

About the Grant

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Grant Information

This funding program supports music businesses and organisations with a track record of delivering significant outcomes for contemporary music in NSW. It offers grants to support industry-led programs and resources that build the capacity of artists, industry professionals and music businesses, address best practice and emerging trends, promote music in NSW and deliver research and advocacy.

Funding up to \$150,000 can support project costs relating to:

- salaries, wages and fees for staff, researchers, consultants, industry professionals and artists
- digital platforms, online infrastructure, software and AI tools
- venue hire, catering and production costs
- travel and accommodation costs
- marketing and promotion
- administrative costs.

Applicants must provide a cash co-contribution of at least 30% of the overall project budget.

Key dates:

- Applications Open: 20 August 2026
- Applications Close: 21 September 2026 at 2pm
- Activity Dates: The project cannot start before 7 December 2026 and must be completed by 31 December 2027.

Sound NSW Support

Find the answers to frequently asked questions [here](#).

Sound NSW staff are here to help you and can be contacted between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) via:

- Telephone: James Sherley, Funding Coordinator (02) 8276 8698
- Email: info@sound.nsw.gov.au
- Schedule an online meeting to speak to Sound NSW staff using the link to [Microsoft Bookings](#)

Sound NSW Updates

Do you wish to receive updates about other grant opportunities, initiatives or events from Sound NSW?

*

☐ Yes

☐ No

Eligibility

* indicates a required field

Eligibility Requirements

This program is open to music businesses or organisations.

Funding recipients must:

- be currently based in NSW *or* deliver a significant contribution to the NSW contemporary music sector
- be an incorporated entity or trust (including a trust with a corporate or individual trustee) and hold an Australian Business Number (ABN), Australian Company Number (ACN), *or*
- be registered with NSW Fair Trading under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 or the Co-operatives National Law (NSW) set out in the appendix to the Co-operatives (Adoption of National Law) Act 2012.

Note: For the purpose of this program contemporary music refers to artists and acts performing new and original music.

Business or organisations with a primary focus in the below artforms are not supported through this program:

- experimental music and sound art
- contemporary classical, opera, choral and ensembles
- music theatre
- working in and with community music groups

These applicants should refer to [Create NSW's Arts and Cultural Funding Program \(ACFP\) guidelines](#).

Is your organisation based in NSW or delivers a significant contribution to the NSW contemporary music sector? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

This is at the time of application.

Does your organisation have an active ABN with the Entity Type as one of Australian Private Company, Australian Public Company, Other Incorporated entity, Co-operative or Trust? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

This is at the time of application.

Are you providing at least a 30% co-contribution to the overall project? *

☐ Yes ☐ No

Your budget on page 7 will need to demonstrate this.

Unable to continue

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Based on your response to the above Eligibility questions, you are unable to continue to apply. Refer to the guidelines for more details.

Sound NSW staff are here to help you and can be contacted between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) via:

- Telephone: James Sherley, (02) 8276 8698
- Email: info@sound.nsw.gov.au

Eligibility Confirmation

Please declare that this application meets the eligibility criteria:

I confirm that I've read the guidelines and the information supporting our eligibility is accurate *

☐ Yes

Applicant Details

* indicates a required field

Does the applicant organisation have an Australian Business Number (ABN)? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity Name	
ABN Status	
Entity Type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	More information
ACNC Registration	
Tax Concessions	
Main Business Location	

Must be an ABN.

Organisation Details

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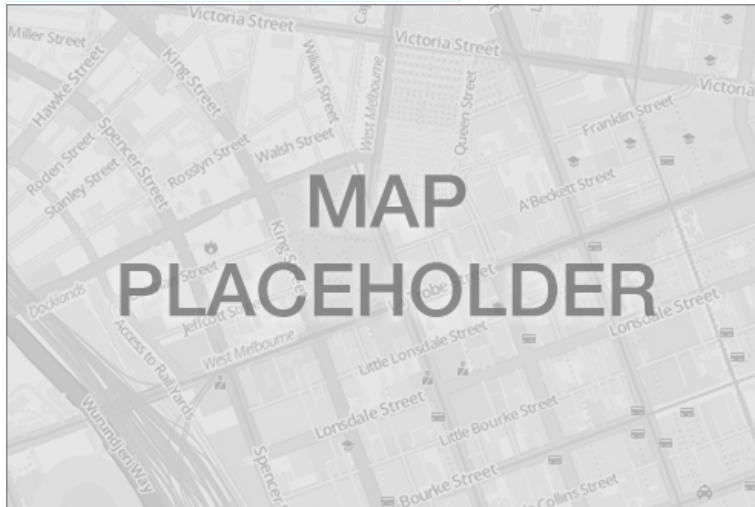
Organisation Name *

Organisation Name

Please use the organisation's full name. Make sure you provide the same name that is listed in official documentation such as that with the ABR, ACNC or ATO.

