Theatre Artist Residency Scheme 2020/2021

Guidelines for Applicants
Deadline: 5.30pm, Thursday 9 April 2020

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Application checklist

Use the checklists below to make sure that your application is complete.

**Items that are mandatory for all applications (check all of these items)**

- I/we have filled in all of the sections of the application form relevant to my application.
- I/we have prepared all required supporting material (as outlined in section 1.7 below), and have this ready to upload.

**Items that are mandatory for certain applications (check those that apply to your application)**

- My/our proposal involves work that is aimed at/involves the participation of children and or young people aged seventeen and under. I understand that if my application is successful, as a condition of funding I will be required to confirm and demonstrate that I have suitable child-protection policies and procedures in place. (Please see www.tusla.ie for more information.)
- My/our proposal involves working with vulnerable persons, and I have submitted an acknowledgement that I adhere to the National Policy & Procedures on Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons at Risk of Abuse at www.hse.ie.
- My/our proposal involves working with animals, and I have submitted a copy of my/our Animal Welfare Protection Policies and Procedures.

**Other items that I consider relevant to my application (check those that apply to your application)**

- My/our proposal relies on the expertise of other named people or organisations, and I have a document detailing those people and their expertise ready to upload.
- My/our proposal includes other material relevant to my application, which I have ready to upload.

**Second opinion (check this item)**

- I/we have asked someone else to check over my application to make sure there are no errors and that nothing is missing.
Getting help with your application

- The Arts Council makes every effort to provide reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities who wish to submit an application or who have difficulties in accessing Online Services. If you have a requirement in this area, please contact the Arts Council’s Access Officer, Adrienne Martin, by phone (01 6180219) or by email (adrienne.martin@artscouncil.ie) at least three weeks in advance of the deadline day.

- If you have a technical query about using the Online Services website you can email onlineservices@artscouncil.ie

- Answers to common questions about using Online Services are available in the FAQ section of the Arts Council website at: http://www.artscouncil.ie/en/FAQ/online-services.aspx

- To watch our YouTube guide on making an application, go to http://www.youtube.com/artscouncildemos

- If you require assistance with the content of your application, call the Arts Council on 01 6180200 or email awards@artscouncil.ie
1. **About the Theatre Artist Residency Scheme**

1.1 **Objectives and priorities of the scheme**

The purpose of the Theatre Artist Residency Scheme is to offer professional theatre artists the opportunity to create a year-long programme of work in partnership with arts centres and local authorities. In each case, the specific contents of the work programme will be designed by the theatre artist in collaboration with an arts centre and a local authority.

Proposals for funding under this scheme must have the committed support in writing of at least one local authority and one arts centre.

| Definitions for the purposes of this scheme | Professional theatre artist: an individual who works as a professional artist in a creative capacity in a theatre context, and who is recognised as such by his or her peers but are not in receipt of Strategic Funding. This could be a director, theatre maker, actor, playwright, designer or creative producer. |
| | Theatre Organisation: the Arts Council will also consider applications from two or more theatre artists with an established track record of working in collaboration who together form a theatre organisation. The organisation may not be in receipt of Strategic Funding |
| | Arts Centre: an arts centre that is funded by the Arts Council and presents a programme of professional theatre to audiences on a regular basis. |

**Objectives**

The objectives of the Theatre Artist Residency Scheme are:

- To offer opportunities to theatre artists across the country to engage in a programme of artistic work relevant to their own practice
- To offer opportunities to arts centres and local authorities to develop theatre practice in their area
- To encourage the development of long-term planning and sustainability of independent theatre activities
- To encourage a coordinated approach between key arts providers at local and regional level.

**Priorities**

Proposals will be given priority based on:

- Theatre artists or organisations with significant track records
- The relevance and extent of supports provided by the residency host and the theatre artist’s track-record and experience to the content of the residency
- The clarity of the proposed activities in terms of a coherent artistic programme
- The suitability of the artistic and administrative resources available to the residency
- The positive level of engagement and reciprocal support between all parties involved in the residency
- The extent and quality of engagement with local communities where such engagement is an element of the proposal
The level of cash investment by the supporting arts centre and local authority. Other sources of investment will also be considered.

All awards are informed by the Arts Council’s ten-year strategy (2016—2025), Making Great Art Work: Leading the Development of the Arts in Ireland

(see here: http://www.artscouncil.ie/arts-council-strategy/).

