

Last Updated 12-03-2024

FAQ Creative Youth on a Shared Island

What is the aim of the Shared Island Initiative?

The Shared Island¹ initiative is a whole of government priority to engage with all communities and political traditions to build consensus around a shared future on the island, underpinned by the Good Friday Agreement. The Shared Island initiative is backed by the government's Shared Island Fund, with at least €1 billion out to 2030 ring-fenced for delivery of all-island investment commitments and objectives in the Programme for Government and revised National Development Plan 2021-30; and informed by a programme of engagement with people across the island through the Shared Island Dialogue series and a comprehensive policy research programme, which provides a stronger evidence base and analysis of the island of Ireland across a range of economic, environmental and social areas. Further details on the Shared Island Initiative is available at www.gov.ie/sharedisland.

What is the Shared Island dimension to the Creative Ireland programme?

The Shared Island dimension to the Creative Ireland Programme seeks to deploy creativity on a shared island basis to:

- Increase opportunities for cross-community cultural and creative initiatives between children and young people;
- Support local authorities to enhance networks of creativity in support of vibrant and inclusive people-to-people and community-to-community partnerships;
- Position Ireland as a global leader in demonstrating the value of creativity and mental health including in post-conflict societies; and
- Deepen collaborations for a more environmentally and socially sustainable island.

Are there examples of Shared Island projects to date?

Details on other Shared Island projects through the Creative Ireland Programme are available here:

- [Creative Writing initiative for children and young people](#)
- [Cruinniú na nÓg 2023 Rhyme Island](#)
- [Cruinniú na nÓg 2023 Circus Explored](#)
- Cruinniú na nÓg 2023 – [other Shared Island projects](#)

What is the closing date for applications?

The closing date is 25th March 2024 at 5pm GMT.

¹ <https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/c3417-shared-island/>

What age range can the projects target?

Projects should aim to engage children and young people between the ages of 0 to 24 years. They may work with a very specific age or a number of different ages within this range.

Are there particular groups of children and young people that should be targeted?

We welcome projects that engage all children and young people. However, due to the commitment within the *Creative Youth Plan 2023-2027* to young people who are considered seldom heard, we envisage that at least one of the projects funded would target a cohort in this category. See Appendix 2 of the Brief for who we define as seldom heard.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applications must be jointly made with at least one partner based in Ireland, and at least one partner based in Northern Ireland with a lead partner identified for the project and for the process of application. We are looking for applications from (but not limited to):

- Youth organisations
- Community development organisations
- Arts and cultural organisations or institutions
- Family Resource Centres
- Local Authorities in Ireland (not as lead partner but as part of a partnership)
- Local Authorities in Northern Ireland
- Registered Charities or not-for-profit organisations
- Philanthropic and research bodies and Foundations
- Arts and cultural organisations or institutions
- Creative organisations, networks, museums, galleries and art centres
- [Education and Training Boards \(ETBs\)](#)
- Social enterprises
- Business, commercial companies

Applications should ensure that funding is shared fairly with partners.

Can the project only take place within the border counties?

No, the project can anywhere in Ireland. They just needs to be one partner in the North of Ireland and one partner in the South of Ireland.

Does the whole project need to be completed in 2024? Or can some element run into 2024?

The project will be funded for 12-18 months in duration spanning the second half of 2024 up to the end of 2025 if the project needs it.

What funding is available?

A minimum grant of €150,000 and a maximum grant of €180,000 per project is available and we envisage funding at least 3 projects. Each project should be delivered by a number of partners working in collaboration.

What is considered a creative or cultural project?

Creativity involves innate human abilities and learned skills. Everyone has the capacity for creative engagement and expression; and this experience is an act of personal fulfilment.

As expressed by children and young people, creativity has no limits and is creating ideas from one’s own mind to share with others. At the heart of creativity, is the freedom to take risks, to use imagination and the potential to evoke a sense of fun, wonder and happiness. For the purposes of the Creative Youth Plan, the most appropriate skills and behaviours are those which support development and learning such as curiosity, resilience, imagination, discipline, and collaboration. The forms of creativity for the projects may include, but are not limited to:

<p>CIRCUS FILM LITERATURE CREATIVE WRITING MUSIC (all genres) DANCE (all types) STREET ARTS AND SPECTACLE THEATRE TRADITIONAL ARTS VISUAL ARTS MURALS CULTURAL HERITAGE ARCHITECTURE</p>	<p>MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS PODCASTING AUGMENTED/VIRTUAL/MIXED REALITY FASHION COMEDY DESIGN (all kinds) DIGITAL GAMES CREATIVE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ANIMATION CODING COOKING</p>
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We are not looking for applications for:

- Television series
- Advertising campaigns
- Once off conferences

Can Schools Apply?

As a community initiative, it is not open for primary and secondary schools to participate, however activities may take place in a school premises outside of school hours.

This rule does not apply to tertiary education as well as early learning and care settings.

Please note that all bodies that apply for this fund will be expected to adhere to the Service Level Agreement (SLA) that is supplied by Creative Ireland which can be found on the submit.com page.

What dates will awards be announced?

We will endeavour to inform all successful and unsuccessful applicants by June 2024. Unfortunately, due to the volume of applications we anticipate, we will be unable to provide detailed individual feedback to all applicants.

Is the funding paid upfront and how is it paid?

Applicants who are successful, must comply with the **Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circular 13/2014 - Management of and Accountability for Grants from Exchequer Funds**, see <http://circulars.gov.ie/pdf/circular/per/2014/13.pdf>.

