

Touring Queensland Fund - Guidelines

The Touring Queensland Fund (the Fund) is a key program of the Queensland Government's [Grow 2022-2026](#), the second action plan for [Creative Together 2020-2030](#), which is focused on supporting regional communities' access to high quality arts and cultural products and events.

Fund objectives

The objectives of the Touring Queensland Fund are to:

- Support arts presenters and producers in the delivery of touring arts and cultural experiences, and gigs in a range of places including halls, libraries, galleries, performing arts venues, schools and non-traditional spaces within and across Queensland communities
- Grow audience access to and demand for exceptional and diverse arts experiences
- Enable audience development within regions, for an artist, organisation and/or artform through touring activity
- Increase diverse programming, including First Nations arts, contemporary music, and inclusive arts, and drive regionally based company touring into new locations including Brisbane.
- Provide new employment and career development opportunities for Queensland artists and organisations.

What the funding can be used for

The Fund supports regional arts touring within and across Queensland; assisting with costs including brokering and tour management, travel (including leaving or returning to Queensland if part of an interstate tour), freight, installation, technical support, equipment hires, and community engagement activities. The Fund supports the touring of all artforms within Arts Queensland's remit including performing arts, visual arts, contemporary music gigs, and cultural heritage activity.

This fund has two streams:

1. **Single year & single tour funding** for single tours and touring programs including schools touring (within a 12-month period), and single tours to present arts products and experiences across Queensland touring circuits or regions.
2. **Multi-year touring funding** for touring programs that are not dedicated schools touring within a 2-year period (with the option to extend funding agreements for a third year of programs) that enhance community cultural calendars and grow audiences for Queensland artists and arts organisations across or within regions.

Funding will support tours within and between regions, touring from Brisbane to regional Queensland locations, and tours from regionally based companies to Brisbane. Multi-Year funding will also support applications from consortia of venues or presenters to support touring circuits.

Note: Touring Queensland Fund will only support single year or single tour dedicated schools touring projects.

Applicants have the option to also apply for additional funding towards an industry placement as part of the project with a focus on technical skills and stage and production management.

Funding available

For single year touring programs and single tour funding up to **\$100,000** for:

- tour-ready performances, exhibitions, schools' tours, events, and workshops (any art form that falls under Arts Queensland's responsibility), and for tour itineraries that include at least three (3) touring locations within a 12-month period.

For multi-year touring program funding up to **\$150,000 per annum** for:

- touring identified circuits of at least five (5) touring locations over a 24-month period. Funding will support either;
 - touring programs that repeat visits to the same circuits over the period, or
 - tours to different circuits across the period.

Applicants cannot count the touring party's home location as a touring location.

PLUS up to **\$60,000** towards a full-time industry placement for 12-months (or a pro rata equivalent for part-time) with a focus on arts management and/or arts production. The placement must be:

- a new position
- built into the planned activity, and you must provide evidence of your intention for continued employment of the person or role
- supported by a holistic skills development program and a supervisor with appropriate experience
- paid at least minimum award wage and covered under employer's Workcover and superannuation.

Two-year funded applicants approved for this extra funding will have the option to apply for an additional \$30,000 (or a pro rata equivalent) in Year 2 to continue employment of the placement if they can demonstrate the successful delivery of Year 1 and provide evidence of how they will transition to the continued employment of the person or role.

Arts Queensland will prioritise technical, stage management and production placements as well as placements for individuals who are living and working outside of South East Queensland, or who are First Nations persons or persons with a disability.

Applicants can apply for **up to 50%** of the total project costs (excluding placement cost).

Eligibility

Please refer to the Arts Queensland [General Funding Guidelines](#) for general eligibility criteria and definition of a tour. In addition, the Fund requires that applicants must:

- be based in Queensland
- **not** be a NPAPF funded organisation, Arts Statutory Body or Arts Owned Company

If applying for funding for a placement:

- the applicant must have a proven track record in the provision of a safe workplace with skills development and on-the-job training capacity
- the applicant must **not** have been successful in receiving Industry Placement funding before
- the placement must be a person permanently based in Queensland
- the placement cannot be already engaged in a different role in the project/program or employed in an ongoing way and/or consecutive way by the applicant outside of the funded project.