Primary Address

Address



Postal Address

Address

Primary Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.
Country code not required, area code for landlines is required.

Other Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.
Country code not required, area code for landlines is required.

Email Address *

Must be an email address.

Website

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Must be a URL.

Organisation Contact Person

Name *

Title

First Name

Last Name

This is the person we will correspond with about this grant.

Position *

e.g., Manager, Board Member or Fundraising Coordinator.

Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Country code not required, area code for landlines is required.

Email *

Must be an email address.

This is the address we will use to correspond with you about this grant.

About your Organisation

* indicates a required field

Tell us about your organisation, your role in the NSW contemporary music sector, and your experience relevant to the project *

Word count:

Must be no more than 400 words.

Provide details of recent key achievements and how they have delivered significant benefit to the contemporary music sector in NSW *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Application Details

* indicates a required field

Title *

Word count:

Must be no more than 25 words.

Provide a name for your initiative. Your title should be short but descriptive.

Brief description *

Word count:

Must be no more than 50 words.

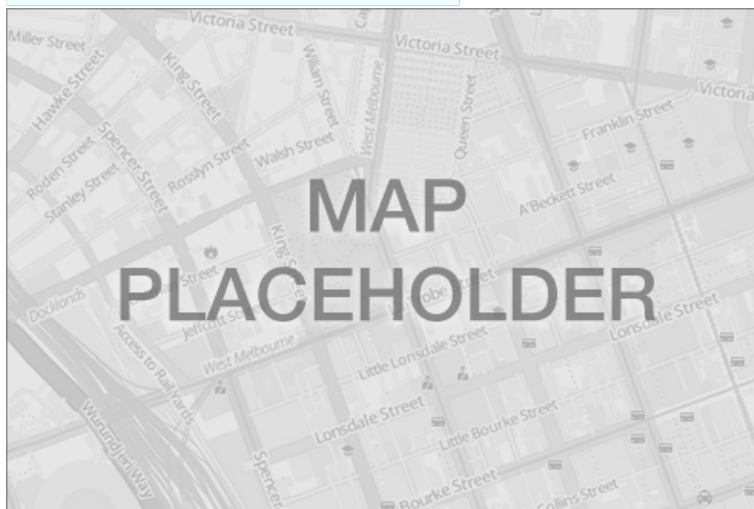
Include a brief summary of who will benefit from this initiative, what activities you will do and what outcomes you expect from your activities.

Anticipated start date *

Anticipated end date *

Primary location of your initiative

Address



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Primary location does not need to be a specific address, and can be postcode, suburb, state, etc. If delivered online, please specify the area of focus for delivery.

The start or end date you have entered makes this application ineligible

Activity for this program cannot start before 7 December 2026 and must be completed by 31 December 2027. Please include only activity happening within these dates.

About your project

Tell us about your project, the expected outcomes, and how it will provide significant benefit to the contemporary music sector in NSW *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Outline the need for the project and any evidence you have to support this *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

Alignment with program objectives

Your project must align with at least one of the program objectives. From the list below select the objectives that best aligns with your project. You can select a maximum of three. *

- ☐ Improve industry standards
- ☐ Support industry-led research and advocacy
- ☐ Develop skills and capacity for artists and acts
- ☐ Upskill industry professionals and music businesses in best practice and emerging trends
- ☐ Promote NSW music and increase engagement with local music through content creation, collaboration and partnerships
- ☐ Leverage technology solutions to enhance collaboration and innovation
- ☐ Strengthen music communities

Select a maximum of three

Tell us how your project delivers the program objectives you have selected *

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Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Diversity, access and inclusion

Sound NSW is committed to a diverse contemporary music sector in NSW and encourages projects to actively engage with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, people who identify as women and non-binary, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people from Western Sydney and regional and remote communities.

