

## *FAQs – Changes to Creative New Zealand’s grants programme*

### **Why are you looking to make these changes? How have they come about?**

As part of an overall review of all Creative New Zealand’s investment/funding, we have looked at the purpose and design of our Arts Grants and Quick Response Grants to ensure they align with our [Investment Strategy Te Ara Whakamua 2018–2023](#).

As a result, we have revised the purpose of the grants programme to make it clearer to applicants what our investment is designed to deliver. We intend to consolidate Arts Grants and Quick Response Grants into a single programme: Arts Grants.

The purpose of the revised Arts Grants programme is to enable:

- more sustainable careers for individual artists
- the development of arts practice
- innovation in New Zealand arts
- access and participation of diverse communities in high-quality arts experiences.

[Read more on our website](#)

### **What programmes are included in this review?**

Arts Grants and Quick Response Grants.

### **What are the benefits of doing this?**

As well as better alignment with our Investment Strategy, the Arts Grants programme will be simplified and we intend to increase the maximum grant amounts available. This could potentially mean people would not need to make as many applications in a single year.

It would also help individuals, groups and organisations with a successful track record of receiving grants the ability to propose activity over a 12-month period. This will allow them to make longer-term plans, giving more security and lessening administration.

Together these changes will contribute to increased sustainability of arts practice and less bureaucracy (i.e. less time spent doing proposals).

### **Why are you raising the maximum grants level?**

The maximum grants levels as we know them were set in 2008 when the grants programme was first introduced. In the 10 years since, inflation has averaged 2 percent per annum which would indicate a need to inflation adjust the maximum grant level by at least 20 percent.

### **Why are you telling me now before final decisions are made?**

The Arts Council will be asked to formally approve the change in April. In the meantime, the Council has endorsed the general direction, i.e. a change to the purpose and design of the programme. These changes will take effect from 1 July 2019, with the first of the new rounds offered in the second half of this year.

We are signalling this direction now to give you adequate notice to plan ahead, and to indicate how these may affect anyone considering applying for funding after the current Arts Grants round closes on 29 March 2019.

This means we will not be offering the mid-year Quick Response round in 2019 in order to allow us to put infrastructure in place for the revised Arts Grants programme. If you were planning to seek funding for a project to be delivered between June and October this year, you should consider applying to the Arts Grants round that closes on 29 March 2019.

### **Why are you not offering the mid-year Quick Response round?**

We will not be offering the mid-year Quick Response round in 2019 in order to allow us to put infrastructure in place for the revised Arts Grants programme.

If you were planning to seek funding for a project to be delivered between June and October this year, you should consider applying to the Arts Grants round that closes on 29 March 2019.

### **What am I meant to do now that I can't apply for Quick Response in the middle of the year?**

If you were planning to seek funding for a project to be delivered between June and October this year, you should consider applying to the Arts Grants round that closes on 29 March 2019. We are signalling this direction now to give you adequate notice to plan ahead.

The new Arts Grants programme will take effect from 1 July 2019, with the first of the new rounds offered in the second half of this year.

### **Does this mean Creative New Zealand is investing less, since there will be fewer funding rounds?**

Not at all.

In fact, we intend to increase the amounts applicants can apply for – grants up to \$10,000 (currently \$7,500) and grants between \$10,000 and \$75,000 (currently \$65,000). There will also be an annual funding round offering grants up to \$150,000, which would be introduced in 2020.

This is more about aligning our investment with our Investment Strategy, simplifying the grants programme and increasing the maximum grant amounts available for proposals. Together these changes will contribute to increased sustainability of arts practice and less time spent doing proposals.

It could potentially mean people would not need to make as many applications in a single year. We also intend to provide individuals, groups and organisations with a successful track record of receiving grants the ability to propose activity over a 12 month period. This will allow them to make longer-term plans, giving more security and lessening administration.

### **What about international projects? Will they still be eligible for funding?**

Both projects in New Zealand and offshore will continue to be eligible for funding under the new Arts Grants programme, provided they meet criteria.

### **Will there be people that miss out under this new Arts Grants programme?**

It is not envisaged that any project or activity currently supported by Arts Grants or Quick Response would become ineligible for funding under the revised Arts Grants programme.

All applications are considered on their merits, whether they be individuals or organisations.

### **Will my project now become ineligible?**

It is not envisaged that any project or activity currently supported by Arts Grants or Quick Response would become ineligible for funding under the revised Arts Grants programme.

The revised Arts Grants programme could still support projects occurring within New Zealand and overseas, and most projects will likely involve the creation, presentation or distribution of artworks and/or the development of artist and practitioner skills. However, all applicants will need to demonstrate how their planned project will deliver to one, or more, of the revised programme purposes.

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- more sustainable careers for individual artists
- the development of arts practice
- innovation in New Zealand arts
- access and participation of diverse communities in high-quality arts experiences.

### **What will the criteria be for this new Arts Grants programme?**

Once the final decision is made by the Arts Council in April we will work through what this will look like.

Not offering the mid-year Quick Response round in 2019 will allow us to put appropriate infrastructure in place, which will include eligibility and assessment criteria.

**How will applications be assessed under the new Arts Grants programme?**

There is no proposed change to the assessment process as part of the revised Arts Grants programme. Proposals will continue to be assessed by external assessors, as per our policy.

However, all applicants will need to demonstrate how their planned project will deliver to one, or more, of the revised programme purposes.

We will work through this once the final decision is made by the Arts Council in April.

Not offering the mid-year Quick Response round will allow us to put appropriate infrastructure in place, which will include assessment criteria.

Assessment of the soundness of the idea, the viability of the project and strategic alignment would continue to be applied when assessing proposals.