

# Revive Live Program

## Supporting Australian Live Music

### Open Competitive Grant Guidelines

<b>Opening date:</b>	<b>27 August 2025</b>
<b>Closing date and time:</b>	<b>23:30 AEST on 26 September 2025</b>
<b>Commonwealth policy entity:</b>	<b>Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts</b>
<b>Administering entity</b>	<b>Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts</b>
<b>Enquiries:</b>	<b>If you have any questions, contact the Contemporary Music team in the Department at:</b>  <a href="mailto:music@arts.gov.au">music@arts.gov.au</a>  <b>02 6136 8008</b>
<b>Date guidelines released:</b>	<b>August 2025</b>
<b>Type of grant opportunity:</b>	<b>Open competitive</b>

# Contents

- 1 Revive Live: Open competitive grant opportunity processes..... 4**
  - 1.1 Introduction ..... 5
- 2 About the grant program..... 5**
  - 2.1 Revive live grant opportunity..... 5
- 3 Grant amount and grant period ..... 6**
  - 3.1 Grants available ..... 6
  - 3.2 Grant period ..... 7
- 4 Eligibility criteria ..... 7**
  - 4.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?..... 7
  - 4.2 Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?..... 7
  - 4.3 What qualifications, skills or checks are required? ..... 8
- 5 What the grant money can be used for..... 8**
  - 5.1 Eligible grant activities ..... 8
  - 5.2 Eligible locations ..... 9
  - 5.3 Eligible expenditure..... 9
  - 5.4 What the grant money cannot be used for..... 10
- 6 The assessment criteria ..... 11**
- 7 How to apply..... 13**
  - 7.1 Attachments to the application..... 14
  - 7.2 Joint (consortia) applications ..... 14
  - 7.3 Timing of grant opportunity processes..... 15
  - 7.4 Questions during the application process..... 15
- 8 The grant selection process ..... 15**
  - 8.1 Assessment of grant applications ..... 15
  - 8.2 Who will assess applications? ..... 16
  - 8.3 Who will approve grants?..... 16
- 9 Notification of application outcomes..... 17**
  - 9.1 Feedback on your application ..... 17
- 10 Successful grant applications ..... 17**
  - 10.1 The grant agreement ..... 17
  - 10.2 How we pay the grant ..... 17
  - 10.3 Grants payments and GST ..... 18
- 11 Announcement of grants ..... 18**
- 12 How we monitor your grant activity ..... 18**
  - 12.1 Keeping us informed ..... 18
  - 12.2 Reporting..... 19
  - 12.3 Audited financial acquittal report..... 19
  - 12.4 Grant agreement variations ..... 20
  - 12.5 Evaluation ..... 20

12.6	Acknowledgement.....	20
<b>13</b>	<b>Probity.....</b>	<b>20</b>
13.1	Enquiries and feedback .....	20
13.2	Conflict of interest .....	21
13.3	Privacy .....	21
13.4	Confidential Information .....	22
13.5	Freedom of information .....	22
<b>14</b>	<b>Glossary .....</b>	<b>23</b>

# 1 Revive Live: Open competitive grant opportunity processes

## **The Revive Live program is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives**

This grant opportunity is part of the above grant program which contributes to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts' Outcome 6.1. The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts' works with stakeholders to plan and design the grant program according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024 \(CGRPs\)](#).



## **The grant opportunity opens**

We publish the grant guidelines on [GrantConnect](#)



## **You complete and submit a grant application**

You complete the application form and address all of the eligibility and assessment criteria to be considered for a grant.



## **We assess all grant applications**

We assess the applications against eligibility criteria and notify you if you are not eligible. We assess your eligible application against the assessment criteria including an overall consideration of value with relevant money and compare it to other applications.



## **We make grant recommendations**

We provide advice to the decision maker on the merits of each application.



## **Grant decisions are made**

The decision maker is the Minister for the Arts, who decides which applications will be funded and the level of funding to be provided.



## **We notify you of the outcome**

We advise you of the outcome of your application. We may not notify unsuccessful applicants until grant agreements have been executed with successful applicants.



## **We enter into a grant agreement**

We will enter into a grant agreement with you if you have been successful. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature of the grant and will be proportional to the risks involved.



## **Delivery of grant**

You undertake the grant activity as set out in your grant agreement. We manage the grant by working with you, monitoring your progress and making payments.



## **Evaluation of Revive Live**

We evaluate your specific grant activity and the Revive Live program. We base this on information you provide to us and that we collect from various sources.

## 1.1 Introduction

The Australian Government's National Cultural Policy *Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place* recognises the contemporary music industry as an important part of the creative economy and the value of Australia's cultural workforce and arts businesses. This policy is committed to expanding income opportunities for artists, increasing opportunities for more diverse programming, supporting stronger cultural infrastructure, increasing audiences for Australian original live music, and increasing equity in access to arts and culture. The *Revive Live Program* (the Program) will contribute to delivering on these commitments.

You must read these guidelines before filling out an application.

This document sets out:

- the purpose of the grant program/grant opportunity
- the eligibility and assessment criteria
- how grant applications are considered and selected
- how grantees are notified and receive grant payments
- how grantees will be monitored and evaluated
- responsibilities and expectations in relation to the opportunity.

This grant opportunity and process will be administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts using the online grants management system SmartyGrants at <https://arts.smartygrants.com.au/>.

We administer the program according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024](#) (CGRPs).<sup>1</sup>

## 2 About the grant program

The Australian Government has committed a total of up to \$11.6 million in grant funding for the open competitive grant opportunity in 2025-26.

