



Awarding funds from  
**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY®**

# National Lottery Project Grants

# Welcome

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# This presentation will cover

This presentation is for applicants planning to make an application from 1 November 2023 onwards

- who are Arts Council England?
- about **National Lottery Project Grants**
- what you can apply for
- Project Grants and our strategy, Let's Create
- how to apply on Grantium
- the application form
- how we make decisions
- contact us

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## Access Support



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



If you're experiencing barriers to applying, we can help.



Support is also available for the delivery and reporting of your project (**personal access costs**).



**Get in touch at** [artscouncil.org.uk/contact](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/contact) or  
[access@artscouncil.org.uk](mailto:access@artscouncil.org.uk)



Read our **Access Support information sheet**  
[artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants/project-grants-information-sheets](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/ProjectGrants/project-grants-information-sheets)

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# 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**.

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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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## Arts Council England: a bit about us

‘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.





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# National Lottery Project Grants

*#letscreate*



Having fun at National Maritime Museum Cornwall  
Photo © Toby Weller

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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**

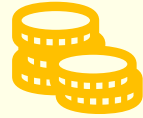


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# What does Project Grants support?



- 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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# 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 a new project



- making new work



- events

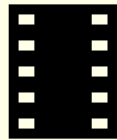


- workshops



- touring work

# What can't you apply for?



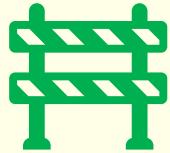
- work that won't reach people in England
- things that have already happened
- school or university courses
- business running costs
- cinema or fashion

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**Access  
Support:**  
before you apply



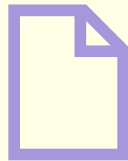
We want to make Project Grants accessible to **everyone**



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

**£30,000 or less**

decision usually in 8 weeks

**£30,001 - £100,000**

decision usually in 12 weeks

**touring - over £30,000**

expression of interest before application form  
decision usually in 12 weeks

**over £100,000**

expression of interest before application form  
decision usually in 12 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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# How to apply



Create a user account

## Grantium



Create your applicant profile



Wait while we validate your account



Take the eligibility questionnaire



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 10% match funding?**  
**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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# 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

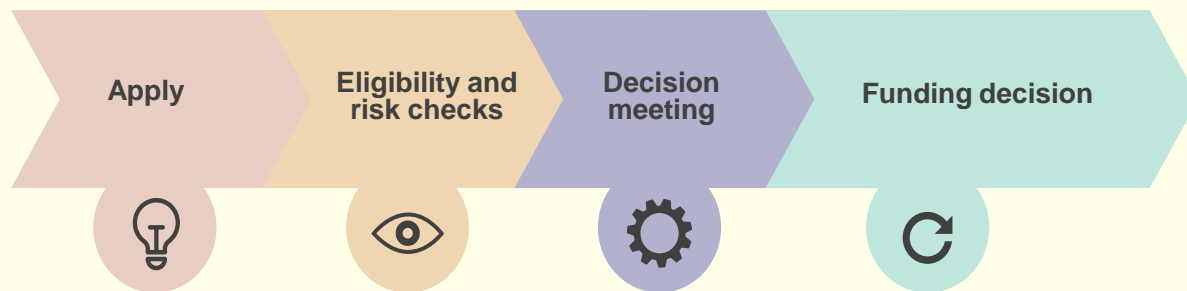
- Data tell us if places are underrepresented in NLPG funding
- We've identified which places are more underrepresented



## 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 we make decisions



## APPLICATION

You submit an application for funding

## CHECKS

- Your application is checked for eligibility and reviewed for project risks
- If your application is not eligible or viewed as major risk, we will tell you and your application will not be considered for funding.

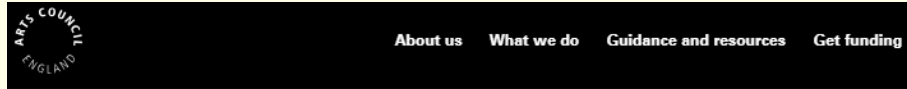
## DECISION MAKING

- If your project is for under £30,000 and is eligible, and passes risk checks, it will be progressed to a decision-making panel
- If your project is eligible and you're applying for £30,001 or more, we will complete a written appraisal.
- It will then progress to a decision-making panel.

## DECISION

- If your project is funded, you will be notified and given details of next steps.
- If your project is not funded, we will let you know why.
- In most cases, you can re-apply.

# Support after the decision



## Support if your project is funded

1. Accepting a grant
2. Terms and conditions
3. Bank details guidance
4. Payment conditions
5. Acknowledging our funding
6. Interim report
7. Final reporting



## Support if your project is not funded

1. Your decision letter
2. If your project is not eligible
3. About major risk
4. Reasons for not funding
5. Making a new application



# Project Grants – the right fund for me?

## Developing Your Creative Practice (DYCP)

DYCP is for **you**, an **individual**

at an early to middle stage in your practice...

to **develop** or make major change **right now** to give value to others later

- **£2,000 to £12,000**
- activities of up to **one year**
- up to four deadlines per year
- decisions in up to **10 weeks**

## National Lottery Project Grants

Project Grants - for **individuals and organisations**

and projects that benefit others

- **£1,000 to £100,000**
- projects up to **three years**
- apply year round
- Decisions in up to **8 weeks** (or 12 weeks if over £30,000)

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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)