



DUBLIN
NORTH EAST
INNER CITY



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Guidelines for application

What are the Research and Development Awards?

These awards support artists, creative practitioners, and makers to explore new ideas with communities in the North East Inner City (NEIC). They're about testing, learning, experimenting, and building relationships – not about producing a finished piece.

Each award has a total value of €6,000

- **€5,000** is dedicated to you to cover your time, research, and material costs
- **€1,000** is ring-fenced for mentoring support. Successful applicants will be paired with a mentor after consultation with the Community Arts Programme team

These awards are part of the NEIC Community Arts Programme, managed by Create, the national development agency for collaborative arts.

Who Can Apply?

- You must be living or working in the NEIC. Please consult [this list of streets within the area](#) to ensure that you are based in the NEIC
- Projects must be collaborative. Local communities must be active partners, not just audiences
- We particularly welcome applications from artists and communities from under-represented backgrounds

What can the Award Cover?

- Time to research and develop an idea
- Trying new methodologies or approaches
- Developing relationships with communities
- Materials or equipment needed for your research

Note: Mentoring support is managed by the Community Arts Programme team

What We're Looking For

- A clear and strong idea
- Evidence that the community wants to work with you (WhatsApp thread, emails, short letter of support)
- Potential for meaningful collaboration and learning
- A realistic plan for the 6-month timeframe and budget

Key Dates

- Deadline: Monday 27th of October 2025
- Notification of results: 12th November
- Research and Development phase begins: January 2026
- Research and Development period: 6 months
- Sharing of work-in-progress: by June 2026

What do I need to prepare for my application?

The online application form asks for:

- Your contact details and relationship to the NEIC
- A short project proposal explaining your idea, who you'd like to work with, and why (maximum 1800 characters)
- Proposal details (max. 2000 characters)
- Details about the community you want to collaborate with and how they'll be involved (max. 1500 characters)
- A short statement of your mentoring needs - what specific challenges are you facing in your practice or that you foresee in your research and development? (max. 1200 characters)
- A proposed timeline for the work
- A proposed budget breakdown
- Evidence of community support (e.g. email thread, WhatsApp messages, letter of support)
- Samples of previous work (if you have them) - up to 5 images or video links, with a comment explaining each

How to Apply

1. **Read the Guidelines**

2. **Prepare your answers**

You will find a REFERENCE ONLY copy of the application form on the application page, in the weeks in advance of the closing date. You can use this to prepare your answers, to understand the questions you must answer what and supporting materials you must provide. Do not use this reference-only version to apply for the award. Applications received this way will be ineligible.

3. **Gather all Supporting Materials**

Collect together your evidence of community support and samples of previous work (if you have them) This can be loaded directly into the online application form.

4. **Complete your application online**

The online application form is accessible via the link on this page (this will become live in advance of the closing date).

Applications will only be accepted through the online form and all supporting material must be submitted online. You must read the guidelines prior to submission. If you haven't used this online form before, you should familiarise yourself with the online form, and apply early. We advise you to apply more than 48 hours in advance of the closing date, to allow time to deal with any potential issues. If an error or issue occurs, try our troubleshooting tips, also linked on this page. You may contact us and report errors if the suggestions do not help. Please note that it may take up to two working days to resolve issues. The deadline for receipt for applications is **5pm on Monday 27th of October 2025**.