### 2.1 Revive live grant opportunity

The open competitive grant opportunity is an annual grant opportunity open to all eligible organisations seeking funding to deliver activities that meet the Program outcomes.

The Australian live music industry forms a vibrant part of Australia's arts and culture landscape.

<sup>2</sup>Live music venues and music festivals are a critical part of the live music industry ecosystem, providing a fundamental pillar for success that is vital to the development of both artist and audience. They allow artists to grow audiences, build professionalism and profile, and earn an income.

The objectives of the Program are:

- to increase performance opportunities including the development and discoverability of original contemporary music by Australian artists

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<sup>1</sup> [Federal Register of Legislation - Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024](#)

<sup>2</sup> Includes underage venues and youth focused festivals

- to support a sustainable Australian live music ecosystem, allowing established live music venues to continue operating, and avoiding cancellation of Australian live music festivals
- to support stability in live music venues and music festivals, building resilience to change and risk, safety, inclusivity and representative programming
- to improve accessibility at live music venues and music festivals, providing participation opportunities for audiences with disability as well as career pathways for musicians and music workers with disability.

The intended outcomes of the Program are:

- Australian artists have opportunities to perform and develop their craft
- live music venues and music festivals of all sizes continue to operate
- renewed audience confidence by minimising the number of closures and cancellations
- key touring circuits across Australia are maintained, providing job security for music, festival and event businesses and crew
- improved accessibility at live music venues and music festivals for artists and audiences with disability.

We administer the Program according to the [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024](#) (CGRPs)<sup>3</sup>.

## 3 Grant amount and grant period

### 3.1 Grants available

A total of up to \$11.6 million in grant funding will be available in 2025-26 for *Revive Live*. All grant amounts are GST exclusive. Within the initial grant funding of \$7.7 million for 2025-26, \$1.2 million is available for applications that specifically address activities to improve accessibility at established live music venues or live music festivals. The additional \$3.9 million for 2025-26 also includes a strong focus on activities that improve participation and accessibility to live music events by people with disability.

If you are registered for the Goods and Services Tax (GST),<sup>4</sup> where applicable, we will add GST to your grant payment.

Applications for grant funding will be accepted under two streams:

- **Live music venues** – with a maximum grant amount of \$150,000.
- **Music festivals** – with a maximum grant amount dependent on proven audience size:
  - festivals with 10,000 or less attendees, the maximum grant amount is \$150,000.
  - festivals with greater than 10,000 attendees, the maximum grant amount is \$250,000.

You are required to contribute towards the grant activities. There is no minimum or maximum amount of co-contribution, but the level of contribution is expected to be relative to the nature and scale of the supported activity (as considered in assessment Criterion 2). Co-contribution must be in addition to funding from other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government sources.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2024L00854/latest/text>

<sup>4</sup> [www.ato.gov.au/Business/GST/Registering-for-GST](http://www.ato.gov.au/Business/GST/Registering-for-GST)

If other Commonwealth, state, territory or local government sources are contributing to your overall activity, this grant cannot be used to fund activities already supported by those sources. If you are in receipt of funding from other government sources, you will need to clearly distinguish how the activity in this application is different to the activity or activities funded by other government sources.

### **3.2 Grant period**

The maximum grant period for your activity is one year.

If successful, you must complete your activity by the date specified in your Grant Agreement.

## **4 Eligibility criteria**

### **4.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?**

To be eligible you must:

- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be registered for the purposes of GST
- be a permanent resident of Australia
- have an account with an Australian financial institution
- comply with all regulatory, industry and legal requirements in relation to copyright, licensing, employment, planning and environmental protection.

And be one of the following entity types:

- a company incorporated in Australia
- a company incorporated by guarantee
- a sole trader with employees
- an incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust
- an incorporated association
- a partnership
- an incorporated not-for-profit organisation
- an Australian local government body
- an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Corporation registered under the [Corporations \(Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander\) Act 2006](#)

. We can only accept applications from:

- organisations that have a primary purpose to host live public performances of original contemporary music, with a strong focus on showcasing Australian artists (Australian local government bodies are exempt from this criterion)
- organisations with at least three years of demonstrated experience delivering live music
- organisations that are a majority-Australian owned business (including any parent or related companies).

### **4.2 Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?**

You are not eligible to apply if you are:

- an organisation, or your activity partner is an organisation, included on the National Redress Scheme's website on the list of 'Institutions that have not joined or signified their intent to join the Scheme' ([www.nationalredress.gov.au](http://www.nationalredress.gov.au))
- an individual (unless you are a sole trader with employees)
- an unincorporated association
- an overseas resident/organisation
- an organisation that receives income from gambling or gambling related sources (including licensed betting service providers, and organisations that hold a gaming license including those listed on the register of licensed interactive gambling providers to operate in Australia)
- an organisation for which delivering original live music is a secondary or ancillary function
- any organisation not included in section 4.1

### 4.3 What qualifications, skills or checks are required?

#### National Principles for Child Safe Organisations

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse highlighted the need for organisations to adopt child safe practices including appropriate screening of staff, mandatory reporting and adoption of the [National Principles for Child Safe Organisations](#). The Australian Government committed to a new Commonwealth-wide framework to protect children and young people it is responsible for – the [Commonwealth Child Safe Framework](#) (CCSF).

The Australian Government is considering appropriate ways to apply the requirements of the CCSF to grant recipients. A child safety clause is likely to be included in a grant agreement where the Commonwealth considers the grant is for:

- services directly to children; or
- activities that involve contact with children that is a usual part of, and more than incidental to, the grant activity.

