

Fundingpoint Local Access Digest

Mar - Apr 2020



comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council



The Fundingpoint Local Digest provides up-to-date funding information for nonprofits in the Meath County Council area. Funding sources reflect both local and national funding opportunities. All information is quoted directly from funder website / literature.

The bi-monthly Fundingpoint Local Digest is brought to you by Meath County Council and The Wheel.

www.wheel.ie

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The Arts Council - Arts Grant Funding

The Arts Council is the national agency for funding, developing and promoting the arts in Ireland. The Council recognises that the arts have a central and distinctive contribution to make to society.

Arts Grant Funding is a funding programme that has been developed as part of the Arts Council's funding framework. This framework has been informed by, and is designed to deliver on, the commitments set out within the Arts Council's ten-year strategy, Making Great Art Work.

Purpose

The purpose of Arts Grant Funding is to ensure that there is a breadth of high-quality arts activity and programmes throughout the country, by offering flexible support for a fixed period of time, and in so doing responds to the needs of those who are making, presenting and supporting the creation of work.

The programme is intended to:

- Support more than one distinct arts activity taking place within a fixed period of time:
- Provide supports or facilities to artists over a fixed period of time.
- The focus of Arts Grant Funding is to deliver outcomes that develop the arts, either through:
 - Generating high-quality experiences for the public to engage with the arts, or
 - Providing excellent services, resources or facilities that support the work of artists or the arts sector, and
- Contributing to the ecology of the arts within your area of practice.

Arts Grant Funding is available for activities that take place between either 1 January – 31 December 2021 or 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2022.

Guidelines will be published mid-January 2020.

Who can apply?

Arts Grant Funding is available across all artforms and arts practice areas, and is open to organisations and individuals.

Note: Individuals applying must demonstrate that their proposal involves collaboration and/or partnership that include the delivery of public outcomes or outcomes that benefit other artists

How to Apply

Full guidelines and details of how to register in order to apply online are available here on the Arts Council website: <http://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Arts-Grant-Funding/>

Deadline: 12 March 2020

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The Community Foundation for Ireland - Older Persons' Grant

The Older Persons' Fund is a long-term philanthropic fund which promotes the civic engagement of older people, as a means of working towards making a difference in their communities.

The Fund builds on our long-standing engagement and commitment to supporting older people in their communities. We have invested over €1m in this area to date.

This year we have the following two categories that you may apply for a grant under:

- Active Citizenship: Inclusion of older people in active citizenship roles – Grants of up to €7,500 will be available to organisations working towards inclusion of older people in active citizenship roles
- Advocacy: Supporting older peoples' voices at local & national level – Grants of up to €7,500 will be available to organisations working towards supporting older peoples' engagement in advocacy.

How to Apply

Full details here: <https://www.communityfoundation.ie/grants/types-of-grants/the-older-persons-fund>

Deadline: 12 March 2020

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Foras na Gaeilge - Youth Events Scheme

Foras na Gaeilge is providing funding for appropriate Youth Events programmes (which must contain a minimum of 12 sessions) through Irish for young people (3 to 18 years of age):

- which aim to strengthen the Irish language through a mix of activities;
- that are not residential events;
- which will run between 31 August 2020 and 02 July 2021;
- applications for festivals, competitions or one-off events will not be accepted.

Grants are provided out of public funding, and Foras na Gaeilge has statutory duties to ensure value for money for all funded projects.

Foras na Gaeilge recommends to applicants to seek joint funding for projects, when appropriate, and to cooperate with other organisations in order to achieve the best value from the Foras na Gaeilge grant.

We particularly welcome applications from organisations located in areas recognised in Government strategies or legislation.

How to Apply

Visit the Foras na Gaeilge website for further guidelines: <http://www.forasnagaeilge.ie/funding-schemes/?lang=en>

Deadline: 20 March 2020

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The Colmcille Grants Scheme

This scheme aims to promote relations between the language communities of Scottish and Irish Gaelic and to strengthen Scottish and Irish Gaelic through these relations.

There will be two rounds of the grants scheme in 2020:

Round 1:

Deadline Monday 23 March 2020

Applications for projects starting in 2020

Upper limit €12,000/£10,800

Round 2:

Deadline Monday 12 October 2020

Applications for projects starting in 2020/2021

Upper limit €12,000/£10,800

An application can be made for up to 80% of the total costs of the project. The scheme is open to any organisation which is in a position to promote the relations and which has the appropriate documentation.

We welcome applications for projects which will further at least one of the following priorities:

- Language skills – Scottish Gaelic in Ireland or Irish Gaelic in Scotland
- Bringing together speakers of Scottish and Irish Gaelic
- Building relations between Scottish and Irish Gaelic speaking communities
- Facilitating language use and mutual understanding when Scottish and Irish Gaelic are spoken at the same event
- Sharing good practice in language development or in language community development
- Promoting awareness of Irish Gaelic language and culture in Scotland and promoting awareness of Scottish Gaelic language and culture in Ireland

- Strengthening Scottish or Irish Gaelic, or their language communities, through promoting the link between the two languages and their speakers.

As well as these priorities a clear link between Scottish and Irish Gaelic must be evident in all applications.

