

COVID -19 CULTURAL AFFAIRS RELIEF FUNDING: 2019

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How will the Department manage the number of applications being submitted during this period?

The online platform streamlines the process and makes the administrative load easier to deal with. A competent team has been identified to specifically deal with the relief funding and the designated email has been set up for any future communication with the Department around the relief funding.

2. Will the Department accept hard copy (manual) applications?

The Department will accept both emailed and scanned copies of applications for relief funding. The process must ensure that we comply with the safety regulations being implemented to avoid the spread of COVID-19, namely: limiting social interaction and maintaining social distancing. Staff will continue working remotely and ensure the finalisation of the process in a short space of time.

3. Who qualifies to access this fund?

The funding is aimed at assisting artists/creatives, arts training, specifically targeting creatives who do not have a regular salary source and whose sole income source is their creative work.

4. Is this a once-off relief?

Yes, it is. It is meant to assist artists and arts organisations to assist them while they look at ways of adapting and remodelling their art form under the current conditions.

5. How do you decide who qualifies for funding from applications received?

All applications need to comply with the stipulated guidelines and criteria as communicated in the advert, as well as submissions of the required application form together with documentation as requested within the various categories. All applications will be adjudicated by an independent panel consisting of individuals who are knowledgeable of the creative sector and its activities. Decisions will be based on the nature of the request and applicable evidence provided.

6. How would the money be paid over?

Once all the necessary processes and documents have been completed and approved, the funding will be paid into the bank account as per the details that were provided during the application process.

7. What period is the relief funding meant to cover?

The relief funding is meant to cover projects in the current financial year.

8. Are there any reports and financial requirements that must be submitted after funding has been disbursed?

No, there will be no follow up reporting required from individuals or productions. It is a once-off relief support being made.

However, there will be MOAs that will be signed between the department and the successful applicants, in terms of which reporting obligations will need to be complied with.

9. Could DSRAC-supported projects apply for assistance in other categories as well?

Individuals and organisations may apply in any category which they qualify for in terms of the criteria but cannot apply for relief funding in different categories for the same cost item. The applicant must indicate the specific category they are applying for in the application form.

10. What is the turnaround time for payment?

The adjudication process will commence the day after the closing date. The process leading to payment involves adjudication, verification and compliance processes. If all relevant information is submitted and depending on the number of applications received.

11. Will the Department accept an e-mail as proof of evidence that an event was cancelled?

Yes, for Sport and Recreation events, e-mail correspondence will be accepted as evidence that an event was cancelled during the period March-June 2020.

12. Can a band leader or production manager apply on behalf of artists in a band or cast?

Yes, a band leader or production manager may apply on behalf of artists in a band or cast. In such cases the following conditions will apply:

(1) The band leader or production manager must submit a signed letter of consent from each artist, including full names and ID number. The letter must stipulate that the artist supports and is aware of the application and it is done on his/her behalf. If the letter cannot be secured, then,

(2) The band leader or production manager must provide the full names and ID number of each artist, including contact details for verification purposes, together with the application form.

13. Will the Department continue to support the performing and creative industry after June?

The Department, through its other programmes, may continue to provide support to arts organisations for the current financial year.

15. When is a tax certificate required?

Although indicated as part of the criteria, it might not be applicable to the payment method which will be applied when making certain transfers. This means that this should not discourage any artists from applying. The Department will ensure that all funding processes are aligned with the legislative financial prescripts and that we practice due diligence. Where profit-making organisations are awarded relief support, a tax certificate may be a requirement.

16. Where do I find information about the Department and its activities?

Information can be accessed via the Departmental website at www.ecsrac.gov.za. The Departmental Annual Report is available online and will give insight into the activities and programmes of the Department.

17. Where do I find information about COVID-19?

Visit the COVID-19 Online Resource and News Portal on SAcoronavirus.co.za

Emergency Hotline: 0800 029 999

WhatsApp Support Line: 0600 123 456