A child safety clause may also be included in the grant agreement if the Commonwealth considers the grant activity involves children more broadly.

The successful applicant will be required to comply with all child safety obligations included in the grant agreement published with this grant opportunity or notified to the successful applicant prior to execution of the grant agreement. Irrespective of the child safety obligations in the grant agreement you must always comply with your state and territory legislative requirements for working with children and mandatory reporting.

#### Safe and fair workplaces

You must also provide a safe and fair workplace for people engaged with your activity. Workplace safety standards and legally-binding industrial awards and enterprise agreements must be adhered to. Relevant guidance developed by Creative Workplaces (within Creative Australia) must be followed.

## 5 What the grant money can be used for

### 5.1 Eligible grant activities

Funding is available for activities that support established live music venues or live music festivals, creating a sustainable operating environment to protect performance opportunities, and the development and discoverability of original contemporary music by Australian artists. The Program will prioritise activities and projects that increase safe inclusive spaces and more representative

programming, and develop diverse audiences including young people, women and people with disability.

The Program also has a dedicated focus on activities that improve accessibility at established live music venues or live music festivals, providing participation opportunities for audiences, and career pathways for musicians and music workers, with disability.

The Program supports the pillars of *Revive* through recognition of the centrality of the artist, where musicians are recognised as workers, remunerated appropriately and are able to work in safe professional workplaces. In addition, the Program acknowledges that engaging audiences is key to supporting creative industries and connecting Australians to arts and culture.

If your proposal delivers to multiple venues/events, you should provide evidence of the number of venues/events that will benefit. All proposals should indicate the number of original live music events and artists that will be enabled by your activity. Original Australian live music is defined in the Glossary.

### **Accessibility**

One of the [ten guiding principles of \*Revive\*](#) is that all Australians have the opportunity to access and participate in arts and culture. The Program supports increasing accessibility for artists and audiences of all ages to experience live music.

The lack of both on-site and online accessibility to live music venues can provide significant barriers to participation for people with disability. We encourage all applicants to consider how accessible their venues are at present, and to apply for funding for activities aimed at increasing accessibility, for artists as well as audiences.

The two checklists below, developed by Music NSW, will help you identify strategies to improve your venue's accessibility:

- [Online Accessibility Checklist](#)
- [On-site Accessibility Checklist](#)

Another toolkit to use when planning accessible and inclusive events, and when considering improvements to your venue to increase accessibility, is the NSW Government's [Toolkit for Accessible and Inclusive Events](#). You can also visit [Arts Access Australia](#) for further resources.

### **Inclusivity**

As stated in *Revive*, all Australians, regardless of language, literacy, geography, age or education, have the opportunity to access and participate in arts and culture. Applications that address inclusivity will be considered favourably through the assessment process.

## **5.2 Eligible locations**

Your grant activity must take place in Australia.

## **5.3 Eligible expenditure**

If successful for funding, you can only spend the grant on eligible expenditure to be incurred on the grant activities, as per the budget included in your grant agreement. Expenditure on your grant activities must occur between the start date and end date of your grant agreement for it to be eligible.

Eligible expenditure items are:

- costs associated with live music programming (for example original Australian artist fees and technical staff) and promotion

- purchasing/hiring essential equipment for staging performances (such as PA, lighting)
- carrying out small building alteration work to enable live music performance (such as sound attenuation or accessibility upgrades)
- professional development, including upskilling venue and event staff
- operational and administration costs directly related to the activity (including one-off or non-ongoing costs)
- adaptive ideas or capacity building that support the live music venue/music festival to:
  - be accessible and safe,
  - present inclusive original Australian live music, and
  - improve regional touring circuits
- marketing to engage core audience as well as identify and implement special initiatives to improve audience inclusivity
- dedicated new stage or site areas to create inclusive safe spaces for performers and audiences, particularly those with disability.

If your application is successful, you may be offered partial funding, for example, where components of your proposal are not eligible for funding.

### **Payment of artists**

*Revive* recognises that artistic and cultural work is a professional activity and that fair pay and conditions for arts and cultural workers are essential. It acknowledges the centrality of artists and arts workers to the success of the sector. Artists and professionals employed or engaged to deliver activities funded under the Program must be fairly remunerated for their work and provided with safe and respectful workplaces.

When preparing your budget, you should refer to pay scales and conditions prescribed by legally binding industrial awards and agreements, and or benchmarks established by arts and entertainment industry organisations, such as the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA).

If artist fees are included in your proposed activity, it is expected that you will pay a minimum guarantee of \$250 performance fee per musician, for a performance of three hours or less. Applications that do not demonstrate this may be less competitive. This is in recognition that Government funds are being used to pay artists an appropriate fee. Please note, if you are engaging experienced high-calibre musicians, it is appropriate to pay significantly more than a \$250 minimum performance fee.

## **5.4 What the grant money cannot be used for**

You cannot use the grant for the following activities:

- to mount or support tours by individual bands/artists
- any costs relating to international artist or tours, including performance fees and wages for technical staff and crew, and any overseas expenditure, including travel
- performances by covers artists or groups, tribute bands or DJs (except for DJs or electronic artists that perform original music, as defined in the Glossary)
- live music that does not take place in the same physical location as the audience, including delivery by video broadcast, streaming or other digital means
- digital applications and interactive platforms, including gig guides, games, podcasts, documentaries or any content produced for video and/or audio broadcast
- purchase of land

- major capital expenditure such as extensions to buildings
- the covering of retrospective costs
- costs involved with purchase or provision of alcohol
- costs incurred in the preparation of a grant application or related documentation
- cost attributable to general ongoing administration of an organisation such as electricity, insurance, phone and rent (noting that project administration costs are eligible)
- overseas travel

## 6 The assessment criteria

The online application form will be available on SmartyGrants ([arts.smartygrants.com.au](https://arts.smartygrants.com.au)) during the period that the grant opportunity is open. The application form can be previewed prior to commencing an application. A sample application form is also available on request by contacting [music@arts.gov.au](mailto:music@arts.gov.au).

