



National Lotter Project Grants

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Wifi available

#LetsCreate

Birmingham Royal Ballet's production of The Nutcracker
Photo © Steve Hanson / Birmingham Royal Ballet



Awarding funds from
THE NATIONAL LOTTERY®

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Welcome to National Lottery Project Grants

An introduction

Arts Council England
Training and Advice

#LetsCreate

Access Support:

before you apply

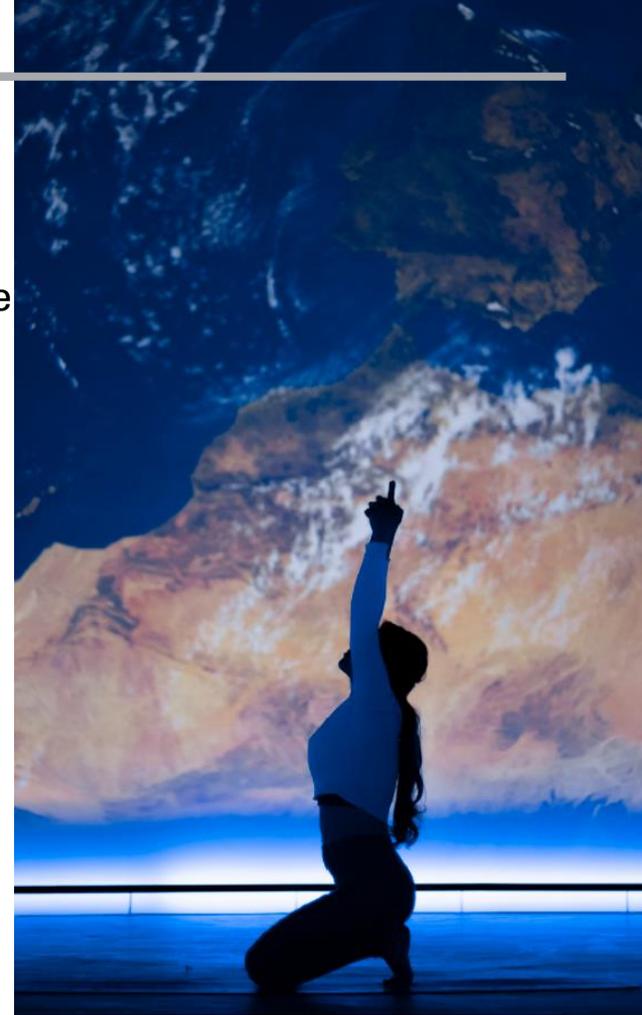
We want to make Project Grants accessible to **everyone**.

If you have a barrier which means you find it difficult to get advice or apply, we can help you. For example, we can provide our guidance in another format such as BSL or Braille, and there are audio, Easy Read and Large Print versions on our website.

Or we can pay for a support worker to help you apply.

Get in touch at
[artscouncil.org.uk/contact](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/contact)

Read our **Access Support information sheet**
[artscouncil.org.uk/NLPGInfoSheets](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/NLPGInfoSheets)



**This
presentation
will cover:**

- 1. What is Arts Council England?**
- 2. National Lottery Project Grants**
- 3. Project Grants and our strategy Let's Create**
- 4. Strands**
- 5. Time limited priorities**
- 6. How much you can apply for**
- 7. The application form**
- 8. Criteria**
- 9. Match funding**
- 10. How to apply online using Grantium**
- 11. How we make decisions**
- 12. Contact us**

Arts Council England: a bit about us

We are the national development agency for **creativity** and **culture**. We distribute funding to **individuals, arts organisations, libraries, and museums**. We want to:

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

'By 2030, we want England to be a country where **everyone's creativity is valued** and given the chance to develop and grow. Where **everyone has access to** a range of **high-quality cultural experiences**.'

Our strategy for the next 10 years is called **Let's Create**, it describes the change we want to see.

Arts Council England:

our supported disciplines

Combined arts (including
festivals and carnivals)

Dance

Libraries

Literature

Museums

Music

Theatre

Visual arts



Project Grants: overview

Project Grants is our open-access funding programme for arts, museums and libraries projects.

It's our most popular funding programme and it's made possible with funding the National Lottery.



What do we mean by a 'project'?

- a **'project'** has a start and end date, and things you want to achieve in that time
- **your project will** allow people to experience or take part in artistic work, museum-focused work or libraries-related activity (either as part of the project or in the longer term) on our supported disciplines

Project Grants can support:

