



## Fingal Artists' Support Scheme – FAQ's

1. **Can my application be about developing a burgeoning creative practice, or is preference given to an application that develops an artist's primary discipline?**

The scheme supports artistic development, allowing artists to explore new creative directions that are clearly connected to their practice. When applying, it's important to demonstrate how this evolution aligns with the assessment criteria - artistic quality, feasibility, track record and supporting documentation - to strengthen your application.

2. **If I've been writing in one genre, is it okay to apply for a new writing project in a different genre?**

Yes, the scheme supports artistic development, including exploring new genres, as long as this is connected to your practice. When applying, ensure that you demonstrate how this new direction aligns with the assessment criteria - artistic quality, feasibility, track record and supporting documentation.

3. **From the three categories, statistically, are any of the three more favoured or have a higher success rate?**

The scheme is competitive, and all three categories are assessed equally based on artistic quality, feasibility, track record, and supporting materials. Success rates vary each year depending on the number of applications received in each category.

4. **If I am applying for a residency, can I include pay for myself during the residency?**

Fingal Arts Office advocates the fair and equitable remuneration of artists in line with the Arts Council's policy on Paying the Artist. Applicants are encouraged to provide an artist's fee in their budget indicating the number of hours/days in relation to the fee.

5. **When completing the budget section for Category 3, should I include an artist's fee as well as projected income from artwork sales? Or just one or the other?**

You should include both—your artist's fee and any projected income, if applicable. Clearly distinguishing between these ensures a transparent and well-balanced budget.

6. **For Category 3, do you need to provide receipts with the budget breakdown? Or just a typed breakdown of what you spent?**

For Category 3, a budget breakdown detailing how the funding was used is required. However, receipts are not mandatory for this category, unlike Categories 1 and 2, which require receipts for costs claimed.

7. **If you are applying for funding for an upcoming solo show and a studio but only have confirmation for the show, can you still apply for studio rent support?**



Yes, you may apply for anticipated costs, such as studio rent, but you must clearly outline your plan and acknowledge that confirmation is pending. If awarded, any significant proposal changes must be approved by Fingal Arts Office in advance.

8. **What is the date of acceptance? And knowing that, when would a realistic start date for a residency/workshop be?**  
Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by mid - late April 2025. Any funded activities must take place between May and December 2025, so plan your start date accordingly.
9. **For Category 3, is there a requirement to complete an exhibition or public outcome, or is it okay to seek funding solely for the continuation of a project?**  
There is no requirement to present an outcome, such as a final exhibition or public event. Funding can support ongoing research, development, and artistic practice.
10. **Can we apply for funding twice with the same project?**  
No, applicants may only submit one application per year.
11. **What exactly should letters of support say? And who should visual artists ask for them?**  
Letters of support should confirm the relevance and feasibility of your proposal and may come from:
  - Curators, gallery directors, or mentors who are familiar with your work.
  - Organisations, institutions, or residency hosts that will be involved in your proposal.
  - Collaborators or funders who can confirm financial or in-kind support.
12. **Can supporting material include references from previous projects unrelated to my current application?**  
Yes, you may include references from past projects, as long as they demonstrate your artistic practice and track record. However, ensure that your current project is the primary focus of your application.
13. **Can I include my artist statement in my CV, or should it be in the supporting material?**  
It is recommended to keep your artist statement separate as part of your supporting material. The Artist CV should focus on professional artistic experience, exhibitions, and relevant practice history.
14. **Is a biography accepted as a CV, or does it need to be a formal CV?**  
An Artist CV is required, detailing artistic experience, exhibitions, performances, or projects. While a biography can be included, it should not replace a structured CV.
15. **Can I apply if I have received funding from Fingal County Council in previous years?**  
Yes, previous recipients may apply again, but each application is assessed independently. Funding is competitive, and repeat funding is not guaranteed.
16. **Can I apply for this scheme if I have received or applied for funding from other sources?**



Yes, applicants can seek funding from multiple sources. However, you must clearly outline other funding sources in your budget and disclose if any funding is pending or confirmed.

**17. Can I apply if I don't currently live in Fingal, but I was born or studied there?**

Yes, you are eligible if you were born, studied, or currently reside in the Fingal administrative area. You must provide relevant details in your application.

**18. Can I apply if my proposal takes place outside of Fingal?**

Yes, proposals do not need to take place in Fingal, but applicants must meet the residency, birthplace, or study eligibility criteria. The proposal must also align with the scheme's objectives of supporting professional artists from Fingal.

**19. How competitive is the scheme?**

The scheme is highly competitive. In 2024, 263 applications were received, with 33% awarded funding. The average award amount was €3,000. Applicants should ensure their proposal is clearly articulated and well-supported with strong supporting documentation.

**20. Can I apply for less than €5,000?**

Yes, applicants can apply for any amount up to €5,000. However, please ensure that your request is realistic and justified in your budget breakdown.

**21. Can I apply for funding if my proposal budget exceeds €5,000?**

Yes, but you must demonstrate how the additional costs will be covered, either through other funding sources, in-kind support, or personal investment.

**22. Can I include travel expenses in my budget?**

Yes, travel expenses are covered by all three categories. Note, travel expenses under Category 3 (Development of Work) should be directly linked to the proposal's execution.

**23. Can I use part of the funding for equipment purchases?**

No, the scheme does not fund major equipment purchases such as laptops, cameras, or printers. However, software purchases up to 15% of material costs may be included if relevant to the proposal.

**24. What happens if my proposal changes after receiving funding?**

Any significant changes to the proposal must be approved in advance by the Fingal Arts Office. If the proposal cannot proceed as planned, funding may be adjusted or withdrawn.

**25. If I am awarded less than I requested, can I still proceed with part of my proposal?**

Yes, you can scale down your proposal to match the awarded amount or focus on key elements. Any major adjustments should be discussed with the Arts Office.

**26. What happens if I can't complete my proposal by the deadline?**

Funded proposals must take place between May and December 2025. If delays arise, you must inform the Arts Office as soon as possible to discuss potential solutions.



**27. Can I submit additional materials after the deadline?**

No, all materials must be submitted online through Submit.com before the deadline. Late submissions or additional materials cannot be considered.

**28. If I am unsuccessful, can I apply again next year?**

Yes, unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to apply in future years. You may also request feedback within 2 weeks of receiving the decision to strengthen your next application.

**29. Would you consider running this program in two parts (one for Jan–June activities, another for July–Dec)?**

At present, the scheme operates as one annual funding round. However, Fingal Arts Office continuously reviews its funding programmes, and applicant feedback is always considered in future planning.

**30. Does Fingal County Council offer other artist support opportunities?**

Yes, Fingal Arts Office provides a range of supports, including residencies, commissions, and mentorship programmes. Visit [www.fingalarts.ie](http://www.fingalarts.ie) for updates or register for our mailing list by contacting [artsoffice@fingal.ie](mailto:artsoffice@fingal.ie)