1.2 Who can apply?

The Theatre Artist Residency Scheme is open to the following, one of which must take on the role of primary applicant under the scheme:

- Professional theatre artists or organisations who are resident in the Republic of Ireland and who have the committed support of at least one local authority and one arts centre
- Local authorities proposing to establish a professional theatre artist residency
- Arts Centres in receipt of Arts Council funding proposing to establish a professional theatre artist residency.
- In line with the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty, the Arts Council is committed to ensuring that it takes positive policy measures to promote equality of opportunity for all those living in Ireland, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, civil or family status, religion, age, disability, race or membership of the Traveller Community. Furthermore, the Arts Council notes the ground of socio-economic background as a further basis for which equality of opportunity must be guaranteed. The Arts Council therefore welcomes applications that are representative of the diversity of Irish society, including but not limited to any of the characteristics outlined above.

There are certain exceptions where the Arts Council may deem eligible applications made by those based outside the Republic of Ireland. However, before admitting as eligible any such application, the Arts Council would need to be satisfied that the outcomes of any such proposal would benefit the arts in the Republic of Ireland.

1.3 Who is the applicant?

The applicant is the person or organisation that will receive any grant offered and who will be required to accept the terms and conditions of that grant.

Any grant offered will only be paid into a bank account held in the name of the applicant

All documentation provided must be in the name of the applicant (individual theatre artist, local authority or arts centre). For example, if you apply to the Arts Council for funding under the name Máire de Barra, all documentation, including bank and tax details, must be in that name. Variations such as Mary Barry or Barry Studios are not acceptable.

1.4 Who cannot apply?

Applicants who are not eligible to apply include the following:

- Theatre artists without the committed support of at least one local authority and one arts centre or a combination of local authorities and arts centres
- Theatre artists who are already employed on a full-time basis by organisations in receipt of Strategic funding.
- Arts centres that do not receive any Arts Council funding and which do not present professional theatre as part of their on-going programme of work
- Organisations seeking funding to support vocational/undergraduate or postgraduate training.
1.5 What may you apply for?

The maximum amount awarded to each successful application made by an individual theatre artist is:

€20,000

The maximum amount awarded to each successful application made by a theatre organisation is:

€30,000

The funding is made available towards the theatre artist’s remuneration (on a full-time or part-time basis) for a period of up to one year.

Overall responsibility for the management of funds for the programme will be taken on by the person or organisation identified as the primary applicant.

How much funding may you apply for?

Applications under the Theatre Artist Residency Scheme must be accompanied by a detailed budget setting out all income and expenditure in relation to the proposed residency. The maximum amount you may request is the difference between the total expenditure and the total income you indicate in your detailed budget.

- **Total expenditure** should include the theatre artist’s remuneration* and any other costs associated with the residency – e.g. promotion and publicity costs, administrative costs, etc.
- **Total income** should include all income relating to the theatre residency, including what you expect to receive from other funders, production partners, box-office receipts, programme sales, commercial sponsorship, fundraising, etc.

It is also important to reflect all in-kind support** in both income and expenditure, so reflecting the full and true value of your proposal.

*Note on artists’ pay

The Arts Council is committed to improving the pay and conditions of artists. In this context, the Arts Council has published a policy on the fair and equitable remuneration and contracting of artists. This includes best-practice principles for all those working in the arts to aspire to.

All artists engaged in Arts Council-funded activities must be fairly paid. Anyone seeking funding from the Arts Council must tell us how they will ensure that artists will receive fair pay and conditions, and provide details of this in their budgets. We will use this as part of the application assessment process, and will not offer funding if we consider pay to be too low or below industry standards, or where the terms of engagement are not appropriate. Through our reporting mechanisms we will monitor compliance.

We do not set or recommend rates of pay, but we recognise the role of those organisations that are mandated to do so, and will refer to these where they exist. We also commit to supporting key representative and resource organisations to review industry rates and develop new tools that support the contracting process.

**Note on in-kind support

If you expect to receive in-kind support, you need to put a financial value on it so that the contribution it makes to the real value of your proposal is clear. You should think of in-kind support both as expenditure and as income: whatever amount you declare on the expenditure side you should also declare on the income side.
You are asked to indicate income, expenditure and amount requested at three stages during your application:

- Online, when you initiate the application (totals only)
- In section 3 of the application form
- In your detailed budget.

