ORGANISATIONs EMERGENCY PROGRAMME II FAQs

When is the deadline?
The closing date for the programme is 4:00pm on Thursday 17th September.

How much can we apply for?
The maximum award available is £25,000

Can we apply if we have been awarded funding from the first call of the Organisations Emergency Programme?
No. Organisations that received funding in the first call of the Organisations Emergency Programme cannot apply to the second call.

Can we apply to the second call if we were unsuccessful in the first call of the Organisations Emergency Programme?
Yes; however, you should carefully consider how a second application best fits the scope of the programme.

When will we hear if our organisation is successful?
We aim to communicate decisions to you by the end of October 2020. This will however be kept under review. The timeframe for decisions may be affected by the number of applications received.

When will the award period end?
There is an award completion date of 31st March 2021.

What is the total budget for the scheme?
The budget available is currently under review.

Who can submit an application?
Organisations whose primary work is in the following art form areas with a proven track record of quality work and public engagement supported by ACNI or other public funds.

Dance
Drama
Literature
Language arts
Music and Opera
Traditional Arts
Visual Arts, including Craft

Festivals
Participatory Arts (Carnival, Circus, Community Arts, Youth Arts, Arts & Health, Arts & Disability, Arts & Older People.)
Cross art forms
Resource, sector and umbrella organisations working within the arts.
Venues delivering cultural events. Places where arts activity occurs on any scale and which offers the public activity in one or more art form areas. It could be community halls to concert halls.

Applications are welcomed from organisations working in or on behalf of Irish or Ulster-Scots. In particular, we welcome organisations that deliver work in relation to:

- *Public engagement activities*
- *Audience development programmes (events, exhibitions, workshops, talks and online initiatives)*

What does publicly funded mean?
This means that your organisation would have received funding for the delivery of your work or core costs from organisations such as the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the National Lottery Community Fund, from local authorities, from trusts and foundations, universities or other public sector bodies.

What can we apply for?
- *Costs associated with related operational costs. These would include costs such as those already listed in the guidance notes and including rent, etc, where additional income would usually cover a proportion of those costs beyond any public funding.*

- *Eligible costs in relation to adapting content for a Covid or post Covid operating world could include identification of and access to online training; re-modelling systems of programme development to exploit new opportunities after lockdown; sourcing new partnerships in Northern Ireland and internationally with a view to improving resilience after lockdown; information- and intelligence-sharing cross-artform and across the family of DfC-supported organisations.*

- *Costs in relation to presenting work digitally would include those associated with organisations seeking to augment their immediate digital presence; to develop online portals; to explore and devise appropriate models of income-generating showcasing, exhibition or performance; to opening access to digitised resources; enabling digitising of currently offline resource for public use.*

Elements could include:

- *Urgent costs associated with keeping your organisation operational over the period of the grant.*
- *Rent or other building costs.*
- *Staff costs. Except for staff who have taken up the offer of the Government furlough scheme.*
- *Overheads such as utilities, insurance, etc.*
- *Deep cleaning costs.*
- *Organisational skills development to ensure you are fit for purpose during and after Covid-19.*
- *Research.*
- *Programme development and design.*
- *The costs of making archive or collection related material available online.*
- *Getting content prepared, made or edited for internet presentation.*
- *Development of web site capability or web presence upgrade.*
- *Digital content management.*
- *Specialist skills for online presentation of existing or new work e.g. people with the technical expertise to help you to place your work online.*
- *Platform hosting.*
- *Online campaign management.*
- *Online Donation facilities access.*
- *Remote training and skilling for staff.*
- *Equipment hire or purchase to deliver project.*
- *Publicity and marketing.*

Can we apply for the cost of equipment or materials for the delivery of a programme?
Yes. Modest requests for equipment such as cameras, sound equipment, iPads, etc will be considered where they are related to project design or delivery and where the project would not be deliverable without them. Requests for equipment be assessed on a case by case basis.

What do we have to provide as a financial budget?
The financial budget should reflect the income and expenditure which is associated with any planned activity your organisation has in place for the period April 2020 to March 2021.

What do we need to provide in our cash flow?
The cash flow should provide us with your organisation's opening balance in bank as of 1 April 2020 and detail money due in and money due out, ideally on a monthly basis, for the period April 2020 to March 2021.

What should our evidence be for loss of income or costs associated with Covid 19?

You should submit any evidence that you have of lost income or losses incurred, or expected to be incurred, because of the Covid 19 pandemic. This could include but is not limited to:

- *Evidence of cancellation fees incurred as a result of the pandemic.*
- *Emails to show costs relating to cancelled shows or programming.*
- *Evidence of ticket return numbers.*
- *Projections of loss of income on ticket sales or in other areas of your business for x productions. (Actual and estimated at the point of application for the next XX months.)*

Do the elements of the application have to relate to the Covid-19 pandemic?
The costs that will be incurred should relate to the losses incurred as a result of the pandemic.

or
be costs associated with enabling the organisation to function as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic.

or
be additional programming to cope in this period.

or
be programming developed for a Covid changed world.

Proposed work can include the online presentation of existing or new work and the costs associated with doing that.

With any proposed project elements, you should state clearly what the intended outputs would be.

Can we apply to develop an idea for programming without presenting it online?

Yes. The primary objective of the programme is to help you to continue to develop and/or deliver creative work AND to assist with urgent operational costs where necessary. We would support proposals for the research, design and future presentation of specific showcases, performance(s) and/or other forms of public presentation. Future access by the public to your work would be priority and you should outline the form this would take.

If we are filming work does the work have to be of broadcast quality?
You should endeavour to make the work as high-quality as you can. Any work should be able to be seen and/or heard by prospective audiences.

Can we collaborate with another organisation or a number of artists?
Yes, but the grant should be applied for by one organisation.

I am an individual artist; does that mean I am not eligible to apply?
This scheme is for organisations only. Sole traders are not eligible to apply to this Programme.

Do we need match funding?
No. You do not need to show match funding for this award.

Can we plan touring product?
This scheme is not for touring costs. You could develop work that you later tour, but you would have to make it available to audiences in Northern Ireland.

Can this fund be used to pay off debts previously incurred?
No. This fund can only be used to support organisations that are incurring additional costs as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and/or are preparing to make work accessible to the public during this period up to 31st March 2021.

Can we apply for the costs of making the work accessible to people with disabilities?
Yes.

Does any planned work have to be delivered online?
No, but you will need to describe the planned outcomes of the project and how you aim to reach audiences sooner or later.

Can proposed work be about the Covid-19 crisis.
Yes. It could be, but does not have to be.

By way of example, please find below different scenarios.

Can we devise, plan, collaborate with others on post-COVID initiatives for delivery?
Yes.

We produce new work for production as an organisation. Can we devise new or strengthen existing ideas for delivery post-COVID?
Yes. As long as the work isn't already funded with public funding for the same elements.

Can we develop staff skills to cope with new patterns of working through training opportunities?
Yes.

Arts Council will update these regularly throughout the duration of the submission period.