

Backing Indigenous Arts

Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund

2020-2021 Guidelines

Introduction

The Queensland Government recognises the important role of arts and culture in delivering significant social and economic outcomes for Queenslanders.

[Creative Together 2020-2030](#) is the Queensland Government's 10-year vision which will see Queensland renewed and transformed through arts, culture and creativity, with a focus on growing a strong and sustainable sector that can adapt to meet audience demand, embrace innovative delivery models, attract investors and build financial sustainability.

Creative Together priorities:

- Elevate First Nations arts
- Activate Queensland's local places and global digital spaces
- Drive social change across the state
- Strengthen Queensland communities
- Share our stories and celebrate our storytellers.

The Queensland Government's \$22.5 million [Arts and Cultural Recovery Package](#) underpins *Creative Together* and supports the Roadmap's first two-year action plan, *Sustain 2020-2022*, focus on stabilising Queensland's arts companies, securing jobs for artists and arts workers, and delivering COVID-safe cultural experiences to Queensland audiences.

What is the Indigenous Regional Arts Development Program (IRADF)?

Queensland Government's Backing Indigenous Arts (BIA) initiative aims to build sustainable and ethical Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts industries.

The Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund (IRADF), part of the BIA initiative, is a partnership between the Queensland Government, through Arts Queensland, the Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) and fifteen Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils and host organisations throughout Queensland.

IRADF provides funding for arts and cultural activities that support:

- **Cultural Maintenance** - keeping culture strong through passing on of cultural knowledge and practice by recognised, respected Elders, leaders and peers.
- **Arts Development** – community and individuals' arts practice, participation and skills development.

How much can you apply for?

Eligible councils and host organisations can apply for funding of up to \$25,000. Applicants may consider applying for funding above \$25,000 where they can provide strong justification, including:

- confirmed financial cash contribution from the applicant, or they have secured partners who are investing in their local IRADF program (other than Arts Queensland)
- they can demonstrate capacity for exceptional delivery of IRADF objectives.

Who can apply?

The following Queensland Indigenous Councils and host organisations are eligible to apply:

- Aurukun Shire Council
- Cherbourg Historical Precinct Group Inc.
- Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council
- HopeVale Arts and Cultural Centre
- Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council
- Lockhart River Arts Indigenous Corporation
- Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council
- Mirndiyan Gununa Aboriginal Corporation
- Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council
- Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council
- Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council
- Pormpuraaw Art and Cultural Centre Inc.
- Torres Strait Regional Authority
- Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council
- Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
- Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

If your community is not listed above, Arts Queensland encourages you to apply to the [Regional Arts Development Fund](#).

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for IRADF 2020-21 all applicants must:

- have an active Australian Business Number (ABN) that is in the name of the applicant
- have satisfied the reporting requirements of any previous Arts Queensland funding
- be one of the 16 listed eligible Councils or host organisations to be considered for IRADF funding

Applications will be deemed **ineligible** if:

- they are submitted after the closing date
- they are incomplete or do not contain all relevant support material
- the activities to be funded occur outside the IRADF funding period
- the application is seeking support for activities that are already funded by Arts Queensland
- you/your organisation have any outstanding Arts Queensland reporting.

Queensland Government Commitments

Arts Queensland is committed to realising the ambitions of the *Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Economic Participation Framework*, the *Queensland Multicultural Policy*, the *Queensland Youth Strategy* and the *National Arts Disability Strategy*. Applications that include the following target groups as creators, participants or audiences will strengthen the implementation of Queensland Government commitments:

- older people (over 55 years old)
- Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- Australian South Sea Islander peoples
- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- young people
- people with a disability
- LGBTIQ+.

In addition to engaging local communities, applicants are encouraged to explore how IRADF funded activities could engage these specific target groups.

When are applications due?

- IRADF closes for applications **4pm Friday, 8 January 2021**
- Applications must be submitted online by 4pm on the closing date.
- Retrospective funding requests will not be considered.
- Funded activities must not commence until signed Funding Agreements have been returned and accepted by Arts Queensland.

The IRADF funding period is March 2021 – August 2021 (6 months).