Applicants may only receive one Touring Queensland Fund grant per calendar year for either single tours or touring programs. Regional Arts Service Network (RASN) providers are permitted one application to the Fund in their own right and one application to the Fund as a RASN provider per calendar year.

Ineligible costs

In addition to the ineligible items listed in the [General Funding Guidelines](#), you **cannot** apply for:

- costs associated with delivering activity in the home location/s of the touring company/ies.
- costs associated with delivering activity outside of Queensland
- rehearsal or remount costs
- purchase and/or construction of equipment, storage, set or costumes, as well as maintenance and consumables
- marketing and promotion, venue hire and venue staffing costs
- agent fees, or management fees not directly associated with delivering tour coordination
- expenses associated with core staff involved in touring or community engagement activities including fees or wages, travel, accommodation, and living-away-from-home allowances.

Assessment criteria

Peer assessors will assess applications against the following general criteria:

High quality

- Creative idea or concept is innovative and will deliver high quality arts and cultural work
- Professionals involved are highly skilled and well regarded
- Includes collaborators and partners who will help create great outcomes

Strong impact

- Creates new employment opportunities and skills development for Queensland artists and arts workers
- Maximises audience engagement to build attendance and participation, new markets and reputation for Queensland arts and cultures
- Responds to community needs and helps deliver government priorities including the principles of the [Cultural Engagement Framework](#)

Sustainable value

- Demonstrates value for money, sound governance, and ethical business practices, including paying amount not less than industry award rates, recommended or agreed minimum rates, and adhering to cultural protocols
- Touring itinerary, scale of work and touring party time maximises Queensland Government investment and demonstrates a strong delivery plan including understanding potential risks and their management
- Includes other investment partners to contribute to the sustainability and growth of Queensland's arts and cultural sector

Note: Applications for Multi-year touring funding that are venue or presenter-led should include how the circuit will make programming decisions for years one and two, with indicative programming for a potential third year.

Successful applicants for multi-year funding will need to meet milestones of venue and/or program confirmation as a condition of receiving year 2 funding.

Submitting your application

You can submit your application, along with project timeframe, budget, and support materials including letters of support, artist biographies/CVs, examples of prior work and appropriate cultural permissions, through SmartyGrants: <https://artsqueensland.smartygrants.com.au>

In addition to the compulsory support material in the [General Funding Guidelines](#), you must also provide:

- An audience development strategy – plan for engaging and connecting with communities to grow audiences for the touring work
- **Single year and single tour funding** - evidence of commitment to present the work from at least **75%** of participating venues or presenters, and for tours involving schools, evidence of interest in booking the proposed activity from at least **75% of** participating schools.
- **Multi-year touring funding;**
 - For touring programs that repeat visits to the **same circuit** over the period, evidence of a commitment to invest in Year 1 touring program and interest in Year 2 and a potential Year 3 program from all participating venues or presenters across the program
 - For touring programs to **different circuits** across the period, evidence of commitment from all participating venues or presenters across the year one program and the audience development strategy must also demonstrate how multi-year activity will grow audiences for the touring artist or the artform
- Applications from consortia of venues or presenters must clearly identify a lead organisation that will manage the funding contract, if successful.

Applications that do not provide an audience development plan will not be considered eligible for assessment.

Applications must be submitted by the Fund closing dates as outlined below.

Key application dates

| | Open | Close | Notification | Activity Start Date |
|---|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Round 3 Single Year and Multi-Year touring | 18 August 2023 | 2pm 28 September 2023 | Mid December 2023 | 1 January 2024 |
| Round 4 (Guidelines tbc) | 18 March 2024 | 2pm 29 April 2024 | Mid July 2024 | 29 July 2024 |
| Round 5 (Guidelines tbc) | 19 August 2024 | 2pm 30 September 2024 | Mid December 2024 | 13 January 2024 |

For support with technical issues related to the online application, please contact an Arts Queensland Grants Officer on telephone (07) 3034 4016 or toll free 1800 175 531 or email investment@arts.qld.gov.au.

Note: Arts Queensland reserves the right to modify the Fund Guidelines at any time. Applicants will be notified of changes.