

Easy Read

Arts Council of Wales

Creative Steps

Money to support individuals from diverse backgrounds



This document was written by the **Arts Council of Wales**. It is an easy read version of **Creative Steps** for individuals.

October 2022

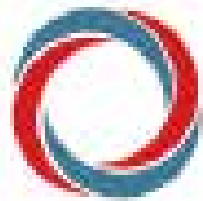
How to use this document



This is an easy read document. But you may still need support to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.



Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. You can check what all the words in blue mean on **page 21**.



Where the document says **we**, this means the **Arts Council of Wales**. For more information contact:

E-mail: creativesteps@arts.wales

Phone: 03301 242733

Website: arts.wales/about-us/contact-us



This document was made into easy read by **Easy Read Wales** using **Photosymbols**. To tell us what you think about this easy read version, please [click here](#).

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Introduction



Creative Steps is the name of a new National Lottery Arts Funding Programme.



The **Creative Steps** is money for individual artists and creative professionals from **diverse** backgrounds.



Diverse means we are not all the same. People come from different backgrounds. They:

- Have different abilities
- Believe different things
- Have different sexual identities
- Make different choices about how they live their lives
- Are different ages.



This document tells you how to apply for this money as an **individual**.



This document will help you to do a good funding application.

About Creative Steps for individuals



We want **Creative Steps** to help artists and creative professionals from **diverse** backgrounds. Including:



- Deaf people and people with hearing loss.



- Disabled people.



- **Neurodiverse** people

Neurodiverse people are people whose minds work in different ways.



- People who have faced **racism** or **discrimination**.

Racism is unfair or nasty treatment of people because they belong to a particular race.



Discrimination is when you are treated badly or unfairly because of your sex, race, religion, disability or sexual identity.



- Anyone from the African, Asian, Caribbean, Hispanic, Eastern European, Latino or Middle Eastern communities in Wales.



- Anyone who sees themselves as being from an ethnic group that is not only White.



- Anyone from Gypsy, Roma, and Traveller Communities.



We know these groups of people have not been able to get our funding easily in the past. They have faced **barriers** and **discrimination**.



We want to provide support to overcome these **barriers**.

The Social Model of Disability



To understand disability we use ideas called **The Social Model of Disability**



The **social model of disability** says that the way society is run can stop disabled people from doing things non-disabled people do.



We believe society needs to change to make sure things within it are run so everybody can use them.

How can we help and what can you apply for?



We want to help you with your ideas. And guide you through applying for **Creative Steps** funding.



We can be flexible about what we give you money for. And how much we can offer you.

We can help you apply for funding by:



- Helping you come up with a plan for the funding that will best meet your needs.



- Supporting you to get help from someone. Like an Arts Council Office or Arts Associate. We could also help you pay for a professional from outside of the Arts Council to help you. For example, someone to help you with marketing or business planning.



- Helping you write your application. For example we can support you to send us your application in a different way – like through a video, instead of in writing.

Your project could be things like:



- Training to develop your creativity. This will not include any formal education such as degree courses.



- Setting up groups with other artists to learn from each other.



- Working with someone to help you work out what steps to take next.



- Making work that will help you develop as an artist.



- Developing skills and resources, like a website, using social media or managing money.

Who can apply

Creative Steps is open to individual artists from **diverse** backgrounds that



- live in Wales.



- are over 18 years old



- are not a full-time student



- already have experience working in the arts for at least 1 year



- have some experience of making and sharing work with others. For example, exhibition or a performance.

We can help you to find out if you are able to apply for **Creative Steps**.

How much can you apply for



You can apply for between **£500** and **£10 thousand**.



Your project can be delivered over 2 years.



If you apply for more than 1 year, we will review your work before we agree to money for the next year.



We will set clear targets for each year. We will talk about if you have met these targets before we can move on.



We cannot promise to give you money after your project ends. You must find other funding from somewhere different to the Arts Council and the National Lottery to continue with your work.



We can fund **most** of your project – 90%.



The remaining money must come from somewhere. Or the rest of the money could be **in-kind** funding.



In-kind funding is resources or support that is worth money. But you do not have to pay cash for it. For example, volunteer time.



If you cannot find funding from somewhere, we may be able to fund the total cost of the project in some cases.



We want everyone to be able to take part in this work. We can support people with additional needs.

We may be able to pay for:



- The time you put in.



- **Access needs.** This is extra money we can give you to support you throughout the project. For example we can support you with things like support workers, specialist equipment and interpreters.



- Costs for childcare or for someone you care for.

How to apply

Important dates



The deadline for the **Creative Steps** funding is the last day of each month.



The first closing date is **31 December 2022**.



If your application is for up to £10 thousand, please leave **6 weeks** after the deadline date to start your project.



This is the time we need to sort out all the applications and get back to everyone.



We cannot fund projects that have already started.



If you are successful, we will support you at every step. We will provide you feedback and tell you about funding options for the future.



If you are not successful, we will tell you why. And what could be done next.

Help with your application



Your project should help you achieve your goal.



Before you write your application, think about:

- How are you doing as an artist now?
- What is your goal?
- And what you need to do to get closer to that goal.



If you need help with your application or if you are not sure, you can contact us.

Our officers will:



- Talk to you about your ideas. And help you plan how to best meet your **creative needs**.



- Help you decide how much money you will need for your project.



- Give support and guidance to make an application.



- Support you to submit your application in a different way to writing it. For example, through a video.

What if I have a question?

You can contact us:

- to check if you are able to get this money
- to check if your project would help us meet our aims
- for help with your application
- for more information about our funding.

You can contact us by:



Email: creativesteps@arts.wales



Phone: 03301 242733
(choose option 1, and option 1 again).



Website form: arts.wales/about-us/contact-us



Twitter: @Arts_Wales_

We will get back to you as soon as we can.

Hard words

Discrimination

Discrimination is when you are treated badly or unfairly because of your sex, race, religion, disability or sexual identity.

Diverse

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- Have different abilities
- Believe different things
- Have different sexual identities
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Neurodivergent

Neurodivergent people are people whose minds work in different ways.

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