

Who can apply?

Victorian based creative practitioners and collectives of all disciplines, career stages and income levels may apply.

Creative Victoria will only accept one application per applicant (including under auspice) in each funding round. Auspice bodies may apply on behalf of multiple applicants.

Applications from Aboriginal and diverse creative practitioners are encouraged.

Who CANNOT apply?

Applications from non-Victorian based individuals, collectives or creative organisations / enterprises will not be accepted.

Individuals or collectives in receipt of funding from Australian based like-programs (eg Myer Foundation or the Australia Council for the Arts Fellowship programs) will be ineligible for support through the Creators Fund. Funding cannot be applied towards research or practice aligned to University or TAFE courses.

What kind of activity is eligible for funding?

Eligible activities include:

- Creative research and development
- Project development
- Skill and practice development, including residencies

It is expected that successful applicants will have minimal ongoing commitments (eg full- or part-time work or pre-committed performance/exhibition outcomes) when undertaking their Creators Fund activity.

When do applications open?

Thursday 17 August 2017.

When do applications close?

5pm, Thursday 7 September 2017.

How is my application assessed?

There are two stages to the assessment process:

Stage 1 – The industry peer assessment panel will assess your application against the selection criteria (available in the Guidelines from mid-July) and determine a shortlist of applicants to move through to Stage 2.

Stage 2 – Shortlisted applicants will be required to attend (in person or via Skype) an interview with the industry peer assessment panel and Creative Victoria staff to discuss their application in more detail.

Following interviews, recommendations from the panel will be presented to the Minister for Creative Industries for approval.

Who will assess my application?

A panel of creative industry representatives will be engaged to assess your application. These same panel members will participate in the shortlist interview process, at which stage they will be joined by a Creative Victoria representative.

How long can my activity go for?

Between three to six months.

Can I apply for the creative development of my current project?

No. The Creators Fund is for the investigation and development of ideas not yet in development. If you are applying for project specific funding, including creative development, please apply through to the VicArts Grants program.

Can I undertake other work during my Creators Fund activity?

It is expected that successful applicants will have minimal ongoing commitments (eg full- or part-time work or pre-committed performance/exhibition outcomes) when undertaking their Creators Fund activity.

This may be negotiated with Creative Victoria staff as it is acknowledged that this is not always possible due to prior commitments.

How much funding can I apply for?

Each applicant's funding level will vary based on their idea, creative practice and need. It is anticipated that financial support will be in the realm of \$20,000 to \$50,000 for between three to six months of activity.

As a guide, indicative financial support may be between:

- For 3 months of activity: \$20,000 - \$30,000
- For 6 months of activity : \$30,000 - \$50,000

All creative practitioners involved in the activity must be paid.

When will I be paid?

If successful, you will be paid the full amount once details of your contract have been negotiated and signed and a completed invoice is received by Creative Victoria.

How many grants are available?

There is no set number of grants available. This is due to the expected variability of funding applications and amounts requested.

What is the assessment criteria?

The assessment criteria will be available as part of the Guidelines in mid-July.

What can I do during my Creators Fund period?

The program is open and flexible to suit the needs of a variety of creative practitioners. You can do anything as long as you can demonstrate that it will support your career advancement or contribute to new work.

You are not expected to produce a product or tangible outcome from this period. The Creators Fund is to support research and development.

In addition to your research and development, recipients will be offered the opportunity to:

- present to Creative Victoria staff and stakeholders articulating how time spent will contribute to you next project and/or career advancement.
- share and connect with stakeholders, peers and nominated individuals to explore career advancement possibilities.

A written acquittal must be submitted upon program completion.