An application can be made for up to 80% of the total costs of the project. The scheme is open to any organisation which is in a position to promote the relations and which has the appropriate documentation.

How to Apply

Learn more here: <https://www.forasnagaeilge.ie/funding-schemes/?lang=en>

Deadline: 23 March 2020

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World Habitat Awards

The World Habitat Awards were established in 1985 by the Building and Social Housing Foundation as part of its contribution to the United Nations International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

Every year an award of £10,000 is presented to each of the two winners at the annual United Nations global celebration of World Habitat Day. Travel and accommodation costs are also met for one representative of each winning project to attend the awards ceremony.

Entries to the 2020 competition can be made from Wednesday 1 January 2020 until Monday 23 March 2020.

Housing projects and approaches are sought that:

- demonstrate practical, innovative and sustainable solutions to current housing issues faced by countries all around the world
- can be transferred or adapted for use as appropriate
- are already being implemented or are completed ie not at design stage or very early stages of development
- view the term habitat from a broad perspective and bring other benefits as well, such as energy or water saving, income generation, social inclusion, community and individual empowerment, health benefits, capacity building or education.

All entries are assessed and up to 12 projects are shortlisted by an assessment committee. These shortlisted projects are then evaluated by an independent advisory group.

Evaluation visits are made to some of the shortlisted projects before recommendations are put forward to a panel of external judges, including the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).

How to Apply

Read the full guidelines and apply online at the Awards website.:

<http://www.worldhabitatawards.org/about/?lang=00>

Deadline: 23 March 2020

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The Hospital Saturday Fund Charity

The Hospital Saturday Fund was founded in 1873, at a time when poverty, overcrowding and ill-health were prevalent and little help was available for those needing costly hospital care.

Eligibility

Which organisations may apply?

Charities (registered medically related charities)

The Hospital Saturday Fund will consider giving grants towards medical projects, capital projects, medical care or research, hospice/respite care and in support of medical training. The Hospital Saturday Fund will also consider grants for running costs. For UK NHS hospitals only, applications will normally be accepted for projects only, the application to detail the scope of the project with supporting documentation, the amount requested and a copy of the hospital's Annual Report (or the hospital's related charity raising funds for the project).

The Hospital Saturday Fund has two grant categories: - Standard grants of up to £2,000 or €3,000 OR - Large grants to up to £10,000 or €13,500 (please note this is the maximum sum that HSF will grant).

Large grant applications should be towards specific projects, research or equipment rather than running costs. Organisations may make one application for a meeting and can apply for a standard or a large grant. The Grant Making Committee (GMC) meets quarterly.

How to Apply

Applications for grants should be made online at www.hospitalsaturdayfund.org

Deadline: 24 March 2020 / 21 April 2020

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Meath Council - Arts Grants

Meath County Council is the primary unit of Local Government in County Meath. The Council was established in 1899 following the enactment of the 1898 Local Government (Ireland) Act. Local Government was given constitutional recognition in 1999.

Annual Arts Grants Scheme

This award is intended to support organisations, individuals or groups in the provision of local arts activities which enhance long-term development and sustainability of the arts in County Meath.

Community Arts Award

This award is intended to support community groups and schools in the provision of community arts projects which promote engagement and enhance long-term partnerships with professional artists.

Festival Grant Scheme

This award is intended to support arts festivals taking place in County Meath that show a commitment to quality artistic programming.

There are also additional bursary options listed on webpage below.

How to Apply

Please visit the council website for further information and application forms or contact the Arts Office of Meath County Council directly: <https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/arts/meath-county-council-arts-funding>

Deadline: 25 March 2020

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Creative Europe Programme

Creative Europe is the European Commission's framework programme for support to the culture and audiovisual sectors. Following on from the previous Culture Programme and MEDIA programme, Creative Europe, with a budget of €1.46 billion (9% higher than its predecessors), will support Europe's cultural and creative sectors.

The Creative Europe programme is open to cultural and creative organisations from EU Member States, as well as non-EU countries. Subject to certain conditions EEA (European Economic Area), candidate/potential candidate and ENP (European Neighbourhood Policy) countries can also participate in the programme on an equal footing with Member States. [Click here](#) for a full list of eligible countries.

CREATIVE EUROPE'S STATED AIMS ARE TO:

- Help the cultural and creative sectors seize the opportunities of the digital age and globalisation;
- Enable the sectors to reach their economic potential, contributing to sustainable growth, jobs, and social cohesion;
- Give Europe's culture and media sectors access to new international opportunities, markets, and audiences.

THIS WILL, SPECIFICALLY, INVOLVE PROVIDING FUNDING FOR:

- 2,500 artists and cultural professionals, 2,000 cinemas, 800 films, 4,500 book translations

A financial guarantee facility of up to €750 million for small businesses active in the sector will also be established in 2016.

Creative Europe is divided into two sub-programmes, Culture and MEDIA, and is supported by a cross-sectoral strand.

CULTURE

Culture sector initiatives, such as those promoting cross-border cooperation, platforms, networking, and literary translation.

MEDIA

Audiovisual sector initiatives, such as those promoting the development, distribution, or access to audiovisual works.