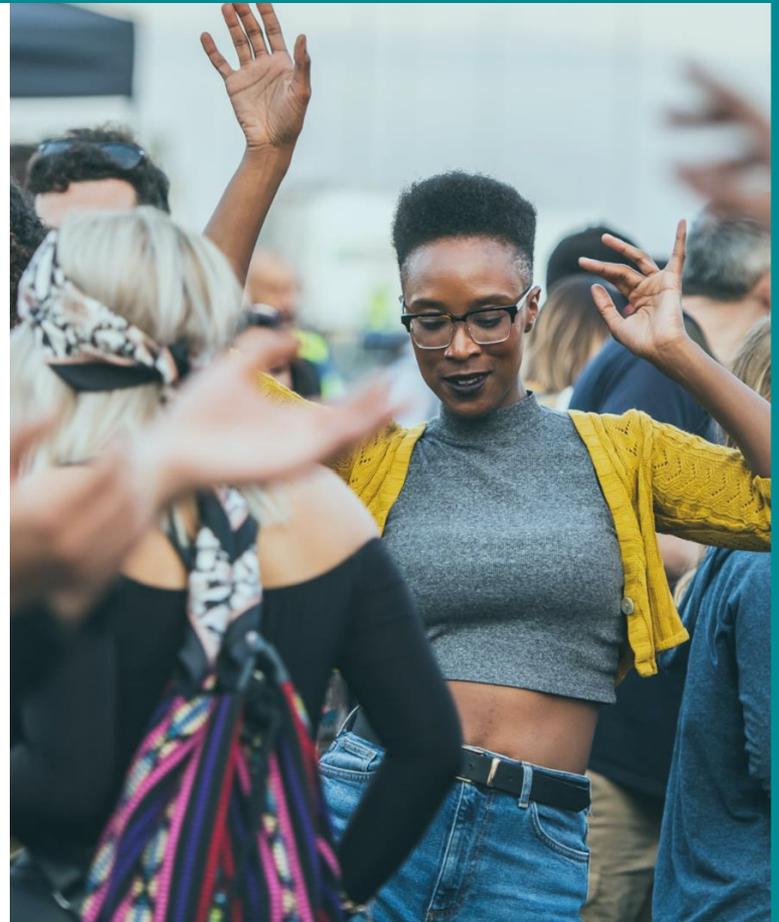
- a broad range of creative and cultural projects which benefit people living in England
- projects from £1,000 to Over £100,000 for up to three years
- Individuals, organisations, professional companies, and non-professional groups
- projects which directly create and deliver creative and cultural activity
- creative and cultural projects which have a longer-term positive impact (for example: organisational development, research and development, and sector support and development)

Project Grants, is it for me?

If you're a **creative, cultural practitioner, or organisation** in England, **Project Grants is open to you.**

Whatever your background, the size of your organisation, or the stage you're at in your career.

A grant can help your work reach the people and communities that you'd like to engage.



Project Grants and our strategy Let's Create

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



How much can I apply for?

£30,000 or less (decisions usually in 8 weeks)

£30,001 - £100,000 (decisions usually in 12 weeks)

Over £30,000 Touring strand – no upper threshold (EOI process)

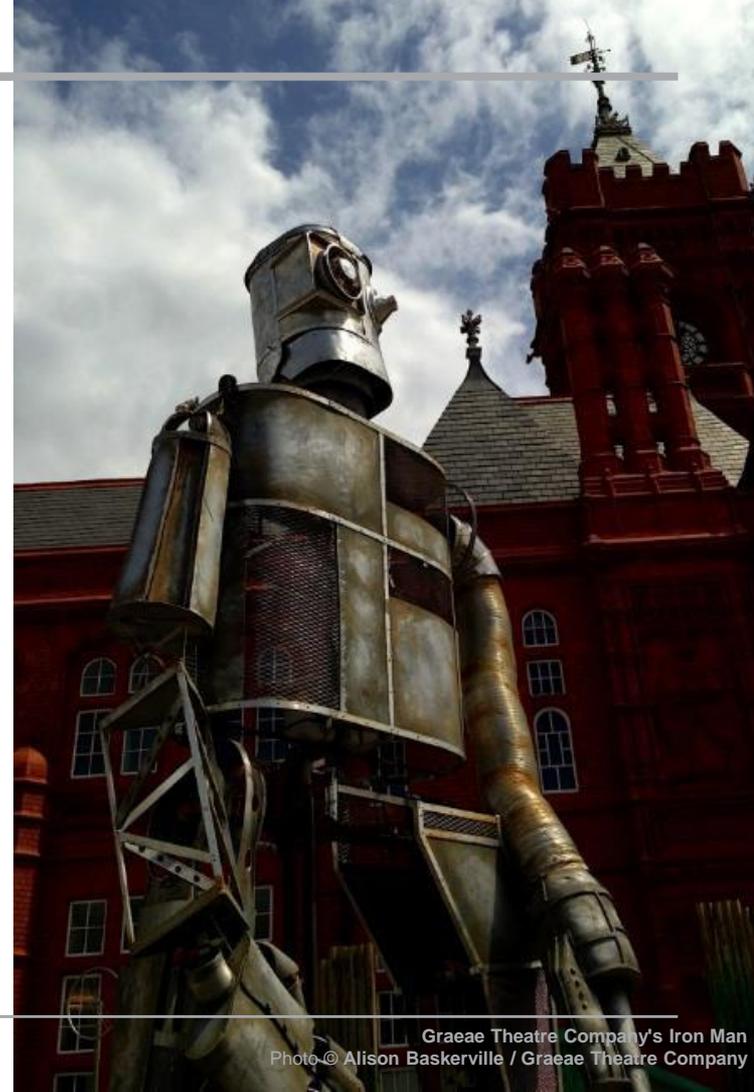
Over £100k Nationally Significant projects (EOI process)