Make sure that the totals are the same on all three; and make sure that the amount requested equals TOTAL EXPENDITURE minus TOTAL INCOME.

The Arts Council will consider additional costs if they are specifically related to the making of art by artists with disabilities. If you wish to apply for additional funding on this basis, you should provide information with your application outlining what these additional costs are.

Please note that any funding offered under this scheme must be allocated exclusively to the theatre artist’s remuneration.

1.6 What may you not apply for?

Activities and costs that you may not apply for include the following:

- Major capital purchases
- Ongoing core costs
- Activities or costs that do not fit the purpose of the scheme
- Activities that are more suited to another award funded by the Arts Council or operated by other State agencies such as Culture Ireland
- Activities that have already taken place or that will have commenced before a decision is made on your application
- Activities undertaken for charity fundraising purposes, for participation in a competition, or for primarily profit-making purposes
- Activities that have already been assessed by the Arts Council. An exception will be made if the Council has specifically advised you to redirect your application to this scheme. Please bear in mind that such advice is not an indication of a successful outcome.

1.7 What supporting material must you submit with your application?

In addition to, and separate from, your application form, in order to be considered eligible for assessment for funding under the Theatre Artist Residency Scheme you must submit the following support material online:

- A detailed budget setting out proposed income and expenditure for the proposed residency (this must be in addition to the budget information provided in the application form).
- Detailed up-to-date CV (max. three pages) of the proposed theatre artist in residence.
- Theatre organisations must submit evidence of an established track record of collaboration, and should include CVs for all relevant artists
- A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between all of the applicant partners (i.e. the artist, the arts centre and the local authority); this should include the following:
  - An outline of the work programme/activities that the theatre artist will undertake during the residency
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- A list of the cash, in-kind and infrastructural resources that will be made available to support the theatre artist
- A clear breakdown of the roles and responsibilities of each partner to the residency – theatre artist/theatre organisation, local authority and arts centre.

- Good quality examples of the proposed theatre artist’s recent work. As a general rule, you are advised to be selective about what you submit – one high-quality example is better than many of lower quality.
- Documentary evidence of any financial assistance (in cash or in kind) itemised within your proposal budget not covered under the MOU (this could include MOUs from additional supporting partners).

If you do not submit the required supporting material, your application will be deemed ineligible.

Format for supporting material

All supporting material for the Theatre Artist Residency Scheme must be submitted online. Hard copy supporting material will not be accepted. Please follow these guidelines for the different kinds of supporting material.

Include contextual information for all supporting material in a clearly labelled text file.

For information on the file formats you may use for supporting material you wish to upload as part of your application, see section 2.3 Prepare any supporting material required for the application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visual stills</th>
<th>Label all images clearly and make sure you supply relevant contextual information.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moving-image work</td>
<td>Provide relevant contextual information. This might include details of the piece, when and where it was performed, how it was financed, and the names of the performers. You may submit up to three extracts, each between 3 and 5 minutes long.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samples of writing</td>
<td>Please submit no more than ten pages of a script – it is not possible for Arts Council assessors to read full play scripts or manuscripts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.8 Eligibility

Your application will be deemed ineligible, and will not go any further in the process, if any of the following is true:

1. You miss the application deadline
2. You fail to complete all of the sections in the application form relevant to your proposal
3. You cannot apply as set out in sections 1.2 to 1.4 above
4. You apply for an amount of funding greater than the maximum amount allowed for within the award to which you are applying, as set out in section 1.5 above
5. You apply for an activity or purpose that you cannot apply for as set out in section 1.6 above
6. You fail to provide all mandatory supporting materials as set out in section 1.7 above
7. Your application is better suited to another funding programme offered by the Arts Council or by another funding agency (in this case we will redirect you to the more appropriate funding opportunity).

**Note:** in the event that your application is ruled ineligible, it will not be assessed, and you will be permitted to apply again with the same proposal in future funding rounds. If you do reapply, you should ensure that you meet the eligibility requirements.
2. Making your application

2.1 Register with the Arts Council’s Online Services
All applications must be made through the Arts Council’s Online Services; applications made in any other way (by post, fax or email) will not be accepted.

You must have an Online Services account to make an application. If you do not already have an Online Services account, sign up by filling out the registration form here: https://onlineservices.artscouncil.ie/register.aspx.