CROSS-SECTOR

A cross-sectoral strand, including a Guarantee Facility and transnational policy cooperation.

Eligibility

The Creative Europe programme is open to cultural and creative organisations from EU Member States, as well as non-EU countries. Subject to certain conditions EEA (European Economic Area), candidate/potential candidate and ENP (European Neighbourhood Policy) countries can also participate in the programme on an equal footing with Member States.

More information on eligible countries can be found in the table on non-EU countries, as well as in the guidelines of each specific call for proposals.

How to Apply

Calls listed here: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/calls_en

Deadline: 30 March 2020

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EPA - Event Support Grants

The Environmental Protection Agency provides funding to support science, technology, research and innovation projects through grant-aid to third level institutions, state agencies, government departments, local and regional authorities, the private sector and individuals.

The EPA research programme has allocated budget to provide funding to support workshops, seminars and other events.

Normally the amount of funding per event will not exceed €3,000.

Funding is provided only for events with a clear relevance to Irish environmental research priorities and on the condition that the events are run on a not-for-profit basis.

The event should showcase current national research by the organisers and EPA funded-groups, and also could include an international keynote speaker.

In terms of audience/participants, the event should target other researchers working in the area and the expected end-users of the research (e.g. Local Authorities, EPA, DECLG, Industry).

How to Apply

Full details are available on the EPA website.

<http://www.epa.ie/researchandeducation/research/epafunding/eventssupport/#.VWzK089Viko>

Deadline: 31 March 2020

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Bank of Ireland: Begin Together Fund

The Begin Together Fund will provide valuable investment for community initiatives making a difference in towns and villages across the island of Ireland.

Bank of Ireland's Begin Together Fund wants to get behind those making the lives of others in their communities better by improving their financial, physical and mental well-being.

Fortunately, in every town and village there are people, businesses and organisations working hard to make things better for everyone. Bank of Ireland supports them and their work in communities all across the island of Ireland.

We want to get behind those trying to make the lives of others in their communities better by improving their financial, physical and mental wellbeing. Whatever their ideas, we want to help them to succeed.

Criteria

The Begin Together fund will support new and existing project-based activities with grants of up to €5,000 (or the sterling equivalent) for local, not for profit groups working to improve the financial physical and/or mental wellbeing of the communities they serve across all counties on the island of Ireland.

Applications are welcome from charities and not-for-profit community groups working in communities that address one or more of the strands of wellbeing as outlined in the fund criteria which can be found here.

How to Apply

Full details available here: <https://www.communityfoundation.ie/grants/types-of-grants/bank-of-ireland-begin-together-fund-2020>

Deadline: 31 March 2020

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Loreto Foundation Fund

The Loreto Foundation Fund is the annual income from an initial capital which was invested by the Loreto Sisters following the sale of Loreto Abbey, Rathfarnham, Dublin, their first house in Ireland.

It supports groups which are of benefit to, and improve the lives of, the most vulnerable in Irish society. It does this by focusing on specific areas of needs. The focus for 2019 and 2020 is homelessness and so the fund will only fund groups that are working in this area.

Essential Criteria

- Applications MUST be completed using the official application form (see below), using only the allocated space on the form and be returned electronically.
- Your group must have some form of governance structure e.g. Trustees, Board of Directors, Board of Management, etc.
- Your group must maintain books of account and have a system of financial reporting. You must submit a copy of your group's most recent annual report and accounts as part of your application.
- Any funding received from the Foundation must be identified separately in your financial accounts. This can be in the notes to the accounts.
- Your group will need to be clear on the specific changes and benefits that your work will provide for your users / beneficiaries. As such, your application must be clear on the objectives for your project and who will be benefiting directly from it. In addition, your objectives should be measurable in order to allow you to monitor your project and to evaluate its success.
- You must immediately receipt / acknowledge any funding received.
- You must utilise the grant within the specified time period (see timelines below).
- You must also submit an end-of-grant report, using the official end-of-grant form, in relation to the funding received. You must also submit the most recent audited /externally reviewed and signed Financial Accounts. Any funding received from the Foundation should be identified separately in your audited/externally reviewed financial accounts. This can be in the Notes to the Accounts. If it is not possible to call out separately, the Income and Expenditure, then the headings under which the incoming

grant and out-going expenditure are included, should be highlighted. Details of the expenditure made should also be provided.

Other relevant information:

- The Foundation has the right, at its own discretion, to nominate a representative to visit the project in order to check on progress and / or check on the financial reporting system for the project.
- The maximum grant awarded is €6,000.
- Grants must be used for purpose(s) for which they were given and should not be used for any other purpose without the written approval of the Foundation.
- Unfortunately, demands made on the Foundation always out-strip the funds available, and this means that many good applications, whilst meeting the criteria, will still be unsuccessful.
- The committee reserve the right to apply enhanced criteria when the demand exceeds the funds available.