Over £100k Area applications (permission to apply)

Over £100k Place Partnerships (EOI process)

Programme Strands (£30,000 and over)

- **Touring projects (EOI)**
to support local, national and international touring activity
- **Nationally Significant projects (EOI)**
to support major projects that can demonstrate national significance
- **Place Partnership projects**
to support our place-making work



Time limited priorities

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

Please check our website at:
www.artscouncil.org.uk/NLPG
TimeLimited

For more information about the current time limited priorities we are supporting



The application form

Essential Information *In this section of the application form we'll ask you for some basic details about you and your project.*

Feasibility and Risk *This section helps us to understand how you will successfully deliver your project. We need to know your plans for managing the project, what your budget is and how you will respond to any risks or challenges. You don't need to have managed a project before, but you need to be able to demonstrate that you have given consideration to how you will manage the project, the budget, and any risks/challenges, and that you or your project partners have the skills to ensure it is delivered successfully.*

Outcomes *Your project doesn't have to address all three outcomes, but we do want projects to align to at least one, and to set out in detail how particular components are being addressed and how your project is helping to deliver our strategy.*

Investment Principles *In this section you can use the Investment Principles to build up an in-depth picture of your project, which in turn will give us a stronger understanding of your intentions and plans, and how your project will contribute to delivering our strategy.*

The three criteria

- **Feasibility and Risk**

(How you will deliver your project)

- **Outcomes**

Your project needs to respond to at least one of these:

Creative People

Cultural Communities

Creative Cultural Country

- **Investment Principles**

All projects must respond to **Inclusivity and Relevance**

Over £30,000 Touring projects must respond to **Environmental Responsibility**

All projects for over £100,000 must respond to **all Investment Principles**

Criteria:

Feasibility and Risk

How will you
successfully
deliver your
project?

- **Is the budget appropriate for your project?**
- **Is your income and expenditure appropriate?**
- **Are all the items in your budget relevant and reasonable?**
Such as fees and any quotes for equipment
- **Is your project attracting income from other sources?**
Is any other income confirmed? If not, are your potential income sources realistic?
- **Are appropriate financial controls in place?**
Do you, or the people you're working with, have the skills needed to manage the budget?
- **If the activity is realistic, well-planned, and if you have demonstrated that you (or the people you are working with) are able to deliver the project**

Criteria

Your project and the Outcomes

Your project must **respond to at least one of the Outcomes:**

Creative People

Everyone can develop and express creativity

Cultural Communities

Villages, towns and cities thrive through a collaborative approach to culture

Creative and Cultural Country

England's cultural sector is innovative, collaborative and international

You should set out in detail how you are addressing the components and how your project is helping to deliver our strategy **Let's Create.**

Criteria

Your project and the **Investment Principles**

- **Inclusivity and Relevance**
 - how will your project involve and relate to the people and/or communities you'd like to work with?
- **Ambition and Quality**
- **Dynamism**
- **Environmental Responsibility**

All applications need to respond to **Inclusivity and Relevance**

Touring applications must respond to Environmental Responsibility

Over £100,000 applications must respond to **all Investment Principles**

Match funding

Do you need 10% match funding?

Yes, where possible:

Because Project Grants funding comes from The National Lottery, we need to ask for match funding. So, we will be asking you to provide match funding **if you can**

- we understand the pandemic has made it harder for applicants to attract match funding; and that
- there are historical inequalities with match funding. We want the new programme to be as equitable as possible

if you are not able to find match funding for your project, you will need to tell us why in your application form as well as about your attempts. We will consider your reasons as part of our eligibility checks

How to apply online using Grantium

Step 1: Create a user account

Top tip:

Make a note of your user name and password. Use the password reminder tool if you forget but please do not create more than one user account.



Step 2: Create your applicant profile

Top tip:

The 'applicant' is the person or organisation we will make a grant to if your application is successful, and an 'applicant profile' is where their contact information is held.



Step 3: Validation period

We normally validate profiles within five working days. You will receive an email notification once your profile has been validated.

Top tip:

Read the programme guidance while you wait for your profile to be validated.



Step 4: Take the eligibility questionnaire

Top tip:

If you need a permission to apply letter, you will need to upload it before you can complete this step.



Step 5: Start your application

Top tip:

Avoid common mistakes by reading the programme guidance in full before you start, it will help you in the long run.



How we make decisions



Contact us – we're happy to help

Email enquiries@artscouncil.org.uk
Web artscouncil.org.uk
Twitter @ace_national
Facebook /artscouncilofengland

You can also Livechat with us by visiting our website:
artscouncil.org/projectgrants