

ARTS COUNCIL COVID-19 CRISIS RESPONSE AWARD

FAQs – 09 April 2020

KEY POINTS TO NOTE:

- These FAQs are intended for additional assistance. You should read the Guidelines document before reading these FAQs.
- The FAQs are updated occasionally based on questions we receive from artists, so check back for the most up-to-date version.
- If you have specific questions relating to your own art form or area of practice, you should contact the relevant team within the Arts Council.

1. **When is the deadline?**

The deadline is **5.30pm on Thursday 16 April**. We strongly advise that you have your application ready and submitted a number of days before this, however, to avoid any last minute issues that you may have. Also, if you have not registered for an Arts Council online account, you should do so immediately, as it can take a period of up to five days for this to be processed.

2. **Who can apply?**

The award is open to practicing artists working in any area of the professional arts currently supported by the Arts Council.

3. **How much can I apply for?**

The award is for €3,000. This is the amount you must request, and the amount you will be awarded if your application is successful.

4. **Can I apply for the cost of equipment or materials?**

The primary focus of the award is to pay for your own time. While you may have a few out-of-pocket expenses, you cannot apply for additional costs specifically to make work for online dissemination. The idea is that the work you create is work that you are normally set up to create anyway, or that you can create relatively easily with any materials and technology you have to hand.

5. **How long will it take after I apply to get a response?**

We hope to be able to turn decisions around in approximately two to three weeks, but this will depend on the volume of applications that we receive.

6. What are my chances of getting funded?

That depends on how many people apply, but we do expect demand to be quite high. This is why we've tried to make the application process as light-touch as possible.

7. Do I have to have previous experience of making work for online dissemination?

No. When applying, you should focus primarily on your idea, although obviously the concept has to lend itself to digital and/or broadcast or other type of dissemination which does not require the gathering of people in contravention of current Covid-19 public health guidance.

8. Can I collaborate with someone else?

The primary focus is on supporting individual artists. You can collaborate if you like, but you would have to ask their permission and ensure that they are paid for their time. Naturally, this will reduce the overall amount you can pay yourself to develop your piece.

9. Will I retain the copyright in my work?

Yes, all work generated will remain in the copyright of the artist who creates it. You will be free to disseminate the work yourself through online and media channels if you wish. In that case, you should acknowledge Arts Council funding in the normal way.

10. Could I do a series of things over time, like a new work a week?

Given that the period of the Covid-19 lockdown is uncertain, proposals should be based on an idea that can be produced at once.

Proposals to present a number of works at the same time that are thematically linked, (e.g. like an online exhibition or a poetry collection) will be considered, but proposals to create different works based on more than one theme will not be considered.

11. Does the work have to relate to the Covid-19 pandemic?

No. The work can be about anything. While we have given some examples in the guidance, the work can take any form as long as it is suitable for dissemination in a manner which does not contravene current Covid-19 public health guidance.

12. Can I apply if I am a student?

No, the award is not open to individuals who are full or part-time students at the date of application.

13. Can I make an application on my phone or tablet device?

No. The Arts Council's online portal for applications – Online Services – does not support mobile phones or tablet devices. You should use a computer or laptop. Technical information on this is contained in the guidelines document.

14. Is there a date by which I have to have completed my work?

The work can be completed before the end of 2020.

15. Does the work have to be digital?

No. The work has to be capable of being disseminated or broadcast in a way that does not conflict with current public health guidelines. If this is through means of analogue broadcast or print, that is fine. The intention is that the public does not have to travel or to convene outside family/household groups to enjoy it.

16. Does the work have to have a public outcome?

Yes. The purpose of the award is two-fold; to provide artists with a fee for their time to create work, and to provide access to the public to new art.

17. If I am successful, will I be able to apply for other Arts Council award this year?

Yes, individuals who either apply for or receive funding through the Covid-19 award are still eligible to apply for other Arts Council funding – so long as they meet the application criteria – such as Next Generation and Bursary Round 2.

18. Is there a scheme were I can apply for funding to enable me to develop my practice or ideas during the Covid-19 crisis that does not have to have a public outcome?

The Arts Council is working on this and is in discussions with our colleagues in the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. It is not possible at this stage to state for certain what will be done in this regard, but we are aware of the need for this within the arts community.

19. Will my work appear on Facebook?

No, the Arts Council does not have an arrangement with Facebook to disseminate the work of artists.

20. Is it true that I can't be in receipt of this award and also the Government's emergency Covid-19 Payment?

Following is the advice that the Arts Council has received from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP):

You can make an application for the Arts Council scheme if you are receiving the Government's Pandemic Unemployment Payment. If, however, you receive an award under the Arts Council COVID-19 Crisis Response Award, it is recommended that you seek advice from your local social protection office.

<https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation/departments/departments-of-employment-affairs-and-social-protection/>

21. How do I get help making an application?

If you have any general questions relating to your proposal, you should contact the arts area team that most closely matches your area of practice. Contact details are on the Arts Council Website here:

<http://www.artscouncil.ie/Contact-us/Staff-and-adviser-lists/>

If you have technical questions, you can email onlineservices@artscouncil.ie, or phone **01 618 0200**.

Please note that for our funding programmes, the final afternoon of the deadline is generally very busy. This is why we advise applicants to have their proposal ready to go in plenty of time – ideally a number of days – before the deadline. That way, if you run into any technical problems, you have plenty of time to contact us so that we can help.

22. Where can I get further details?

All of the information on the award is set out in the guidelines which is published on the funding page of our website.