The application form will ask a series of questions that require you to address the following assessment criteria. We will assess your application based on the relevance each criterion has to your proposal. The amount of detail and supporting evidence you provide in your application should be relative to the size, complexity and grant amount requested. The application form includes text limits for each question.

We will only award funding to applications that score highly against all of the assessment criteria. For note, a response for Criterion 5 is optional and only necessary for applications that focus on activities to improve accessibility at established live music venues or live music festivals.

Please refer to the objectives and outcomes of the Program, which are in section 2 of these guidelines, when demonstrating how your activity supports each criterion. You should provide evidence to support your claims wherever possible.

The following criteria are equally weighted.

### Criterion 1

#### Creating sustainable and resilient live music venues/music festivals

This criterion identifies how the proposed activity will create a sustainable operating environment for your established live music venue/music festival, responding to the evolving needs of the music industry. You should demonstrate this through the following:

- how the proposed activity will address any current barriers your venue or festival has around hosting original live music
- how the activity will contribute to allowing the live music venue to continue operating, or avoid cancellation of the music festival
- how the activity will promote resilience to change and risk
- how the activity will improve the capacity to professionally present original Australian live music performances, such as upgrades to equipment or facilities
- how the activity will build the capacity of venue and/or festival/event staff to present live music, by providing training and employment opportunities
- demonstrating at least three years' experience in hosting live music performances as a primary business offering, with evidence of appropriate business/governance structures in place with experienced personnel

- demonstrating experience in managing funds and acquitting government funding (where relevant).

## **Criterion 2**

### **Demonstrated need for grant funding**

This criterion identifies that grant funding will support ongoing operation or activity that could not occur without assistance. This includes providing a budget that shows how the grant funding will be expended, and outlines any other income that will be used to support delivery of the activity. In all cases, assessment includes an overall consideration of value with money.

You must demonstrate this through the following:

- provision of a balanced and realistic budget showing requested grant amount and projected expenses
- provide evidence of co-contributions to the activity, this may include:
  - cash or in-kind support, and could be your own contribution (for example ticket sales, operational and/or administrative costs (such as insurance), and/or support from any partners in your activity
  - co-investment from other sources including Commonwealth, state, territory or local government (noting section 3.1)
- providing documentation showing the need for the activity such as an audit by a qualified engineer (sound/acoustic improvements, disability access etc.), quotes or other comparisons which demonstrate value with money
- value with money, as outlined in section 8.1.

## **Criterion 3**

### **Supporting original Australian live music**

This criterion is focused on creating opportunities for original Australian live music to be centre stage. You should show how your proposal will increase opportunities for original Australian live music performances in your live music venue or music festival.

You should demonstrate this through identifying:

- how your live music venue/music festival provides opportunities for Australian artists performing original contemporary music, which may include:
  - support for both local and visiting Australian musicians
  - support for under-represented contemporary music genres and performances
  - support to build regional touring circuits
- how many performances of original Australian music artists will be supported by the activity
- how many venues will be supported by your activity and if multiple venues are involved, a letter of commitment for each.

## **Criterion 4**

### **Development of audiences**

This criterion is focused on building programming and audiences that reflect Australia's diversity.

You should demonstrate this through identifying:

- how your proposal will contribute to creating strong cultural infrastructure through increasing inclusive safe spaces for audiences, and equity in participation in live music events
- how your activity will address any current barriers to audience development
- how your live music venue/music festival plans to grow audiences.

### **Criterion 5 (optional)**

#### **Creating opportunities for people with a disability, including improved accessibility at venues and festivals for artists, music workers and audiences**

This criterion is focused on improving ongoing access and participation to live music for audiences and artists with disability.

You must demonstrate this through identifying:

- what barriers exist for artists and/or audiences with disability to participate in live music, and how your proposal will contribute to the ongoing sustainability of your live music venue/music festival
- how your activity will create inclusivity for artists and/or audiences who identify as having disability, including musicians, music workers and audiences with disability, through improved opportunities to access cultural life
- what specific changes your proposal will make, and how these changes will improve accessibility from your current arrangements
- consultation that has been undertaken with artists or audiences with disability, and/or guidance material from an accessibility specialist that has been followed, to ensure the activity leads to genuine meaningful change in practice.

## **7 How to apply**

Before applying, you must read and understand these guidelines.

These documents may be found at [GrantConnect at www.grants.gov.au](#). Any alterations and addenda<sup>5</sup> will be published on GrantConnect and by registering on this website, you will be automatically notified on any changes. GrantConnect is the authoritative source for grants information.

To apply you must:

- complete the online *Revive Live* application form on SmartyGrants at [arts.smartygrants.com.au](https://arts.smartygrants.com.au)
- provide all the information requested
- address all eligibility criteria and assessment criteria
- include all necessary attachments
- submit your application by 11:30pm (23:30 AEST) on 26 September 2025.

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<sup>5</sup> Alterations and addenda include but are not limited to: corrections to currently published documents, changes to close times for applications, Questions and Answers (Q&A) documents and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents

You are responsible for ensuring that your application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the [Criminal Code 1995](#) and we will investigate any false or misleading information and may exclude your application from further consideration.