This fund will be allocated to the successful organisation who will claim the first portion through vouched expenditure¹ by November 2024 and the remaining funding through vouched expenditure by November 2025.

Are there any ineligible costs?

The type of eligible expenditure covered by the scheme will be considered on a case-by case basis, however ineligible expenditure includes:

- Costs not directly related to the project
- Retrospective costs i.e. expenditure which has taken place prior to the project approval date
- Capital requests for building improvements to workspaces and venues
- Application relating to Television series or a standalone advertising campaign
- Standalone conferences

Can funding be used to appoint personnel for a proposed project?

Yes

Who Should Apply on Behalf of a Partnership?

Organisations based in either Ireland or Northern Ireland can apply on behalf of the partnership with a lead partner identified for the project and for the process of application. In your application you should clearly state who each of the partners are, and their role in the project. It is intended that the lead applicant will be the grantee for the Service Level Agreement and therefore will be expected to manage the grant funding awarded.

Can I submit multiple applications?

Only one application will be considered for each lead applicant, however you may be included as part of a collaboration led by another individual/organization.

Different branches in one organisation may wish to apply; please email creativeireland@tcagsm.gov.ie for further guidance.

¹ Vouched expenditure - Actual expenses vouched with receipts/proof of payment

What do I need to draw down funds if successful?

To draw down funding successful candidates will have to provide a fully completed EFT Mandate form and a Revenue Commissioners screenshot/letter confirming the Tax number and Tax Type is required for initial set up on our financial system. All grantees in receipt of grant assistance must comply with public procurement guidelines and familiarize themselves and comply with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circular 13/2014 - Management of and Accountability for Grants from Exchequer Funds.

It is important to note that EU State Aid rules may apply to the awarding of funding. Applicants must refer to the State Aid Overview saved [here](#).

Further information on State Aid is available here:

<https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/EU-Internal-Market/EU-State-Aid-Rules/>

Who will be assessing the projects?

The shortlisted projects will be evaluated by an assessment panel which will include youth representation and representation from officials in the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media and the Department of the Taoiseach.

What is the scoring criteria for applications?

Criterion	Marks Available
The project idea and its creative approach	60
Approach to facilitating strong participation from children and young people North/South in the project development and delivery	25
Experience of reaching and working effectively with children and young people*	25
Project team, track record and feasibility	40
Your Evaluation Plan	25
Total Marks Available	175

**If applicants wish to work with a seldom heard group as defined in Appendix 2 of the brief, they must be able to demonstrate their experience with that group.*

What is meant by ‘Sustained Engagement’?

The emphasis in the brief on Sustained Engagement is to distinguish it from once off meetings or events (i.e. getting young people together once for an event). There is no set target regarding amount of meetings or how many participants; rather it’s how the project aims to facilitate quality engagement between the young people that can provide outcomes for those participants and how the project may document learnings about that process.

What would deem an application ineligible to be shortlisted?

Applications will be shortlisted based on an initial assessment. In addition, please note that applications will not be shortlisted if they are as listed below (but not limited to):

- There is no partner that is substantially based in Ireland.
- There is no partner that is substantially based in Northern Ireland.
- The proposed project takes place substantially outside the Island of Ireland.
- The target participants are primarily outside of the age range 0-24 years.
- The proposed project and partnership is not of a scale to manage funding of at least €150,000.
- The lead partners cannot provide details of their Child Protection procedures as per Appendix 1 below.
- The lead applicant is a school, or the project takes place in a school during school hours.
- A local authority has applied as the lead applicant.
- The project timeframe is less than 4 months or greater than 18 months. Please note however it will be the quality and frequency of the project that will be the focus for assessment.
- The proposed project relates to a major capital project.

Can local authorities apply as lead applicant?

No, but they can apply as a partner to a consortium.

How do I claim for expenses incurred in Pounds Sterling?

Please note that any pound sterling cost accrued, when being claimed for, must have the euro exchange rate also noted. This must be accurate to the time of the cost being spend and is subject to spot checks to ensure claims are accurate. Please use a currency converter such as Historical currency converter.

Can the grant expenditure include overheads?

A portion of the funding can be allocated to overheads if they are required to deliver the project. We are aware that Universities require a portion of grants to be allocated to overheads and this can in some cases be as high as 30% of the budget. Please note this funding scheme cannot cover that level of overhead expenditure.

What do applicants need to provide in terms of child protection?

Organisations that work with children, young people and adults at risk need to ensure that their Safeguarding systems and Procedures adhere to legislation and guidelines in their relevant jurisdiction. Please see the information in Appendix 1 to consider in relation to your own organisation's procedures.

Are there any other specific Terms and Conditions?

Successful projects will be funded on the basis of a signed Service Level Agreement – template is available on Submit.com.

Who should I contact if I have a query?

If you have any queries on the Creative Youth Shared Island Fund or the application process, please email creativeireland@tcagsm.gov.ie using the subject heading ‘Creative Youth Shared Island Fund’.

Appendix 1

Child Protection

- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media Child Protection Policy and Child Safeguarding Statement: <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/d05d2-child-protection-policy-and-child-safeguarding-statement/>
- The Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/1995/755/contents/made>
- Guidance on Developing a Child Safeguarding Statement (Tusla, the Child and Family Agency in Ireland): <https://www.tusla.ie/children-first/organisations/what-is-a-child-safeguarding-statement/how-do-i-develop-a-child-safeguarding-statement/>