SUPPORTING ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Sector Innovation and Development

The **Sector Innovation and Development** component of *Supporting Artistic Practice* funds Canadian groups, organizations and cultural connectors, for projects targeted towards growing and improving the arts sector. Grants encourage initiatives that strengthen and develop support for Canadian artists.

You can apply for:

* a project grant for a single project
* a composite grant for a 1-3 year grant for multiple projects.

You may be eligible for [Application Assistance](http://canadacouncil.ca/commitments/equity/application-assistance) to pay someone to help you with the application process if you are experiencing difficulty and self-identify as:

* an artist who is Deaf, hard of hearing, has a disability or is living with a mental illness
* a First Nations, Inuit or Métis artist facing language, geographic and/or cultural barriers.

**Grant type** –[project](http://canadacouncil.ca/glossary/project) or [composite](http://canadacouncil.ca/glossary/composite-grant)

Deadline(s) and notification of results – Consult the [Deadlines and Notifications of Results](https://canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/deadlines) page

**Grant amount**

* project requests – normally up to $50,000, exceptional up to $100 000
* composite requests – normally up to $50,000, exceptional up to $100 000 per year (to a maximum of $300 000 over 3 years)

Most grants are no more than $50 000 (or $50 000 per year for composite grants). Higher amounts may be considered for activities that have elevated costs due to the duration of the project, number of people involved, and/or technical or other requirements related to the artistic practice.

**Application limits**

* You can apply to this component twice per year (1 March – 28/29 February), but only 1 request can be for a composite grant. (Please see the [Deadlines and Notifications of Results](https://canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/deadlines) page for the Sector Innovation and Development composite deadline).
* For project requests in the component: Each year (1 March – 28/29 February), you can receive grants totalling a maximum of $100 000.
* You can apply for a composite grant at this year's deadline only if some of the projects included in your composite application start before March 1st next year.
* If you currently receive funding from a Sector Innovation and Development composite grant:
  + you can apply for a Sector Innovation and Development project grant **only if the activity does not overlap in time** or if the project is for an exceptional initiative that falls outside of the type or scope of activities included in your composite grant. Before applying, you are encouraged to contact a program officer to confirm eligibility of the project.
  + you cannot apply for a new Sector Innovation and Development composite grant that starts before the end date of your current composite grant; they cannot overlap in time.
* You are allowed to submit another application before you have completed the projects or provided the final reports of previously funded grants.

There are [limits on the number of applications you can submit](http://canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/guide/apply-to-programs/annual-application-limits)to the Canada Council for the Arts per year.

# I want to apply – What else do I need to know?

If you have not already done so, you must register in the [portal](https://apply.canadacouncil.ca/Default2.aspx) at least 30 days before you want to apply.

# Applicants - Who can apply?

Types of potential applicants to this component include:

* cultural connectors
* artistic groups and collectives
* architectural groups and collectives
* artistic organizations
* national arts service organizations
* support groups, organizations and shared platforms
* festivals, presenters and touring networks
* book and magazine publishers
* agencies and management service organizations

Your eligibility to apply to this component is determined by the approved profile created in the portal.

To be eligible for a composite grant, you must have received at least 1 composite or 2 project grantsin the last 5 years from the Canada Council. This excludes grants from the following components and programs: *Professional Development, Small-Scale Activities, Travel, Representation and Promotion, Translation, Digital Strategy Fund, Leadership for Change: Grants for Organizational Development, Flying Squad,* *Visiting Foreign Artists, Creation Accelerator, Frankfurt initiatives, Digital Originals and the COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund.* (Only Agents and Managers can include the following programs/components in their calculations of 2 grants in 5 years: *Audience and Market Development Travel Grants* and *Representation and Promotion*).

Organizations presently receiving core grants from the National Arts Service Organizations component of *Supporting Artistic Practice* can apply for research projects only. Other organizations presently receiving core grants can submit project applications for exceptional, non-recurring initiatives that fall outside of the type or scope of activities usually undertaken by the organization. You are responsible for demonstrating the exceptional nature of your project. Organizations presently receiving core grants are not eligible for composite grants.

Magazine publishers: your application will not be eligible if your organization does not pay fees or royalties according to standards of the arts practice and has not fulfilled all contractual obligations related to copyright payments as of the application deadline.