The Australian Government will only accept a late application where an applicant has contacted the Department to request late submission, and we have agreed in writing to this. Agreement can be made on the basis that the organisation is experiencing internet connectivity issues, extreme weather events, or other temporary extenuating administrative or governance issues. If you find an error in your application after submitting it, you should contact us immediately by emailing [music@arts.gov.au](mailto:music@arts.gov.au) or by calling 02 6136 8008.

You should keep a copy of your application and any supporting documents.

Application receipt will be acknowledged via a SmartyGrants confirmation email along with an application reference number.

If you need further guidance around the application process or if you are unable to submit an application online, contact us at [music@arts.gov.au](mailto:music@arts.gov.au) or by calling 02 6136 8008.

We will assess your application against the *Revive Live* eligibility and assessment criteria, on the past performance of your organisation, on a value with money basis, and within the available *Revive Live* budget (see sections 8.1 and 8.2).

On the basis of these assessments, the Department will make grant recommendations to the Minister for the Arts who will make the final grant decision based on this advice and in the context of the total available Program budget.

## **7.1 Attachments to the application**

We require the following documents with your application (as part of the SmartyGrants application form):

- a budget
- a work plan
- evidence of funding need (e.g. quotes if relevant).
- evidence of support from the community or industry (as relevant).

You must attach supporting documentation to the application form in line with the instructions provided within the form. You should only attach requested documents. We will not consider information in attachments that we do not request.

## **7.2 Joint (consortia) applications**

We recognise that some organisations may want to join together as a group to deliver a grant activity.

In these circumstances, you must appoint a 'lead organisation'. Only the lead organisation can submit the application form and enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth. The application must identify all other members of the proposed group and include a letter of support from each of the partners.

Each letter of support should include:

- details of the partner organisation
- an overview of how the partner organisation will work with the lead organisation and any other partner organisations in the group to successfully complete the grant activity.

- an outline of the relevant experience and/or expertise the partner organisation will bring to the group
- the roles/responsibilities of the partner organisation and the resources they will contribute (if any)
- details of a nominated management level contact officer.

You must have a formal arrangement in place with all parties prior to execution of the agreement.

### 7.3 Timing of grant opportunity processes

You must submit an application between the published opening and closing dates. The opening and closing dates will be advertised on GrantConnect at [www.grants.gov.au](http://www.grants.gov.au) and the Department website at <https://www.arts.gov.au/funding-and-support/revive-live>.

Please note that late applications will only be accepted where there are exceptional and unanticipated circumstances and where the Department has agreed in writing prior to the closing date (see section 7).

Table 1: Expected timing for this grant opportunity

Activity	Timeframe
Application period	Open: 27 August 2025 Close: 23:30 AEST 26 September 2025
Assessment of applications	4 weeks
Approval of outcomes of selection process	2-3 weeks
Notification to applicants of funding outcome	within 3 months of closing time
Negotiations and award of grant agreements	4 weeks

### 7.4 Questions during the application process

If you have any questions during the application period, contact the Contemporary Music Team at [music@arts.gov.au](mailto:music@arts.gov.au) or by calling 02 6136 8008. The Contemporary Music team will aim to respond to emailed questions within three working days.

## 8 The grant selection process

### 8.1 Assessment of grant applications

We review your application against the eligibility criteria. Only eligible applications will move to the next stage.

We consider eligible applications through an open competitive grant process. We assess applications against the assessment criteria (see section 6) and against other applications. We consider each application on its merits, based on:

- how well it meets the criteria
- how it compares to other applications

- whether it provides value with relevant money.<sup>6</sup>

When assessing the extent to which the application represents value with relevant money, we will have regard to:

- the overall objective/s to be achieved in providing the grant
- the relative value of the grant sought
- extent to which the geographic location of the application ensures that there is a spread of successful applications from across Australia including urban, regional and remote locations
- the extent to which the evidence in the application demonstrates that it will contribute to meeting the outcomes/objectives.

## **8.2 Who will assess applications?**

Each eligible application will be assessed on its merit against the criteria outlined in Section 6, and against other eligible applications.

Each application will be assessed by an official from the Department, as well as a pre-selected industry assessor. Industry assessors are selected by the Department based on their music industry-related knowledge, experience and skillsets.

All assessors, including industry assessor, will be required to perform their duties in accordance with the CGRPs and declare any conflict of interest (as per section 13.2). The Department may seek additional information about you or your application. They may do this from within the Commonwealth, even if the sources are not nominated by you as referees. The Department may also consider information about you or your application that is available through the normal course of business.

The Department will consider the available budget, the geographical spread and range of project activities, and value for money, to inform its recommendation for funding to deliver the intended outcomes of the Program.

The Department will provide the Decision Maker with recommendations on applications to approve for a grant.

## **8.3 Who will approve grants?**

The Minister for the Arts decides which grants to approve, taking into account the recommendations of the Department, advice from music industry experts and the availability of grant funds for the purposes of the Program.

The Minister's decision is final in all matters, including:

- the approval of the grant
- the grant funding amount to be awarded

There is no appeal mechanism for decisions to approve or not approve a grant (see section 13.1 for enquiries or complaints processes).

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<sup>6</sup> See glossary for an explanation of 'value with money'.

## 9 Notification of application outcomes

We will advise you of the outcome of your application in writing. If you are successful, we will advise you of any specific conditions attached to the grant.

Notification of outcomes may be provided under embargo. By submitting an application you are expected to abide by terms of the embargo where necessary.