These guidelines should be read in conjunction with the [IRADF Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).

Assessment criteria

All applications are assessed by an independent panel of peer assessors who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. When preparing your application, you should address the following assessment criteria:

- 1. Quality**
 - Produces or contributes to high-quality arts and cultural activity for the local community
 - Proven capacity to effectively support and deliver arts and cultural activities
- 2. Reach**
 - Provides access to, and engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and cultural activities for the community, practitioners and participants
 - Demonstrates that cultural knowledge and practice will be passed on in an appropriate way by respected Elders, leaders and peers

3. Impact

- Demonstrates cultural, artistic, social or economic returns on investment
- Supports one or more of the priorities of [Our Future State: Advancing Queensland's Priorities](#), specifically to: Create jobs in a strong economy; Give all our children a great start; Keep Queenslanders healthy; Keep communities safe; and Be a responsive government.

4. Viability

- Evidence of good planning for strong governance and management of IRADF at a local level
- Evidence of partnership capacity with partners, including business and government.

Please note, in addition to the applicant's ability to meet the assessment criteria, the following elements will also be considered:

- The diverse nature of Queensland communities
- Broader Queensland and Indigenous council priorities pertaining to the importance of industry development and community within a region.

How to apply

IRADF applications are managed online through Smarty Grants. You can save and continue working on an application until the round closing date. Visit the following web link to access the IRADF application form:

<https://artsqueensland.smartygrants.com.au/IRADF2020-21>.

Emailed or hand-delivered applications cannot be accepted.

For support with technical issues related to the online application, please contact an Arts Queensland Grants Officer on telephone (07) 3034 4016 or toll free 1800 175 531.

Incomplete or late applications will be deemed ineligible and will not be assessed. You will receive an email notifying you that your application has been received. If you have not received an acknowledgment within 10 days of submitting your application please contact an Arts Grant Officer on telephone (07) 3034 4016 or toll free 1800 175 531.

What to attach

An application must include a completed online application form and all appropriate support material including:

- CVs for all key artists and arts workers
- Letters of support from partners or stakeholders
- Evidence of consultation with Elders and/or traditional owners where relevant
- Copies of council / organisation strategic plans that demonstrate local priorities
- Quotes from suppliers for items over \$500.

How is my application assessed?

IRADF applications are checked for eligibility by Arts Queensland staff. All eligible applications are assessed by members of an independent Indigenous peer assessment panel (each application receives at least three assessments). The panel will assess your application against the assessment criteria and moderate with consideration of available funding, balance across IRADF objectives, geographic spread, and government priorities. The panel makes funding recommendations which are approved by the Minister for the Arts.

Applicants must not assume they will receive the amount of funding requested, or enter into commitments based on that assumption before receiving formal notification of the outcome of their funding request. Nor should applicants assume that they will receive the same level of funding again in the future.

Acquitting an approved application

To acquit the grant, you must provide Arts Queensland with an outcome report within 30 business days of completing the project or program.

The acquittal document will be submitted via SmartyGrants by the required due date. Your acquittal documentation will be assessed by an Arts Queensland staff member and you may be asked to provide further information about the acquittal. Arts Queensland may request the return of grant funds if they are unspent at the time of acquittal, or due to breaches of the funding Guidelines.

Important information for all applicants

Please refer to the document [Important Information for Applicants](#), which provides information on:

- information privacy and Right to Information
- process for feedback and review of decisions for unsuccessful applications
- agreements and contracts, acknowledgements, reporting and acquittal requirements for successful applications.

Translating and interpreting services

Applications may be submitted in any language. If you have difficulty understanding this information and would like to talk to a staff member in your first language:

- telephone the Translating and Interpreting Service on 13 14 50 during business hours
- contact Arts Queensland about speaking with an interpreter.

Contact us

Marina Novak, Policy Officer Partnerships, Arts Queensland, on telephone (07) 3034 4065 or email marina.novak@arts.qld.gov.au.

Arts Queensland general enquiries telephone (07) 3034 4016 or toll free on 1800 175 531 or email reception@arts.qld.gov.au.