The data will be used to help us understand the contemporary music industry and support future diversity initiatives. For more information, please refer to the Privacy Notice available [here](#).

Please indicate if your project will be targeted towards any of these groups:

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities *

☐ Yes

☐ No

LGBTIQA+ *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Women and non-binary *

☐ Yes

☐ No

People living in Western Sydney *

☐ Yes

☐ No

People with disability and/or who are d/Deaf *

☐ Yes

☐ No

People living in Regional NSW *

☐ Yes

☐ No

People from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds *

☐ Yes

☐ No

People under the age of 25 *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Outline how your project considers these groups in the planning and delivery of the project *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Sustainability

Outline how you are considering climate sustainability in the planning and delivery of the initiative

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Activities and Events

* indicates a required field

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Activities

Please detail the activities expected to be completed as a result of the funding, including the location and dates.

If you have one activity taking place in multiple places, you can either list each location as a separate activity (e.g. Workshops in Dubbo; Workshops in Tamworth, with a specific location attached to each), or you can list one activity with a generalised location (e.g. "Sydney CBD, Western Sydney, Regional NSW").

Activity	Location	Expected start date	Expected end date	Explanatory notes
Activity type, eg Workshops	Of the activity (suburb, state or country)	Activity start date	Activity end date	Add notes if you need to provide more context.

Activities per Region

How many activities or events are planned to take place in the following regions?

Enter 0 (zero) for any that are not applicable.

Sydney (excluding Western Sydney) *

Must be a number.

Western Sydney *

Must be a number.

Regional and remote NSW *

Must be a number.

Outside NSW (excluding international) *

Must be a number.

International *

Must be a number.

Attendance at Activities

How many people do you expect to attend your activities and events?

Audience *

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Must be a number.

Eg attendance at events, conferences, seminars

Participants *

Must be a number.

How many people actively participated in your project (eg participation in workshops, classes, mentorships, skills development programs, etc)

Artist Engagement

How many artists or music industry professionals will you engage with this project?

NSW Artists *

An artist is any musician that is part of this activity.

Artists from outside NSW *

An artist is any musician that is part of this activity.

NSW music industry professionals *

A music industry professional includes (but is not limited to) artist managers, producers, publicists, content creators, record label staff, facilitators, etc that are directly involved in this activity.

Music industry professionals from outside NSW *

A music industry professional includes (but is not limited to) artist managers, producers, publicists, content creators, record label staff, facilitators, etc that are directly involved in this activity.

Budget

* indicates a required field

Budget Information

Funding up to \$150,000 can support project costs relating to:

- salaries, wages and fees for staff, researchers, consultants, industry professionals and artists
- digital platforms, online infrastructure, software and AI tools
- venue hire, catering and production costs
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Total Amount Requested

*

\$

What is the total financial support you are requesting under this grant?

Income

In the table below list all income items relevant to the project, including cash and in-kind.

Include the amount requested from this grant program, and ensure it matches the Total Amount Requested included above.

All amounts should be GST exclusive.

Income Type	Income amount (ex GST)	Status	Notes
This Grant			
Government Grants			
Philanthropic Grants			
Donations			
Earned Income			
Other Income			
Cash co-contribution			
In-kind contribution			
Other			

Total Income Amount ex GST

This number/amount is calculated.

Expenditure

In the table below list all costs associated with your proposed activity. Use the 'Funding Source' column to indicate whether the cost will be covered by the Sound NSW funding request.

All items should be GST exclusive.

Expenditure Type	Expenditure amount (ex. GST)	Funding Source	Notes

Total Project Cost

Applicant Co-contribution

Applicant Co-contribution %

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This number/amount is calculated.

What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your project?

This number/amount is calculated.

Total Project Cost - Total Amount Requested.

This number/amount is calculated.

A co-contribution under 0.3 (30%) may make this application ineligible.

Project Quotes

Please attach, as a single document, quotes as relevant to the project *

Attach a file:

Supporting Documentation

* indicates a required field

Support Material

As part of your application you will need to provide the following support material:

- examples of previous projects
- confirmation from key personnel and partners involved in the project
- letters of support.

You can provide additional material that helps support your application, including artistic support material, confirmation letters, letters of support, evaluations, reports and other material you feel is relevant to the project.

Support material can be provided as links or uploaded documents. Please note all attachments must be provided at the time your application is submitted.