# Activities - What can I apply for?

The planning, development and/or implementation of projects that strengthen the arts sector, including but not limited to:

* representation or management services for a stable roster of 3 or more Canadian artists, groups or organizations
* production, management and platform services for a number of Canadian artists, groups or organizations
* publishing critical and interpretive magazines that support 1 or more artistic practice
* developing new approaches to organizational models and management practices
* opportunities for shared learning and networking, resource exchange or other forms of collaboration (including mentorship programs)
* organizing conferences, symposia and workshops
* sector research
* implementing and adapting to new technologies
* organizations not presently receiving core funding and that have been validated as belonging to a designated priority group can apply for organizational capacity-building projects. The designated priority groups include applicants from culturally diverse, Deaf and disability, official language minority, and Indigenous communities.

Activities must have an impact in the arts sector beyond a personal gain or benefit to your group or organization. Designated priority applicants applying for organizational capacity-building projects do not have to demonstrate this larger impact.

**You can’t apply for** creation and presentation activities, activities that occur before the deadline date, those that receive funding from another Canada Council program or those on the [general list of ineligible activities](http://canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/guide/apply-to-programs/general-list-of-ineligible-activities).

# Expenses - What is eligible?

* Direct costs related to the activities

# Assessment - How are decisions made?

Your application to the **Sector Innovation and Development** component of *Supporting Artistic Practice* will be assessed by a [peer assessment committee](http://canadacouncil.ca/glossary/peer-assessment-committee) representing a discipline or group of disciplines on the following weighted criteria, and must receive a minimum score **in each category** to be considered for a grant:

**Relevance** **50%** (minimum score of 35 out of 50)

* The project rationale, including the context for your proposed activities or services
* The potential for innovation and/or collaboration in your proposed activities or services

**Impact** **30%** (minimum score of 15 out of 30)

* The potential of the project to strengthen and develop artistic practice and/or the arts sector and, in the case of capacity building projects, the organization itself
* Accessibility of project activities or services to a broad representation of your artistic community, particularly with regards to the engagement and inclusion of [Aboriginal Peoples](http://canadacouncil.ca/glossary/aboriginal-peoples), [culturally diverse groups](http://canadacouncil.ca/glossary/culturally-diverse-groups), people who are [Deaf or have disabilities](http://canadacouncil.ca/glossary/deaf-and-disability), and [official language minority communities](http://canadacouncil.ca/glossary/official-language-minority-communities)

**Feasibility** **20%** (minimum score of 10 out of 20)

* The capacity and experience you and your partners have to undertake the project
* A reasonable budget, including other revenue sources and efficient use of resources

# Required information and support material - What you need to apply

Once registered in the portal, you will need to provide information about:

* your project and its potential impact
* potential beneficiaries
* relevant past experience, if any
* the key people leading the project
* the partners involved, if any
* your timeline
* your budget

You will also need to include:

* biographies of any consultants, workshop leaders or other key people leading the project
* confirmation of support or involvement from any project partners
* executive summaries or recommendations from relevant reports (feasibility studies, needs analysis, survey results, etc.), if any
* for initiatives that are new to you – up to 3 letters of support
* for agents and managers – a roster of represented artists, groups or organizations, with gross bookings
* for print magazine publishers – 7 copies of 2 magazine issues published in the last year (if submitting by mail, they must be postmarked on or before the deadline date)
* for electronic magazine publishers – website address or PDF versions of 2 magazine issues published in the last year

# Grant payment and final reports

If your application is successful, the first step in receiving your grant payment is to complete the Grant Acceptance Form. Click [here](http://canadacouncil.ca/funding/grants/guide/if-you-receive-a-grant) for more information on the responsibilities of grant recipients.

A final report will be due 3 months after you complete the project.

# Contact information

You are encouraged to speak with a [Canada Council Program Officer](mailto:supportingartisticpractice@canadacouncil.ca) at least two weeks prior to the deadline before submitting an application to this component for the first time.

PREVIEW: Application Form

This is not an official application form. You must use the portal to apply.

Use simple text formatting if you prepare your application outside of the portal. Formatted text uses additional characters, and some formatting may be lost when copied over.

mandatory question = required

## GRANT DESCRIPTION

1. **Give your application a name.** (approximately 10 words)mandatory question

The name you provide is for your reference and will identify this grant application in your dashboard.

1. **For groups and organizations, provide the name of the contact person responsible for this application.**
2. **Provide a one-sentence summary of your proposed project.** If possible, use the format ACTIVITY and DATES. (approximately 25 words)mandatory question

For example, “To offer a mentorship program to emerging artists from day/month to day/month.”

This summary will be used in the Canada Council’s official reporting.

1. **Start date**mandatory question

This date must be after the deadline date.

