projects
- our most popular programme - funded by the National Lottery

## What is a project?

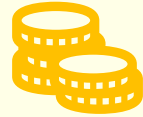


- a **Project** has a **start and end date**, and steps to **achieve** in that time
- allows people to **experience or take part** in artistic work, museum-focused work, or libraries-related activity
- involves one or more of our **supported disciplines**

# What does Project Grants support?



- creative and cultural projects for people in England
- projects from **£1,000** to **over £100,000**
- projects lasting up to **three years**



- individuals, organisations, professional companies, and non-professional groups



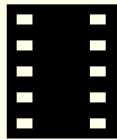
- projects to directly create and deliver **creative and cultural activity**



- creative and cultural projects with a **longer-term positive impact**

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## What Project Grants doesn't support



- work that won't reach people in England
- things that have already happened
- school or university courses
- business running costs
- cinema or fashion

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## Which disciplines are supported by Project Grants?



**Music**



**Dance**



**Theatre**



**Libraries**



**Museums**



**Combined Arts**

including festivals and carnivals



**Visual Arts**



**Literature**

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## Activities you can apply for



- Researching/Testing new ideas



- Making new work



- Events/performances/gigs



- Workshops/Participation Activity



- Touring work

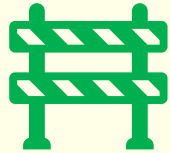


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**Access  
Support:**  
before you apply



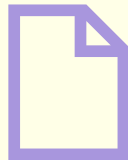
We want to make Project Grants accessible to **everyone**



If you have a barrier which means you find it difficult to get advice or apply, we can help you



**Get in touch at** [arts council.org.uk/contact](https://arts council.org.uk/contact)



Read our **Access Support information sheet** [arts council.org.uk/ProjectGrants](https://arts council.org.uk/ProjectGrants)

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## How much you can apply for

**NLPG £30,000 or less**

decision usually in 8 weeks

**NLPG £30,001 - £100,000**

decision usually in 12 weeks

**NLPG (Major Projects) £100,000+**

Expression of Interest before application form  
decision usually in 20-24 weeks

**Touring - over £30,000 - £100,000+**

Expression of Interest before application form  
decision usually in 16-22 weeks

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## Time limited priorities

- applications with a specific area of focus
- listed on our website
- have their own information sheets
- apply through Project Grants

For up-to-date information:

[www.artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants)



# Our Strategy



## Let's Create is built around three outcomes

**Creative People**

**Cultural  
Communities**

**Creative and  
Cultural Country**

## four **Investment Principles**:

**Inclusivity and Relevance**

**Ambition and Quality**

**Dynamism**

**Environmental  
Responsibility**

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# Our Priorities for Project Grants



## People

- Data tells us if people are underrepresented in NLPG funding
- Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people and disabled people are underrepresented as recipients and beneficiaries of National Lottery Project Grants funding.



## Places

- Data tell us if places are underrepresented in NLPG funding
- We've identified which places are more underrepresented



## Time limited priorities

- Sometimes specific types of applications help us make the difference we want to make through Project Grants.
  - Current time limited priorities are listed on our website.
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# How to apply



Step 1 - Create a user account

## Grantium



Step 2 - Create your applicant profile



*Wait while we validate your account  
(can be up to 10 days)*



Step 3 - Take the eligibility questionnaire for the specific grant program you're interested in



Step 4 - Start your application

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## The application form

- 1. Your project**  
At a glance  
In more detail
- 2. People and communities**  
Who will experience it  
Where
- 3. Your planning**  
Project timeline  
Who you are working with  
Budget – access, fair pay, income, match funding, expenditure  
**Risks and challenges**
- 4. About you/ your organisation**

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## Match funding

**Do you need match funding (10%)?  
Yes, where possible:**

**if you can't find match funding**

...please **tell us** about your attempts in your application



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**Criteria:**  
How your  
project will help  
to make a  
difference

**When we look at how your project will help to  
make a difference, we'll consider:**

**The project**

Is there a clear creative/ cultural  
idea?

Does the project show ambition?

Are there clear plans to reflect on  
progress?

Do you know the difference you  
want to make?

**People and communities**

Are the people you're planning  
to reach involved in the design  
and planning of the project?

Does the project team reflect  
the communities you want to  
reach?

Are people likely to be able to  
fully access the project, and  
feel included?

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**Criteria:**  
How likely your project is to achieve what you want it to

**Partnerships**

Are there appropriate partnerships in place to deliver the activity?

**Budget and match funding**

Is the budget appropriate for the project?  
Is the level of match appropriate for the project?

**Risks and challenges**

Has risk been appropriately considered?

**Planning**

Is the project realistic and well planned?

**Investment Principles (for higher value applications)**

Have the Investment Principles been used to support the development of the project?

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## Advice



Project Grants **website:**

[www.artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants)



**Customer Services**

[enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk)



**Relationship Managers**

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# Any questions?

- [enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk)
- [artscouncil.org.uk](http://artscouncil.org.uk)
- [@ace\\_national](https://www.instagram.com/ace_national)
- [/artscouncilofengland](https://www.facebook.com/artscouncilofengland)