How to Apply

Download the application form and full guidelines from the Loreto Foundation Fund here:

<https://loreto.ie/loreto-outreach/the-loreto-foundation-fund/>

Deadline: 31 March 2020

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EYF Grants - Annual Work Plan Grant

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established in 1972 by the Council of Europe to provide financial support for European youth activities. Its purpose is to encourage co-operation among young people in Europe by providing financial support to such European youth activities which serve the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation in a spirit of respect for the Council of Europe's fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, tolerance and solidarity.

Within the strategic approach or global action plan of an organisation (what the organisation would like to achieve in the year(s) to come), you are asked to identify a coherent set of activities/elements to be submitted to the EYF. It should be in line with what you do and want to achieve, but it should also be in line with the work, priorities and principles of the youth sector of the Council of Europe.

Each activity/element should contribute to the aim of the work plan and the accomplishments of the work plan as a whole should contribute to the global purpose of the organisation. The work plan does not need to reflect the whole strategy of your NGO; it can be one element of it only.

The different activities of a work plan have to contribute to achieve the objective of the work plan as a whole and have to be interconnected.

It is useful to look at the "flow" of the various actions chronologically: individual activities are linked to each other, feed off and feed into each other (content-wise, through the participants and/or multipliers, towards one common result).

Material production or preparatory meetings should not be included as separate activities. They should be included in the activities they are contributing to.

The maximum grant allocated is €50 000. The grant awarded for an annual work plan is paid in three instalments: 60% when the signed contract is sent to the EYF by post and the conditions in the contract (if any) are met, 25% upon receipt of the interim report and the remaining 15% upon receipt of a satisfactory activity and financial report.

The following criteria are a requirement for annual work plans:

- Composed by several activities (international/other); at least one international activity;
- Clear flow/link between activities: interconnected;

- Each individual activity contributes to the overall objectives of the work plan;
- Link with priorities, missions and vision of the CoE youth sector;
- At least one third of co-funding for international activities;
- A gender perspective is taken into account throughout the whole process.
- Importance is also given to a non-formal education approach in your projects.

What kind of activities can be included?

International activities

A work plan cannot be a set of very small activities or material production only. A work plan needs to have a "European dimension" and this means it should still contain international activities (at least one).

Remember the criteria of international activities (see link): 4 nationalities represented in the team, a gender and geographical balance among participants (minimum of 7 nationalities).

You should find co-funding for the international activities. The EYF will not be able to cover more than two-thirds of the total cost of the international activities calculated together (i.e. the two-third rule will not apply to each separate international activity).

Other activities

“Other activities” can be included such as campaigns, study visits, series of workshops, “mobile” activities (activities which involve travel).

Examples of activities that can be included in a work plan as an “other” activity.

Preparatory meetings, research, needs analysis should be linked to an activity in the work plan, not an activity in itself. Material production should be the “result of” or part of the “follow up of” an activity and not an activity standing on its own.

Statutory or internal meetings (e.g. Board meetings, General Assemblies) cannot be included as separate activities in a work plan. These are covered by an EYF structural grant. If a statutory meeting takes place in conjunction with an activity supported by the EYF (e.g. a Board meeting directly after an international activity), this has to be clearly explained and the relevant costs must be separated.

Aim and objectives of an annual work plan

You will be asked to provide the objectives of each activity of the work plan and also the objectives and the aim of the work plan as a whole. The objectives of each individual activity should contribute to achieve the overall objectives of the work plan.

You need to show the relevance of the set of activities submitted to the EYF within the medium or long-term development of the organisation, but also show how this contributes to the priorities, mission and vision of the Council of Europe.

Gender perspective criteria included in all EYF grants

Special attention will be given to applications integrating a gender perspective. This should be clearly explained in the grant application. Gender perspective does not mean having an equal number of female and male participants. You should try to develop your project looking through different gender glasses, taking into account the needs of young women and men. More information on gender mainstreaming www.coe.int/equality and our gender mainstreaming page developed having in mind youth NGOs.

Eligibility

Who can apply?

- International youth NGOs;
- International networks of youth NGOs.

How to Apply

Non-governmental youth organisations must be registered before being able to submit an application.

For further criteria and registration, please visit the EYF website:

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/european-youth-foundation/annual-work-plan>

Deadline: 1 April 2020

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EYF Grants - International Activity Grant

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established in 1972 by the Council of Europe to provide financial support for European youth activities. Its purpose is to encourage co-operation among young people in Europe by providing financial support to such European youth activities which serve the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation in a spirit of respect for the Council of Europe's fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, tolerance and solidarity.

What is International Activity?

International meeting of young people or youth leaders in Europe which contribute to the work of the youth sector of the Council of Europe in topic, methodology and with a clear European dimension.

The following hard criteria are a requirement for an international activity:

- Participants must represent at least 7 Council of Europe member states*;
- It has to be run by an international team (4 nationalities represented in the project team);
- 75 % of participants under 30 years old;
- A gender and geographical balance must be ensured;
- A gender perspective is taken into account throughout the whole process.
- Importance is also given to a non-formal education approach in your projects.

Until now, four working days were considered as a minimum duration for an international activity based on the principles of non-formal education/learning. However, in order to adapt to NGOs' needs, the EYF will no longer consider this duration as a hard criterion. Nevertheless, the EYF will continue to assess grant applications on the basis of their merit and the quality of the programme provided. NGOs applying for activities lasting less than four days will have to convince the EYF that the activity is based on a non-formal education approach.