Within five working days you will be issued (via email) with a unique ARN (artist reference number) and password that you can use to sign in to Online Services.

Requirements for using Online Services
Your computer and Internet browser will need to meet the following requirements to use Online Services successfully:

**PC**
- Windows 7 or higher
- Internet Explorer 8.0 or higher OR Firefox 27 or higher OR Chrome 33 or higher

**Mac**
- Mac OS X v10.5 Leopard or higher
- Safari 3.1 or higher OR Firefox 27 or higher or Chrome 32 or higher

*Note:* if Safari 11 prevents upload of documents upgrade Safari browser, or use Firefox or Chrome

**Please note:** You will also need to have Microsoft Word or OpenOffice Writer installed to complete the application form itself. OpenOffice Writer is free software that can be downloaded here: http://www.openoffice.org.

You must use OpenOffice Writer version 4.0.1 or earlier
More recent versions of OpenOffice Writer than 4.0.1 have resulted in problems with the appearance of application forms when they are submitted through online services.

Please refer to the Arts Council video Using OpenOffice to download, complete and upload the application form at https://www.youtube.com/user/ArtsCouncilDemos.

Apple Mac users should take note of the section that deals with the issue of downloading version 4.0.1 on Macs that have the latest versions of Mac OS installed.

*Note:* For macOS 10.15 Catalina please use OpenOffice 4.1.7.

If you cannot meet, or do not understand, any of these requirements, please contact us for advice as far as possible in advance of the deadline.

Give yourself enough time to complete the application
You should become familiar with the Online Services website well in advance of the deadline and in advance of preparing an application. It is likely that there will be heavy traffic on the site on the final afternoon of the closing date. You should prepare your application form and submit it well in advance of the deadline.

Upload times can be much longer than download times. It may take you longer than you think to upload your supporting materials.
Getting technical support
If you need technical support while making an online application, you can contact the Arts Council by emailing onlineservices@artscouncil.ie or by phoning 01 6180200. We recommend you report any technical issues with us well in advance of the deadline. Please provide a contact phone number and make sure that you are available to receive a return call from us.

We deal with queries on a first-come first-served basis.

Please note that there is often a high volume of calls as the deadline approaches and that technical-support calls received after 2.30pm on the closing date may not be resolved before the deadline.

2.2 Fill in the application form
If you have not already done so, download the application form for the scheme. The application form is a Microsoft Word/OpenOffice Writer-compatible document that you fill in offline (on your own computer). The application form includes guidance on how to fill in each of its sections.

Making your case
In order to make the very best case for why you should receive funding, you should give very careful consideration to what you include in the following sections of the form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Tell us about yourself</td>
<td>This is where you describe your/your organisation’s background. You should mention recent achievements, but also give a general overview of your main interests and ambitions as an artist/organisation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Artist in residence</td>
<td>Enter the name of the proposed theatre artist or theatre organisation in residence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Summary of your proposal</td>
<td>Give a summary of your proposal (up to three short points). Should your application be successful, this summary will be published on the Who We’ve Funded pages of the Arts Council’s website – for that reason, you should keep in mind that what you write may have a wider audience beyond the Arts Council assessors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Details of your proposal</td>
<td>What you write here is a key part of your proposal, and should help those involved in assessing your application to understand the full scope of what you want to do, how and why. It might include entries such as:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● A practical explanation of the activity you propose, your artistic goals and ambitions, the wider context in which you are making the proposal, and any other information you consider relevant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Details of how the three partners (artistic, local authority and arts centres) will work together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Your application and the assessment criteria</td>
<td>Describe how your application meets each of the assessment criteria – see section 3.3 Criteria for the assessment of applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Other artists,</td>
<td>Identify other artists, groups or organisations involved in your</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
individuals, groups or organisations involved in your proposal.
2.3 **Prepare any supporting material required for the application**

You are required to include supporting material with your application. Typically, this might include samples of current or recent work – e.g. text, video, images, or sound recordings.

You must submit all such supporting material online; if necessary, you should scan or save material in electronic format.