If you are unsuccessful, we will give you an opportunity to request feedback on the outcome.

### 9.1 Feedback on your application

If you are unsuccessful, you may ask for feedback within three months of being advised of the outcome. We will give written feedback within 28 days of your request.

## 10 Successful grant applications

### 10.1 The grant agreement

You must enter into a legally binding grant agreement with the Commonwealth.

We will use either the Commonwealth Simple Grant Agreement or the Commonwealth Standard Grant Agreement in this Program. Our selection will depend on the size and complexity of your grant activity or activities.

Each agreement has general terms and conditions that cannot be changed. Sample grant agreements are available from the [Department of Finance](#) and on request by contacting [music@arts.gov.au](mailto:music@arts.gov.au). We will use a schedule to outline the specific grant requirements. Any additional conditions attached to the grant will be identified in the grant offer or during the grant agreement negotiations.

We aim to negotiate agreements with you within 30 days of the grant announcement. If there are unreasonable delays by you in finalising a grant agreement once you have received it, the grant offer may be withdrawn and the grant may be awarded to a different applicant.

We must execute a grant agreement with you before we can make any payments. We are not responsible for any of your expenditure until a grant agreement is executed. If you choose to start your grant activities before you have an executed grant agreement, you do so at your own risk.

Your grant agreement may have specific conditions determined by the assessment process or other considerations made by the Minister. We will identify these in the agreement.

The Commonwealth may recover grant funds if there is a breach of the grant agreement.

#### **Simple Grant Agreement and/or Standard Grant Agreement**

For either of these agreements, there will be 30 days from the date of a written offer to execute the grant agreement with the Commonwealth ('execute' means both you and the Commonwealth have signed the agreement). During this time, we will work with you to finalise details. The offer may lapse if both parties do not sign the grant agreement within this time. Under certain circumstances, we may extend this period. We base the approval of your grant on the information you provide in your application.

You may request changes to the grant agreement. However, we will review any required changes to these details to ensure they do not impact the grant as approved by the Minister.

### 10.2 How we pay the grant

The grant agreement will state the:

- maximum grant amount to be paid
- proportion of eligible expenditure covered by the grant (grant percentage)
- any financial contributions you must make
- any in-kind contributions you will make
- any financial contribution provided by a third party

We will not exceed the maximum grant amount under any circumstances. If you incur extra costs, you must meet them yourself.

We will pay 100 per cent of the grant on execution of the grant agreement. You will be required to report how you spent the grant funds at the completion of the grant activity.

### 10.3 Grants payments and GST

If you are registered for the [Goods and Services Tax \(GST\)](#), where applicable, we will add GST to your grant payment and issue you with a [Recipient Created Tax Invoice](#).

Grants are assessable income for taxation purposes, unless exempted by a taxation law. We recommend you seek independent professional advice on your taxation obligations or seek assistance from the [Australian Taxation Office](#).<sup>7</sup> We do not provide advice on your particular taxation circumstances.

## 11 Announcement of grants

If successful, your grant will be listed on the GrantConnect website 21 calendar days after the date of effect as required by Section 5.3 of the [CGRPs](#).

Your grant may also be announced by the Minister for the Arts and by your local Member of Parliament.

## 12 How we monitor your grant activity

### 12.1 Keeping us informed

You should let us know if anything is likely to affect your grant activity or organisation.

We need to know of any key changes to your organisation or its business activities, particularly if they affect your ability to complete your grant, carry on business and pay debts due.

You must also inform us of any changes to your:

- name
- addresses
- nominated contact details
- bank account details.

If you become aware of a breach of terms and conditions under the grant agreement, you must contact us immediately.

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ato.gov.au/>

You must notify us of events relating to your grant and provide an opportunity for the Minister or their representative to attend.

## 12.2 Reporting

You must submit reports in line with the grant agreement. We will provide sample templates for these reports as appendices in the grant agreement. or on request by contacting [music@arts.gov.au](mailto:music@arts.gov.au).

We will remind you of your reporting obligations before a report is due. We will expect you to report on:

- progress against agreed milestones and outcomes
- contributions of participants directly related to the grant activity
- expenditure of the grant.
- Any issues arising from the listed grant activities and your ability to complete them

The amount of detail you provide in your reports should be relative to the size, complexity and grant amount. Where the activity is simple such as the purchase of equipment and the grant amount is small (e.g. under \$10,000) you will only be required to provide a final report at the completion of the activity to demonstrate you have expended the funds in line with the grant agreement. Where the activity is more complex such as delivering professional development to multiple venues over a 12-month period the grant agreement will specify when progress and final reports are required – this may be three or six monthly reporting.

### **Progress reports [If applicable]**

Progress reports must:

- include evidence of your progress towards completion of agreed activities and outcomes
- show the total eligible expenditure incurred to date
- be submitted by the report due date (you can submit reports ahead of time if you have completed relevant activities).

You must discuss any reporting delays with us as soon as you become aware of them.

### **Ad-hoc reports [If applicable]**

We may ask you for ad-hoc reports on your grant. This may be to provide an update on progress, or any significant delays or difficulties in completing the grant activity.

### **Final report**

When you complete the grant activity, you must submit a final report.

Final reports must:

- be submitted in the format stipulated in the grant agreement
- identify if and how outcomes have been achieved
- include the agreed evidence as specified in the grant agreement
- identify the total eligible expenditure incurred

be submitted within the timeline stipulated in the grant agreement.