Statutory or internal meetings (e.g. Board meetings, General Assemblies) cannot be supported as a one-off international activity. These are covered by an EYF structural grant. If a statutory meeting takes place in conjunction with an international activity supported by the EYF (e.g. a Board meeting directly after the activity), this has to be clearly explained and the relevant costs must be separated.

The maximum grant allocated is €20 000. The EYF will cover up to two-thirds of the total real costs of the activity. NGOs need to find additional resources to cover the remaining one-third.

Gender perspective criteria included in all EYF grants: special attention will be given to applications integrating a gender perspective. This should be clearly explained in the grant application. Gender perspective does not mean having an equal number of female and male participants. You should try to develop your project looking through different gender glasses, taking into account the needs of young women and men.

More information on gender mainstreaming www.coe.int/equality and our gender mainstreaming page developed having in mind youth NGOs.

What costs are covered by the grant?

Participant's travel, accommodation and food are covered. Also trainer/expert fees, production of material and renting of rooms and equipment. Volunteer time can be included up to a maximum of 10% of the total budget.

The volunteer cannot be paid (travel, accommodation, food can be covered) but the monetary value of the volunteers's contribution can be included in expenditure and income. A more detailed explanation can be seen in the Volunteer time recognition

Eligibility

- International non-governmental youth organisations can apply on their own;
- International networks of youth NGOs can apply on their own;
- Regional networks of youth NGOs can apply on their own;
- National non-governmental youth organisations can apply if the activity is prepared in partnership with at least 3 other national NGOs or networks from different countries or with at least 1 international NGO or network.

How to Apply

For further criteria and registration, please visit the EYF website:

<http://www.coe.int/web/european-youth-foundation/how-to-apply>

Deadline: 1 April 2020

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Justice Programme 2014 - 2020

This programme shall contribute to the further development of a European area of justice based on mutual recognition and mutual trust. It promotes:

- judicial cooperation in civil matters, including civil and commercial matters, insolvencies, family matters and successions, etc.
- judicial cooperation in criminal matters
- judicial training, including language training on legal terminology, with a view to fostering a common legal and judicial culture
- effective access to justice in Europe, including rights of victims of crime and procedural rights in criminal proceedings
- initiatives in the field of drugs policy (judicial cooperation and crime prevention aspects).

Eligibility

All Member States except for UK and DK.

To be eligible, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

(a) the applicants must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisation. Organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit-oriented organisations

(b) the applications must be transnational and involve organisations from at least two participating countries, unless stated otherwise

(c) the EU grant applied for cannot be lower than €75 000, unless stated otherwise

Co-funding for Justice projects is 80% unless stated otherwise

Training activities (staff exchanges, workshops, development of training modules)

Mutual learning, cooperation activities, exchange of good practices, peer reviews, development of ICT tool

Awareness-raising activities, dissemination, conferences

Support for main actors (key European NGOs and networks, Member States' authorities implementing Union law)

Analytical activities (studies, data collection, development of common methodologies, indicators, surveys, preparation of guide)

All actions funded by the programme must produce results whose benefits go beyond one single Member State.

How to Apply

[Find details of the latest calls here.](#)

Deadline: various deadlines for April 2020.

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Erasmus+ Programme: 2014 - 2020

Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport for the years 2014 to 2020. It provides funding and support for organisations to operate projects consistent with its objectives and which encourage European exchange, co-operation and learning. Erasmus+ is funded by the European Union through the contributions of member states, including Ireland. Funding of almost €170 million has been allocated to Ireland for the duration of the programme.

Erasmus+ funding is available to all sectors (or fields) of formal, informal and non-formal education. Structurally, Erasmus+ is divided into three 'Key Actions' describing the kind of project activities possible.

Programme Objectives

Erasmus+ aims to modernise and improve the quality of teaching, training and youth work across Europe, and to support the development, transfer and implementation of innovative practices. These objectives are closely tied with the Europe 2020 strategy of achieving a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy by 2020 for all of Europe's citizens. Fundamental goals for Erasmus+ include improving key competences and skills, and fostering partnerships between education and employment. The programme also seeks to promote European values as stated in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union: respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights.

Eligibility

Erasmus+ is open to private or public organisations active in the fields of adult education, higher education, school education, sport, vocational education and training, and youth and community work, in any participating country. While the programme enables individuals to travel, work, volunteer and study abroad, project applications from individuals themselves are not accepted. However, individuals may apply to attend Transnational Cooperation Activities with the support of their organisations.

Some key actions / proposals are managed directly by the European Commission, while others are managed by the relevant national body (Leargas in the case of Ireland - note: Leargas managed items are in bold below).

Learning mobility of individuals (Key Activity 1)

This Key Action supports:

Mobility of learners and staff: opportunities for students, trainees, young people and volunteers, as well as for professors, teachers, trainers, youth workers, staff of education institutions and civil society organisations to undertake a learning and/or professional experience in another country;

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees: high-level integrated international study programmes delivered by consortia of higher education institutions that award full degree scholarships to the best master students worldwide;

Erasmus+ Master Loans: higher education students from Programme Countries can apply for a loan backed up by the Programme to go abroad for a full Master Degree. Students should address themselves to national banks or student loan agencies participating in the scheme.

Cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practices (Key Activity 2)

This Key Action supports:

Transnational Strategic Partnerships aimed to develop initiatives addressing one or more fields of education training and youth and promote innovation, exchange of experience and know-how between different types of organisations involved in education, training and youth or in other relevant fields. Certain mobility activities are supported in so far as they contribute to the objectives of the project;

Knowledge Alliances between higher education institutions and enterprises which aim to foster innovation, entrepreneurship, creativity, employability, knowledge exchange and/or multidisciplinary teaching and learning;

Sector Skills Alliances supporting the design and delivery of joint vocational training curricula, programmes and teaching and training methodologies, drawing on evidence of trends in a specific economic sector and skills needed in order to perform in one or more professional fields;

Capacity-building projects supporting cooperation with Partner Countries in the fields of higher education and youth. Capacity-building projects aim to support organisations/institutions and systems in their modernisation and internationalisation process. Certain types of capacity-building projects support mobility activities in so far as they contribute to the objectives of the project;

IT support platforms, such as eTwinning, the School Education Gateway, the European Platform for Adult Learning (EPAL) and the European Youth Portal, offering virtual collaboration spaces, databases of opportunities, communities of practice and other online services for teachers,

trainers and practitioners in the field of school and adult education as well as for young people, volunteers and youth workers across Europe and beyond.

Support for policy reform (Key Activity 3)

This Key Action supports:

Knowledge in the fields of education, training and youth for evidence-based policy making and monitoring, in particular:

country-specific and thematic analysis, including through cooperation with academic networks;

peer learning and peer reviews through the Open Methods of Coordination in education, training and youth.

Initiatives for policy innovation to stimulate innovative policy development among stakeholders and to enable public authorities to test the effectiveness of innovative policies through field trials based on sound evaluation methodologies;

Support to European policy tools to facilitate transparency and recognition of skills and qualifications, as well as the transfer of credits, to foster quality assurance, support validation of non-formal and informal learning, skills management and guidance. This Action also includes the support to networks that facilitate cross-European exchanges, the learning and working mobility of citizens as well as the development of flexible learning pathways between different fields of education, training and youth;

Cooperation with international organisations with highly recognised expertise and analytical capacity (such as the OECD and the Council of Europe), to strengthen the impact and added value of policies in the fields of education, training and youth;

Stakeholder dialogue, policy and Programme promotion involving public authorities, providers and stakeholders in the fields of education, training and youth for raising awareness about the European policy agendas, in particular Europe 2020, Education and Training 2020, the European Youth Strategy, as well as the external dimension of European education, training and youth policies. These activities are essential to develop the capacity of stakeholders to actively support the implementation of policies by stimulating the exploitation of the Programme results and generating tangible impact.

Jean Monnet

Jean Monnet activities will support:

Academic Modules, Chairs, Centres of Excellence in order to deepen teaching in European integration studies embodied in an official curriculum of a higher education institution, as well as to conduct, monitor and supervise research on EU content, also for other educational levels such as teacher training and compulsory education. These Actions are also intended to provide in-depth teaching on European integration matters for future professionals in fields which are in increasing demand on the labour market, and at the same time aim at encouraging, advising and mentoring the young generation of teachers and researchers in European integration subject areas;

Policy debate with academic world, supported through: a) Networks to enhance cooperation between different universities throughout Europe and around the world, foster cooperation and create a high knowledge exchange platform with public actors and the Commission services on highly relevant EU subjects; b) Projects for innovation and cross-fertilisation and spread of EU content aimed to promote discussion, reflection on EU issues and to enhance knowledge about the EU and its processes;

Support to associations, to organise and carry out statutory activities of associations dealing with EU studies and EU issues, and to publicize EU facts among a wider public enhancing active European citizenship.

The Jean Monnet Activities also provide operating grants to designated institutions which pursue an aim of European interest and organises Studies and conferences with the purpose of providing policy-makers with new insights and concrete suggestions.

Sport

Actions in the field of sport will support:

Collaborative Partnerships, aimed at promoting the integrity of Sport (anti-doping, fight against match fixing, protection of minors), supporting innovative approaches to implement EU principles on good governance in sport, EU strategies in the area of social inclusion and equal opportunities, encouraging participation in sport and physical activity (supporting the implementation of EU Physical Activity Guidelines, volunteering, employment in sport as well as education and training in sport), and supporting the implementation of the EU guidelines on dual careers of athletes. These partnerships include also Small Collaborative Partnerships, aimed at encouraging social inclusion and equal opportunities in sport, promoting European traditional sports and games, supporting the mobility of volunteers, coaches, managers and staff of non-profit sport organisations and protecting athletes, especially the youngest, from health and safety hazards by improving training and competition conditions.