**Acceptable file formats**

The following table lists file formats that are acceptable as part of an application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File type</th>
<th>File extension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>text files</td>
<td>.rtf/.doc/.docx/.txt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>image files</td>
<td>.jpg/.gif/.tiff/.png</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sound files</td>
<td>.wav/.mp3/.m4a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>video files</td>
<td>.avi/.mov/.mp4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spreadsheets</td>
<td>.xls/.xlsx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adobe Acrobat Reader files</td>
<td>.pdf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For convenience, gather together all the files you need in an accessible location on your computer.

**Submitting YouTube links**

You may provide links to material hosted on YouTube ([www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)) instead of uploading the material directly. To do this, copy the URL (the full address of where your material is hosted on YouTube) into a Microsoft Word/OpenOffice Writer-compatible document and upload it as a weblink-supporting document.

**Please note:** any links you provide must be for YouTube. Links to other hosting sites will not be viewed.

Check that the link works from within the document you upload – i.e. that it links correctly to your material on YouTube.

If you do not wish material you upload to YouTube for the purposes of your application to be publicly viewable, you can flag your video as ‘unlisted’ in its settings.

**Naming files appropriately**

Give all files that you intend to upload filenames that make it clear what they contain or represent – i.e. it should be clear from the filename whether the document is a CV, a sample text or a review of previous work.

Please submit supporting documents in separate, appropriately named files.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Good filenames for an applicant called Jack Russell</th>
<th>russeiljack application.doc</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>russeiljackWIP.doc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>russeiljack Child Protection Policy.doc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>russeiljack youtube link.doc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total combined limit for all supporting material uploaded with a single application is 40MB.
2.4 Make your application online

To make your application online, you go through four main stages. Click Save draft at the end of each stage. You can come back to your application and revise it at any time before you finally submit it.

1. Choose funding programme and download application form

To start a new application, click the Make an application button on your home page, and follow the prompts to choose the funding programme you wish to apply for and to give your application a unique reference by which to identify it. At this stage you can also download the application form (if you have not already done so).

2. Request funding amount

At this stage you specify the expenditure and income related to your proposal, and the amount of funding you are requesting. The amount you request should equal Total expenditure minus Total income. The final figures you enter here should be the same as those you enter in section 3 of the application form and in your detailed budget.

3. Upload application form and supporting material

Follow the prompts to upload your filled-in and saved application form, the CV of the proposed theatre artist in residence, and any other required supporting material (see section 1.7 What supporting material must you submit with your application). You do not have to upload everything at the same time. You can save your application as a draft, and come back to it later.

4. Submit application

When you are satisfied that you have uploaded everything you need to support your application, click Submit.

You should expect to receive two emails. The first will be issued immediately your application is received by the Arts Council. The second may arrive a few minutes later, and will contain your application number, which will be used in all correspondence related to this application. Note: it is important that you contact onlineservices@artscouncil.ie if you do not receive the second confirmation email containing the application number.
3. **Processing and assessment of applications**

3.1 **Overview**

The Arts Council considers all applications, makes decisions and communicates these to applicants in accordance with set procedures. The aim is to ensure that the system for making awards is fair and transparent.

3.2 **The assessment process**

All applications received are processed by the Arts Council as follows:

1. The application is acknowledged.
2. The application is checked for eligibility – all eligible applications then progress to the assessment stage.
3. Adviser(s) and/or staff make a written assessment of the application.
4. Adviser(s) and/or staff recommend an application as shortlisted or not shortlisted.
5. A peer panel reviews all shortlisted applications, associated materials, then scores and makes decisions.
6. Decisions are noted by Council.
7. Decisions are communicated in writing to applicants.

**Time frame**

The Arts Council endeavours to assess applications as quickly as possible, but the volume of applications and the rigorous assessment process means that it will take up to ten weeks from closing date to decision.

3.3 **Criteria for the assessment of applications**

Applications are assessed in a competitive context and with consideration of the application form and the supporting materials submitted. All applications are assessed against criteria of

a) artistic merit, b) how they meet the objectives and priorities of the scheme, and c) feasibility. Each of these criteria is described in turn.

While applicants may select other artforms/arts practices as being relevant to their application, the application will be assessed by the team responsible for the chosen primary artform, and which may, in certain instances, ask for a secondary assessment from another team.