## 12.3 Audited financial acquittal report

Depending on the value of the grant, and or the risk level of your activity, we may ask you to provide:

- a declaration that the grant money was spent in accordance with the grant agreement, and if applicable, a report on any underspends of the grant money
- an independently audited financial acquittal report that verifies that you spent the grant in accordance with the grant agreement.

## 12.4 Grant agreement variations

We recognise that unexpected events may affect your progress. In these circumstances, you can request a variation to your grant agreement. You can request a variation by contacting [music@arts.gov.au](mailto:music@arts.gov.au) before the grant agreement end date.

You should not assume that a variation request will be successful. We will consider your request based on provisions in the grant agreement and the likely impact on achieving outcomes.

## 12.5 Evaluation

We will evaluate the grant program to measure how well the outcomes and objectives have been achieved. We may use information from your application and reports for this purpose. We may also interview you, or ask you for more information to help us understand how the grant impacted you and to evaluate how effective the program was in achieving its outcomes.

We may contact you up to one year after you finish your grant for more information to assist with this evaluation.

## 12.6 Acknowledgement

An Australian Government logo, as specified in the grant agreement, should be used on materials related to grants under the program. Whenever the logo is used, the publication must (may) also include the following acknowledgement:

***Revive Live – an Australian Government initiative.***

The *Revive Live* grant opportunity must also be acknowledged at any publicly launched events associated with the grant activity.

# 13 Probity

The Australian Government will make sure that the grant opportunity process is fair, according to the published guidelines, incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct and is consistent with the CGRPs.

These guidelines may be changed from time-to-time by the Department. When this happens, the revised guidelines will be published on GrantConnect at [www.grants.gov.au](http://www.grants.gov.au).

## 13.1 Enquiries and feedback

The Department's [Complaints Procedures](#) apply to complaints about this grant opportunity. All complaints about a grant process must be provided in writing.

Any questions you have about grant decisions for this grant opportunity should be sent to [music@arts.gov.au](mailto:music@arts.gov.au).

If you do not agree with the way the Department has handled your complaint, you may complain to the [Commonwealth Ombudsman](#). The Ombudsman will not usually consider a complaint unless the matter has first been raised directly with the Department.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman can be contacted on:

Phone (Toll free): 1300 362 072  
Email: [ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au)  
Website: [www.ombudsman.gov.au](http://www.ombudsman.gov.au)

### 13.2 Conflict of interest

Any conflicts of interest could affect the performance of the grant opportunity or program. There may be a conflict of interest, or perceived conflict of interest, if the Department, any assessor or advisor and/or you or any of your personnel:

- has a professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who is able to influence the application selection process, such as an Australian Government officer
- has a relationship with or interest in, an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently or
- has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives a grant under the grant program/ grant opportunity.

You will be asked to declare, as part of your application, any perceived or existing conflicts of interests or that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest.

If you later identify an actual, apparent, or perceived conflict of interest, you must inform the Department in writing immediately.

Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff will be handled as set out in the Australian [Public Service Code of Conduct \(Section 13\(7\)\)](#) of the [Public Service Act 1999](#). Music industry representatives engaged to provide advice on applications and other officials, including the decision maker, must also declare any conflicts of interest.

We publish our conflict of interest policy on SmartyGrants at <https://arts.smartygrants.com.au/s/site/arts/AAI-ConflictofInterest.pdf>.

### 13.3 Privacy

We treat your personal information according to the [Privacy Act 1988](#) and the [Australian Privacy Principles](#). This includes letting you know:

- what personal information we collect
- why we collect your personal information
- who we give your personal information to.

Your personal information can only be disclosed to someone else for the primary purpose for which it was collected, unless an exemption applies.

The Australian Government may also use and disclose information about grant applicants and grant recipients under this grant opportunity in any other Australian Government business or function. This includes disclosing grant information on GrantConnect as required for reporting purposes and giving information to the Australian Taxation Office for compliance purposes.

We may share the information you give us with other Commonwealth entities for purposes including government administration, research or service delivery, according to Australian laws.

As part of your application, you declare your ability to comply with the [Privacy Act 1988](#) and the Australian Privacy Principles and your intention to impose the same privacy obligations on officers, employees, agents and subcontractors that you engage to assist with the activity, in respect of personal information you collect, use, store, or disclose in connection with the activity. Accordingly,

you must not do anything, which if done by the [relevant Commonwealth entity] would breach an Australian Privacy Principle as defined in the Act.

### **13.4 Confidential Information**

Other than information available in the public domain, you agree not to disclose to any person, other than us, any confidential information relating to the grant application and/or agreement, without our prior written approval. The obligation will not be breached where you are required by law, Parliament or a stock exchange to disclose the relevant information or where the relevant information is publicly available (other than through breach of a confidentiality or non-disclosure obligation).

We may at any time, require you to arrange for you; or your employees, agents or subcontractors to give a written undertaking relating to nondisclosure of our confidential information in a form we consider acceptable.

We will keep any information in connection with the grant agreement confidential to the extent that it meets all of the three conditions below:

1. you clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential
2. the information is commercially sensitive
3. revealing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else.

We will not be in breach of any confidentiality agreement if the information is disclosed to:

- the [committee] and other Commonwealth employees and contractors to help us manage the program effectively, including for an integrity purpose
- employees and contractors of our department so we can research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities
- employees and contractors of other Commonwealth agencies for any purposes, including government administration, research or service delivery
- other Commonwealth, State, Territory or local government agencies in program reports and consultations
- the Auditor-General, Ombudsman, Privacy Commissioner or National Anti-Corruption Commissioner, or staff of their agencies
- the responsible Minister or Parliamentary Secretary, or
- a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

The grant agreement may also include any specific requirements about special categories of information collected, created or held under the grant agreement.