Not-for-profit European sport events, granting individual organisations in charge of the preparation, organisation and follow-up to a given event. The activities involved will include the organisation of training activities for athletes and volunteers in the run-up to the event, opening and closing ceremonies, competitions, side-activities to the sporting event (conferences, seminars), as well as the implementation of legacy activities, such as evaluations or follow-up activities;

Strengthening of the evidence base for policy making through studies; data gathering, surveys; networks; conferences and seminars which spread good practices from Programme Countries and sport organisations and reinforce networks at EU level so that national members of those networks benefit from synergies and exchanges with their partners;

Dialogue with relevant European stakeholders, being mainly the annual EU Sport Forum and support to Sport Presidency events organised by the EU Member States holding the Presidency of the EU. Other ad hoc meetings and seminars relevant to ensure optimal dialogue with the sport stakeholders may also be organised as appropriate.

How to Apply

Leargas serves as the Ireland contact for the Erasmus programme. Learn more here:

<http://www.leargas.ie/programmes/erasmusplus/>

Visit the main Erasmus programme website here: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus_en

Deadline:

SPORT 2020: 1 April 2020

European Policy Experimentations in the field of Education and Training led by high-level public authorities: 21 April 2020

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European Social Catalyst Fund

Applications are now being accepted for the European Social Catalyst Fund (ESCF), a new initiative designed to have significant impact on some of Europe's most pressing social challenges.

The objective of the ESCF is to bring together public and private resources to improve social services to enable people who need support to live as valued and participating members of their communities.

The ESCF will provide financial and capacity building support to develop plans to scale proven social service innovations. It is anticipated that these plans will provide details of how public and private resources (philanthropy and/or social investment) can be brought together in a range of collaborations that focus on the role that philanthropy and social finance can play in working with the public sector to help re-focus public spending in a more effective direction in the interest of European citizens. It is intended that during the project a further phase will be designed, based on learning obtained, which will include a focus on supporting implementation of plans to scale proven social service innovations.

The ESCF has been established and co-funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, Genio (Ireland), the Robert Bosch Stiftung (Germany) and the King Baudouin Foundation (Belgium). It will award planning grants across a range of priority social challenge areas within, or across, European Union Member States. The purpose of the grants is to support the development of detailed implementation plans aimed at reducing, or overcoming, social challenges. Innovations will be identified through a pan-European call and all eligible applications will be evaluated against published criteria. Preference will be given to innovations that have the most robust evidence of success and that aim to reach the most significant scale. Each selected application will receive a planning grant of up to €100,000 along with capacity building support.

A minimum of €600,000 will be allocated to support at least 6 plans.

Objectives of the European Social Catalyst Fund:

- To provide financial support, guidance and information to proven social service innovations selected through a pan-European competition to develop implementation plans to upscale.
- To stimulate a broader range of public sector, philanthropic and social investment collaborations that foster the scaling of social service innovations to meet social

challenges across EU Member States aligned with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

- To produce exemplar plans across a range of priority social challenge areas that can be implemented to a substantial level of scale within two years.
- Plans also must be relevant to the social and implementation challenges in at least five EU Member States, two of which will be Central and Eastern European Countries (CEECs).
- To develop and disseminate knowledge and skills on how to successfully plan the scaling of social service innovations.
- To design a further phase of the European Social Catalyst Fund based on learning obtained in the process of achieving these objectives.

Eligibility

Preference will be given to innovations that have the most robust evidence of success and that aim to reach the most significant scale. Decisions regarding the allocation of grants will be made by the consortium of philanthropy organisations contributing to the ESCF. Successful applicants will receive a planning grant of up to €100,000 along with capacity building support. A minimum of €600,000 will be allocated to support at least 6 plans. It is anticipated that the successful applicants will represent a range of social challenge and geographic areas.

How to Apply

Full details available here: <https://www.euscf.eu/>

Deadline: 15 April 2020

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National Geographic Society Grants

All proposed projects should be bold, innovative, and potentially transformative and have a primary focus in conservation, education, research, storytelling, or technology. Projects should also align to one of our three focus areas.

We do not usually consider applications that support strictly laboratory or collections work. Grants are awarded on the basis of merit and exist independent of the Society's other divisions.

We encourage applications from around the world.

Please note that this is a highly competitive grant program; we receive many more applications than we are able to fund.

Project start dates should be a minimum of six months after the submission deadline to ensure any awarded funds are received in time.

Focus Areas:

WILDLIFE

Wildlife includes species-focused projects and the local evolutionary and ecological processes that sustain them. Although extinction is a natural part of evolution, the current accelerated loss of species means that we need novel approaches and solutions that support biological diversity and abundance. This area of focus supports projects that seek to discover and identify species and ecosystems and to mitigate threats to Earth's life forms. Projects will improve understanding of biological diversity, including behavior, life history, evolution, ecology, and habitat requirements.

HUMAN JOURNEY

Human Journey focuses on learning more about who we are and what our future will be on this planet. It supports projects in a range of fields that are helping us understand the origins and development of our species; how we modified and adapted to diverse landscapes across the globe; the evolution of cultures and societies; and the current status of and trends in our cultural, linguistic, and genetic diversity. Recognizing that human society is currently out of balance with the natural world, we also seek projects that propose solutions to mitigate this imbalance.