Samples can be submitted as:

- Audio/visual - maximum 3 examples of 5 minutes each, sent as links
- Written material - maximum 10 pages (provided as one document)
- Still images - maximum 10 images (provided as one document)

Restrictions on Attachments

- Files must not exceed 25MB
- Please provide attachments in .pdf format where possible.
- Zip files cannot be accepted.

Note: Assessors will not view or consider support materials that exceed the above limits.

Examples of previous relevant projects

As a link or attachment, provide examples of previous relevant projects. Please select how you will be submitting the material.

☐ Links/URLs

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- ☐ Uploading files
- ☐ Both of the above

Provide links and passwords to any externally hosted examples of previous projects relevant to this application.

Note: Make sure the link/URL works and passwords are correct and remain accessible for the next 3 months during the assessment period. Assessors will only be able to spend a limited time looking through links, so please ensure you choose the most relevant and strongest examples.

Website	Password	Description
Must be a URL.		

Attach, as a single document, examples of previous projects relevant to this application. *

Attach a file:

Confirmation from key people

Attach, as a single document, the confirmations from key people involved in the project. *

Attach a file:

Provide as a single document

Letters of support

Attach, as a single document, letters from industry, community, previous participants, etc that show support for your project or work. *

Attach a file:

Provide as one document

Other relevant documents

Attach, as a single document, any other documents, reports, images or samples that help support this application.

Attach a file:

A maximum of 3 files may be attached.

Declaration and Authorisation

* indicates a required field

Disclaimer

The applicant acknowledges and agrees that:

- Changes to the application and any additional materials cannot be submitted after the advertised closing date and time.
- Sound NSW has the right to investigate any information provided in this application and/or to request additional information where Sound NSW deems it necessary for the purpose of assessing your application or administering the Program.
- Sound NSW may re-open an application after the closing date, provided it doesn't give the applicant an advantage over other applicants.
- Sound NSW staff are not able to provide advice on content or choices required within an application.

Privacy Notice

Sound NSW (part of the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport) is collecting your personal information. Personal information collected is managed in accordance with the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act*.

Sound NSW collect your personal information for the purpose of:

- Assessing your application against the eligibility criteria for the Contemporary Music Development Grants - Industry Development (**Program**) and contacting you to discuss your application;
- If your application is deemed eligible, to manage and administer the Program;
- To monitor and evaluate the Program.

Providing us with your personal information is not required by law. However, if you choose not to provide us with the requested information, Sound NSW will be unable to assess your eligibility for the Program.

Your personal information may be disclosed by Sound NSW:

- In accordance with the requirements of the NSW Government's Grants Administration Guide;
- To comply with our obligations under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act*;
- To comply with an order for the production of documents to Parliament under Standing Order 52.

Otherwise, your personal information will not be provided to a third party without your consent or unless it is authorised by law.

To access or seek amendment of your personal information, or for more information on our privacy obligations, contact the Department's Privacy Officer at information@dciths.nsw.gov.au. For more information about how DCITHS complies with its privacy obligations visit its [website](#).

Use of Information

The applicant acknowledges and agrees that:

- Subject to privacy legislation, if Sound NSW assesses your application as successful, the information contained in this application form may be used for media and communication purposes by Sound NSW and/or the NSW Government.

Declaration

Before you can complete and submit this application, you must accept the following conditions by declaring:

- If an entity is the applicant, I have the authority to complete and submit this application on the entity's behalf.
- All information supplied as part of this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- All activities proposed by this application will be conducted in accordance with applicable law, including but not limited to, complying with Working with Children legislation.
- I acknowledge:
 - funding will not be granted or released if the applicant has outstanding acquittals for this or other projects/programs across Sound NSW or the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport (DCITHS);
 - Sound NSW may withdraw any offer of funding or demand the return of funds already paid if this declaration is found to be incorrect or misleading; and
 - Sound NSW and DCITHS may disclose any information in this application as described in the NSW Government's *Grants Administration Guide*, or according to applicable law.

Authorisation

I agree *

☐ Yes

Name of authorised person *

Title First Name Last Name

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Must be a senior staff member, board member or appropriately authorised volunteer

Position *

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Position held in applicant organisation (e.g. CEO, Treasurer)

Phone number *

Must be an Australian phone number.
We may contact you to verify that this application is authorised
by the applicant organisation

Email *

Must be an email address.