**Artistic merit**

The assessment of artistic merit focuses on the applicant’s previous practice as well as on the nature of the proposed activity and includes consideration of:

- The quality of the proposed artistic activities as outlined on the application form
- The track record and/or the potential of the proposed theatre artist(s) in residence as demonstrated through CV(s) and other supporting material submitted
- The artform/arts practice context in which the activity is proposed
- The ambition, originality and competency demonstrated by the proposal.
Meeting the objectives and priorities of the scheme
Applications are assessed on how well they meet the objectives and priorities of the scheme – see section 1.2 Objectives and priorities of the scheme for details of these.

Feasibility and value for money
The assessment of feasibility and value for money considers the extent to which the applicant demonstrates capacity to deliver the proposed activity and the level to which it enhances the impact of public funding. This includes consideration of:

- The personnel involved in managing, administering, delivering the project
- The extent to which the applicant demonstrates the provision of equitable conditions and remuneration for participating artists
- The involvement of project partners
- The proposed budget
- Other sources of income
- The availability of and access to other resources
- The proposed timetable or schedule.

3.4 Peer panels
The purpose of peer-panel meetings is to allow for a diversity of expert views to inform the decision-making process. Peer panels normally consist of at least three external adjudicators with relevant artform and/or arts practice expertise.

Each meeting is usually led by an Arts Council member acting as non-voting chair. Arts Council advisers and staff attend as required, and those involved in the initial assessment of applications are on hand to provide information as required. Panellists have access to all shortlisted applications and associated materials prior to the day of the meeting, at which point they review, discuss and score shortlisted applications. Following this, applications are ranked by score. In light of the competitive context and the available budget, it is likely that the Arts Council will be able to fund only a proportion of the applications received.

Scoring Process
The panel is asked to score applications according to the following system:

- A – Must Fund (10 points): this means that, in the view of the panel member, the application is deemed to have fully met the criteria for the award and merits funding on that basis, to the amount requested where possible.
- B – Should Fund (8 points): this means that, in the view of the panel member, the application is deemed to have met the criteria to an extent sufficient to merit funding should resources allow.
- C – Could Fund (5 points): this means that, in the view of the panel member, the application is deemed to have met the criteria, but to a lesser extent within the competitive context than other applications.
- D – Not a Priority (2 points): this means that, in the view of the panel member, the application is deemed to have not met the criteria to an extent sufficient to merit funding.

Declaration of interest
In order to ensure fairness and equity in decision-making, a panel member must declare an interest where they have a close personal or professional link with the applicant or are linked in any way with the application. An ‘interest’ is either ‘pecuniary’ or ‘non-pecuniary’
(e.g. familial relationships, personal partnerships, or formal or informal business partnerships, etc.).

The interest must be declared as soon as the panellist becomes aware of it. This may be at the point when s/he is approached to sit on the panel (if the ‘interest’ is known at that stage) or following receipt of the list of applicants. Where an interest is declared, the panellist will not receive papers relating to that applicant and will be required to leave the room when the specific application is being reviewed. Where this situation arises, the chair will vote in lieu of the panellist.

In some instances a panellist may not realise that a conflict of interest exists until s/he receives and reviews the panel papers. In such instances the panellist must alert an Arts Council staff member or the panel chair as soon as they become aware that a conflict may exist.

In the event of two panellists declaring a conflict of interest for the same application, the chair will be part of the decision-making process for that specific application.

If the nominated panel chair has a conflict of interest s/he must declare it in writing in advance of the meeting as soon as s/he becomes aware of it. In this instance the head of team will chair the discussion on the conflicted application.

3.5 Outcome of applications

All applicants are informed in writing about the outcome of their application.

If your application is successful, you will be sent a letter of offer detailing the amount of funding you have been awarded and the terms and conditions of the award. You will also be told how to go about drawing down your award.

The Arts Council receives a large volume of applications, and demand for funding always exceeds the available resources. If your application is not successful, you can request feedback from Arts Council staff. Eligibility and compliance with application procedures alone do not guarantee receipt of an award.

Unsuccessful applicants are not eligible to apply for another Arts Council award to undertake the same activity. If the Arts Council feels that the proposed activity would have been more suited to a different award programme, an exception may be made. In such circumstance you will be informed in writing.

Appeals

Applicants may appeal against a funding decision on the basis of an alleged infringement or unfair application of, or deviation from, the Arts Council’s published procedures. If you feel that the Arts Council’s procedures have not been followed, please see the appeals process at http://www.artscouncil.ie/en/fundInfo/funding_appeals.aspx or contact the Arts Council for a copy of the appeals-process information sheet.