### **13.5 Freedom of information**

All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about this grant opportunity, are subject to the [Freedom of Information Act 1982](#) (FOI Act).

The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.

All Freedom of Information requests must be referred to the Freedom of Information Coordinator in writing.

By mail:

Freedom of Information Coordinator

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

GPO Box 594 Canberra ACT 2601

By email: [foi@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:foi@infrastructure.gov.au)

## 14 Glossary

Term	Definition
accountable authority	see subsection 12(2) of the <a href="#">Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</a>
administering entity	when an entity that is not responsible for the policy, is responsible for the administration of part or all of the grant administration processes
assessment criteria	are the specified principles or standards, against which applications will be judged. These criteria are also used to assess the merits of proposals and, in the case of a competitive grant opportunity, to determine application rankings.
commencement date	the expected start date for the grant activity
completion date	the expected date that the grant activity must be completed and the grant spent by
contracted service provider	A contracted service provider is a person who is a party to a Commonwealth contract or is a party to a subcontract with a contracted service provider and is responsible for the provision of goods or services under contract, either directly or indirectly.
Commonwealth entity	a Department of State, or a Parliamentary Department, or a listed entity or a body corporate established by a law of the Commonwealth. See subsections 10(1) and (2) of the PGPA Act
<a href="#">Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024 (CGRPs)</a>	establish the overarching Commonwealth grants policy framework and articulate the expectations for all non-corporate Commonwealth entities in relation to grants administration. Under this overarching framework, non-corporate Commonwealth entities undertake grants administration based on the mandatory requirements and key principles of grants administration.
co-sponsoring entity	when two or more entities are responsible for the policy and the appropriation for outcomes associated with it

Term	Definition
date of effect	can be the date on which a grant agreement is signed or a specified starting date. Where there is no grant agreement, entities must publish information on individual grants as soon as practicable.
decision maker	the person who makes a decision to award a grant
eligibility criteria	refer to the mandatory criteria which must be met to qualify for a grant. Eligibility criteria should be developed to enable objective validation and are either 'met' or 'not met'. Assessment criteria may apply in addition to eligibility criteria.
grant	for the purposes of the CGRPs, a 'grant' is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth or on behalf of the Commonwealth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. under which relevant money<sup>8</sup> or other <a href="#">Consolidated Revenue Fund</a> (CRF) money<sup>9</sup> is to be paid to a grantee other than the Commonwealth; and</li> <li>b. which is intended to help address one or more of the Australian Government's policy outcomes while assisting the grantee achieve its objectives.</li> </ul>
grant activity/activities	refers to the project/tasks/services that the grantee is required to undertake.
grant agreement	sets out the relationship between the parties to the agreement and specifies the details of the grant.
<a href="#">GrantConnect</a>	is the Australian Government's whole-of-government grants information system, which centralises the publication and reporting of Commonwealth grants in accordance with the CGRPs.
grant opportunity	refers to the specific grant round or process where a Commonwealth grant is made available to potential grantees. Grant opportunities may be open or targeted, and will reflect the relevant grant selection process.
grant program	a 'program' carries its natural meaning and is intended to cover a potentially wide range of related activities aimed at achieving government policy outcomes. A grant program is a group of one or more grant opportunities under a single [entity] Portfolio Budget Statement Program.

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<sup>8</sup> Relevant money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 8, Dictionary.

<sup>9</sup> Other CRF money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 105, Rules in relation to other CRF money.

Term	Definition
grantee	the individual/organisation which has been selected to receive a grant.
National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC)	The National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) is an independent Commonwealth agency. It detects, investigates and reports on serious or systemic corruption in the Commonwealth public sector. The Commission operates under the <a href="#">National Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2022</a> .
original Australian live music	<p>For the purposes of the Program, ‘original Australian live music’:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is predominantly unique and newly composed, written or created by the artist, or exclusively for the artist; *</li> <li>• is performed by an Australian citizen or resident, or for a group, comprises at least 50% Australian citizens or residents;</li> <li>• is performed in real time to an audience present in the same physical location; and</li> <li>• includes any genre of contemporary music, meaning that which is composed in recent or current times.</li> </ul> <p>* Noting that ‘original artists’ may occasionally perform or record ‘covers’, meaning music written or previously performed and/or recorded by other artists.</p>
PBS Program	described within the entity’s <a href="#">Portfolio Budget Statement</a> , PBS programs each link to a single outcome and provide transparency for funding decisions. These high-level PBS programs often comprise a number of lower level, more publicly recognised programs, some of which will be Grant Programs. A PBS Program may have more than one Grant Program associated with it, and each of these may have one or more grant opportunities.
selection criteria	comprise eligibility criteria and assessment criteria.
selection process	the method used to select potential grantees. This process may involve comparative assessment of applications or the assessment of applications against the eligibility criteria and/or the assessment criteria.

Term	Definition
value with money	<p>value with money in this document refers to ‘value with relevant money’ which is a judgement based on the grant proposal representing an efficient, effective, economical and ethical use of public resources and determined from a variety of considerations.</p> <p>When administering a grant opportunity, an official should consider the relevant financial and non-financial costs and benefits of each proposal including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the quality of the project proposal and activities;</li> <li>• fitness for purpose of the proposal in contributing to government objectives;</li> <li>• that the absence of a grant is likely to prevent the grantee and government’s outcomes being achieved; and</li> <li>• the potential grantee’s relevant experience and performance history.</li> </ul>