

Backing Indigenous Arts (BIA)

Indigenous Regional Arts Development Fund (IRADF)

Frequently Asked Questions

What should an IRADF program look like?

IRADF programs and projects should support locally determined arts and cultural activities that benefit community groups and members. It is important that IRADF activities are developed in consultation with your community and that applications demonstrate your community's need and desire for IRADF funded initiatives.

Applicants should consider:

- opportunities to collaborate with neighbouring councils to address shared priorities such as increasing liveability or cultural tourism
- arts and cultural initiatives that will best meet local needs and demand
- in-kind contributions that support the IRADF partnership
- opportunities to leverage investment to attract partners for larger projects such as cultural infrastructure, significant events, public art or place-making activities.

What can the funding be used for?

Examples of funded activities may include:

- Projects that increase the skills and capacity of individuals or the whole community to develop and engage in arts and cultural initiatives including workshops, festivals, community exhibitions and presentations
- Initiatives that encourage young people's participation and engagement in arts and culture
- Traditional and contemporary art forms for example, music, dance, visual art and craft, storytelling
- Production costs for projects and events such as lighting, sound, rental of equipment, hire of venues, costuming, design fees and marketing
- Arts and cultural strategic plan development based on council priorities.

What art form areas are eligible?

Any art form area that has relevance to your community is eligible. IRADF supports Indigenous Councils and host organisations to invest in arts and cultural priorities as determined by their local communities.

How are members of the IRADF assessment panel selected?

All eligible applications are assessed by members of the assessment panel made up of Queensland Government representatives who identify as Indigenous and have an understanding of the regional context relating to each applicant.

Can Councils or host organisations that are successful to IRADF apply to other Arts Queensland investment programs?

Yes. Councils and host organisations that are successful in receiving IRADF investment are eligible to apply for the [Queensland Arts Showcase Program](#) and [Touring Queensland Fund](#).

What should I consider in my application budget?

Your application budget should demonstrate a sound financial partnership between your organisation and Arts Queensland, by showing a reasonable amount of support committed towards the IRADF program. Your application should not seek 100 percent of costs from Arts Queensland.

It is often helpful to complete the expenditure side of the budget first. Then you can insert your anticipated revenue. The difference between expenditure and revenue will be the amount you need government to invest in your project.

What does the acquittal and reporting process involve?

You will need to complete an outcome report against the agreed key performance outcomes (KPOs).

If you have an outstanding report for any previous funding you have received from Arts Queensland, you will be ineligible to apply to any Arts Queensland funding programs until reporting is submitted and accepted by Arts Queensland.

What are some tips to make your application stand out?

- Avoid the use of jargon and unnecessary language and use the spelling and grammar check before submitting.
- Explain your project or proposal in simple language: who, what, where, why, when. Make sure you are clear about which parts are confirmed, and which are still in negotiation. Explain your contingency plans if unconfirmed parts of your project need to change.
- Assume that the assessors know nothing about who you are or your project and explain everything clearly.
- Make sure you provide evidence of the demand for your proposed activity. Provide proof that your project is important and needed. This could be an email from a group you are working with expressing the demand for the project, consultation results etc.
- Make sure your budget balances (total income = total expenditure).