

VACMA Bursary Scheme Q&A

Is the bursary scheme subject of the same application process and timelines as the Open Fund schemes?

Applicants will be notified within 8 weeks of the deadline on the outcome of their application

Creative Scotland's Open Fund has no deadlines.

Hello! are the images/photographs included in our application directly related to our future proposal project? e.g. photographs of initial ideas or mock ups? or photographs of just previous work

The images should back up what you want to do - so if you are looking to move into a different media the images should back this up. Sometimes it is helpful to include mock ups or sketches for some of the images to show the experimentation but it is also helpful to see recent completed works too to understand your current practice.

Are there specific requirements for a collaborative project application?

You can apply to collaborate with another artist. If you are submitting a joint proposal someone will need to take the lead- on a practical level this means that they would receive and manage the funds. If you are applying separately (to the same scheme or to different schemes) you should assess the risk around this approach and explain the impact it would have if one of the applications is unsuccessful. The bursary amount is fixed.

Hello, can you apply for the bursary to develop an application for the Open Project?

The VACMA programme is focussed on supporting your creative development so it wouldn't be a priority to support somebody to develop a funding application to Creative Scotland - but it can help you develop work that you could then develop further with CS support

Can you apply for funding one project that sits within a larger project (not yet funded)?

You can apply for a project that sits within a larger project but you should be clear about the activity that is being supported through this fund.

Do you fund artist's time to experiment? Or is it just for physical things like materials and exhibition costs?

We are trying not to be prescriptive about how the money can be used but we want to understand how it will support your creative development. For example, this could be a period of research or reflection, experimentation, skills development, or mentorship. You can also purchase equipment as long as you are clear how it will support your creative development and experimentation.

How detailed does your budget summary need to be, and are we required to give feedback after the project?

Budgets: we are just asking for a summary of the overall income of your project/activity including any additional funds and in-kind contributions.

Reporting: yes we ask for an end of project report

Guidelines state that a contribution from the gallery will be needed, what kind of contribution is appropriate?

We are committed to see artists properly paid for their time so if a gallery is asking you to present work for them, we would expect to see costs around this supported

<http://www.payingartists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Paying-Artists-Exhibition-Payment-Guide.pdf>

Can I apply for funding to support a community project where I would be the lead artist/maker - the funding would cover my time to set up the project and send materials/instructions to participants across the country and then bring the work together to document and exhibit the work at the end of the project?

For community projects it should be clearly part of your participative practice and self-initiated. This fund is not for organisations to get you to find your own money to deliver their ambitions. You should also consider how this is developmental and what the impact is on you rather than the 'communities'

We are hoping to apply for funding for a project in Dundee but we don't live there are we eligible to apply for the Dundee deadline?

You should apply to your local scheme the guidelines state that 'you need to live, work or maintain a studio space in the local authority you are applying to'

Does doing a project in the area not count as working there?

Not generally but you could contact the Dundee Scheme for their position. Some LAs are more flexible

Just slightly confusing because the last question of the application form is:
" If you are not resident, please say why you are applying to this scheme in this area."

Some areas are more flexible particularly if there is not a scheme in an adjacent area but generally you should apply where you live as the activity does not have to take place there. If in doubt contact the area you wish to apply to see if they will accept an application. CS funding covers all areas but the partnership money is usually very focussed on that area specifically.

If I were to apply for VACMA to fund education or training to develop a facet of my practice would I need to provide a finished outcome to show how the funding has been used?

The fund is about developing and experimentation. We want to know what has happened with the funds through the End of Project Report. This does not need to be a completed outcome we are interested in the journey.

The COVID-19 situation has encouraged me to consider accelerating my development opportunities, in order to maintain my sustainability. However, the process timescales seem inhibitive, i.e. deadline in February then 8 week waiting time = 6 months delay. Should I consider the Open Fund Sustaining Creative Development option?

If the Open Fund suits your timelines better then you should consider that route. But please note that the Open Fund does have a different application form and process. As Sarah mentioned this has a rolling deadline.