CHANGING PLANET

Changing Planet grants focus on our Earth's dynamic terrestrial, marine, and freshwater ecosystems. These are the foundations of life on the planet, yet are increasingly threatened by exploitation, mismanagement, and climate change. We seek projects that illuminate these issues to better inform decision making and to develop more effective models for conservation and protected area management at large scales. This area of focus seeks to reduce negative human impacts on ecosystems and Earth processes by increasing knowledge, inspiring action, and creating solutions with direct, quantifiable, and scalable methods for conserving landscapes or seascapes.

How to Apply

Full application and grant type details are available here:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/funding-opportunities/grants/what-we-fund/>

Deadline: 22 April 2020

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DM Thomas Foundation for Young People Grants

Previously known as the Hilton in the Community Foundation, the DM Thomas Foundation for Young People (DMTFYP) is able to reach directly into communities and offer help where it is needed, as a funder to smaller charities and organisations that may be otherwise overlooked. We run a number of campaigns which seek to support young people.

Central Grants – structure and approval process

The Foundation has a rigorous grant process which aims to identify the most effective projects helping disadvantaged young people in the UK and Ireland.

Applications are received for quarterly deadlines from registered charities are first assessed by the Foundation office, with a shortlist of approximately 20 of the strongest and regionally representative applications put forward for consideration by our Grants Committee. The Grants Committee comprises independent members and members nominated by the Foundation's business partners and meets quarterly to discuss the applications. There is approximately £200,000 available to distribute each quarter.

Eligibility

Applications working in the areas of education or health with one of our three chosen focus groups are selected or considered:

- Children and young people with disabilities
- Children and young people who are sick in hospital
- Children and young people who are life limited (requiring palliative care)

If favoured, grant applications for up to £5,000 can be approved by the Director, up to £10,000 can be approved by the Grants Committee, and applications for more than £10,000 are recommended to the Trustees for final approval. The Foundation is a small charity and generally will not make awards of over £30,000 (per year). Funding can be requested for up to 2 years for any particular project.

Reapplications are welcome, however unsuccessful applicants are asked not to reapply for at least 12 months from the date of their rejection letter. Successful applicants are asked to wait three years before reapplying.

The Foundation receives thousands of telephone and email enquiries and hundreds of completed applications each year, making the grant award process highly competitive. To help us to help you, please read our application guidelines and restrictions carefully. Unfortunately, with a limited grant fund we are unable to respond favourably to all requests, however worthy. We provide specific feedback on grant rejections where guidance and improvements can be made however due to the volume we are unable to provide specific feedback to first round rejections given the competitive nature of the process.

Sample Grants Made to Irish Organisations

- Irish Autism Action - multiple grants
- Barretstown - £40,000.
- Debra Ireland - £10,000.

How to Apply

Visit the Foundation website now for application forms and full guidelines:

<https://dmthomasfoundation.org/what-we-do/grants/dmtf-central-grants/>

Deadline: 5 May 2020

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Energy for Generations Fund

As a leading Irish organisation with deep roots in the community dating back to 1927, we are committed to playing a role in addressing some of the key social issues facing Ireland today.

Corporate Responsibility (CR) is at the heart of this vision. Through our Energy for Generations Fund, we have three main pillars of focus:

- Suicide
- Homelessness
- Education Access and Support

Criteria

ESB's Energy for Generations Fund sees €1m per year disbursed through a quarterly fund to charities working in the areas of suicide prevention, homelessness and education access and support.

ESB has been supporting initiatives in the areas of suicide prevention and homelessness since 2005. The Energy for Generations Fund introduced a new focus on education in 2014, which recognises the need for educational supports at all levels to ensure that Ireland has the skills it needs to compete effectively.

Our aim with the Energy for Generations Fund is to maximise the impact of our investment by taking a more strategic approach to effect change. Funding is only part of the jigsaw – we also want to leverage the skills and knowledge we have within the company to bring about more sustainable and positive outcomes.

Eligibility

Charities working in the areas of suicide prevention, homelessness and education access and support can apply to the Fund for project specific funding.

Every quarter ESB allocates an amount from the Fund for disbursement. The amount may vary because of the volume of applications received or seasonal considerations - wintertime and Christmas may require more funding than summer.

Applications submitted during each quarter are appraised at the end of the quarter and funding allocated accordingly.

The guideline application amount is c. €10,000. This is neither a minimum nor a maximum, rather an indication of the scale of the resources available. Average funding awards in recent years have been c. €6-7,000

How to Apply

Visit the ESB website for full application details: <https://www.esb.ie/acting-responsibly/community-stem-and-the-arts/esb-corporate-responsibility>

Deadline: 5 May 2020

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Additional Resources

Nonprofits seeking fundraising advice and guidance can avail of two additional resources:

1. Fundraising Guidance Library

- [Fundraising Essentials](#)
- [Applying to Grant Makers](#)
- [Fundraising From The Public](#)
- [European Funding](#)

2. Fundraising Helpdesk

Can't find an answer to your fundraising question in the above articles? Then get in touch with The Wheel's Fundraising Helpdesk now. Email as much detail as possible to: paul@wheel.ie and we'll get back to you shortly. www.wheel.ie.

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