



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 our Grant Management System
- The application form and processes
- Contact us
- Any Questions?

Arts Council England: a bit about us

We want to:

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



What is it?

National Lottery Project Grants (NLPG) 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?

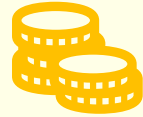
- a **Project** has a **start and end date**, and steps to **achieve** in that time
- allows people to **experience or take part** in artistic work, museum-focused work, or libraries-related activity
- involves one or more of our **supported disciplines**



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

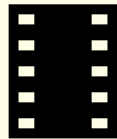


- projects to directly create and deliver **creative and cultural activity**



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

What Project Grants doesn't support



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

**Which
disciplines are
supported by
Project
Grants?**

Music

Theatre

Museums

Visual Arts

Digital Arts

Dance

Libraries

Combined Arts

including festivals and carnivals

Literature

Activities you can apply for



- Researching/Testing new ideas



- Making new work



- Events/performances/gigs



- Workshops/Participation Activity

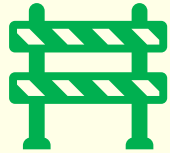


- Touring work *[not just theatre!]*

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:
[artscouncil.org.uk/contact](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/contact)



Read more on our Website:
[Access support | Arts Council England](#)

**How much
you can
apply for**

NLPG £30,000 or less

Decisions now taking up to 12 weeks

NLPG £30,001 - £100,000

(for larger, regional projects)

Decisions now taking up to 14 weeks

**Other
Strategic
Project
Grants
(£100,000 +)**

**Touring
Major Projects
Place Partnerships**

*These include Expression of Interest stages before full applications
Decisions may take between 16-24 weeks*

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**

Our Priorities for Project Grants



People

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



Places

- Data helps us identify **Priority Places** – areas that are underrepresented in receiving NLPG funding directly or hosting funded activity – or both.



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.

How to apply

on our Grant Management System



Step 1 - Create a user account



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

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/grants-system-guidance>

The application form



1. Your Project

- At a glance
- In more detail
- Example of your work

2. People and Communities

- Who will experience it
- Where it is happening

3. Your Planning

- Project timeline
- Who you are working with
- Budget – Access, Fair Pay, Income, Match Funding, Expenditure
- Risks and challenges

4. About Your Organisation

Match funding

Do you need match funding?
Yes, where possible:

if you can't find match funding

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

Criteria (1): 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? Can you use data to support the need for your project?

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?

Criteria (2):
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?

Advice



Project Grants **website:**

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



Customer Services

enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk



Relationship Managers



Live Chat

Other Free Resources from ACE



Digital Culture Network

- Digital marketing strategy and audience development
- Unlimited one-to-one support
- Resources, webinars and podcast

www.digitalculturenetwork.org.uk



Cultural Education Network

- Support to deliver high-quality cultural education for children and young people across England
- One-to-one sessions with Cultural Education Specialists
- For teachers, freelance artists, cultural organisations

www.culturaleducationnetwork.org.uk

Thanks for listening



✉ enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk

🔗 artscouncil.org.uk

📘 @artscouncilofengland

📷 aceagrams