1. **End date**mandatory question
2. **Grant type**mandatory question

🞆 **Project** 🞆 **Composite (spring deadline only)**

Composite grants are available to applicants who are currently receiving composite grants or who have received at least 1 composite or 2 project grantsin the last 5 years from the Canada Council. This excludes grants from the following components and programs: *Professional Development, Small-Scale Activities, Travel, Representation and Promotion, Translation Digital Strategy Fund, Leadership for Change: Grants for Organizational Development, Flying Squad,* *Visiting Foreign Artists, Creation Accelerator, Frankfurt initiatives, Digital Originals and the COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund.*

1. **What art form(s), style(s), genre(s) and/or expression(s) are most relevant to this application?** (approximately 25 words)mandatory question

Some examples include: hip hop, experimental music, theatre for young audiences, throat singing, documentary film, fine craft, new media, circus aerial acrobatics, transdisciplinary arts, Deaf theatre.

This information helps the Canada Council collect examples of art forms and practices in Canada and will not be used for assessing your application.

1. **Describe your proposed activities or services (including timeline), and explain why you wish to undertake them. What needs or gaps are being filled? Who will be the primary beneficiaries? Refer to any research or reports that support undertaking these activities or services.** (Project – approximately 750 words; Composite – approximately 1000 words)mandatory question

**Organizations currently receiving core (operating) grants must explain how the proposed activities or services are exceptional, non-recurring initiatives that fall outside of the type or scope of regular activities.**

1. **How will your activities or services:** (approximately 500 words)mandatory question

* strengthen and develop artistic practice and/or the arts sector?
* benefit a broad representation of your artistic community, particularly with regards to the engagement and inclusion of Aboriginal Peoples, culturally diverse groups, people who are Deaf or have disabilities, and official language minority communities?

1. **Briefly describe the past experience you or your partner(s) have, or how you feel you are ready, to undertake these activities.** (approximately 250 words)mandatory question
2. **If your proposed activity touches upon Indigenous traditional knowledge, linguistic or cultural intellectual property, please describe your relationship to this content and how appropriate protocols are/will be observed or addressed.** (approximately 100 words)
3. **For Agents and Managers: Please provide a brief summary of your business model. (approximately 250 words)**
4. **If there is anything that has not been asked that is essential to understanding your application, provide it here.** (approximately 250 words)

Do not use this space to provide additional information related to earlier questions.

1. **If you have applied to a different component for overlapping activities or expenses, please indicate the component and submission date.** (approximately 10 words)

## BUDGET AND APPENDICES

1. **Complete the Budget and Appendices document.**mandatory question
2. **Grant amount requested**mandatory question

Normally, up to $50 000 (or $50 000 **per year** for composite grants). Though most grants are no more than $50 000, higher amounts, up to $100 000 may be considered for activities that have elevated costs due to the duration of the project, number of people involved, access support costs, and/or technical or other requirements related to the artistic practice.

This amount must match the requested amount in your completed budget. Do not include expenses that are not eligible in this component.

If successful, you might not be awarded the full amount requested.

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

1. **Attach any biographies of consultants, workshop leaders, or other key people leading the project.**mandatory question

Maximum of 1 page per biography

1. **Attach information about the partners, along with confirmation of their support or involvement, if applicable.**
2. **Attach executive summaries or recommendations from relevant reports (feasibility studies, needs analysis, survey results, etc.), if applicable.**

Maximum of 2 documents (5 pages each).

1. **For initiatives that are new to you, attach a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 3 letters of support.**

Letters of support must:

support the need and value of the project

be written by representatives from Arts Service Organizations or professionals from the community who will benefit from the project

be a maximum of 1 page each

1. **Attach a 1-page project schedule demonstrating the steps that you will go through to complete your project.**
2. **For agents and managers only:**

**Provide a roster of represented artists, groups or organizations, with gross bookings** **and number of years that the artist has been on the roster.**

For each artist, group or organization, provide their name, their genre/style, whether they are Canadian or non-Canadian and their gross bookings.

## SUPPORT MATERIALmandatory question

1. **Print magazine publishers must submit 7 copies of 2 different magazine issues published in the last year**.

**Electronic magazine publishers must provide 2 magazine issues published in the last year, by web link (hyperlink) or PDF.**

The support material you submit will be retained with your application until deleted as per Canada Council’s Retention Policy, with the exception of print magazine issues. Upon your consent, these will be donated, in accordance with copyright laws as per Canada Council’s Retention Policy.

Support material MUST be postmarked on or before the deadline date.