

Backing Indigenous Arts (BIA) – Indigenous Art Centres (IAC) Multi-Year Funding (2023-2026)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Backing Indigenous Arts (BIA) Indigenous Arts Centres (IAC) multi-year funding?

BIA IAC multi-year funding is part of the Queensland Government's BIA initiative, which aims to build sustainable and ethical Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts industries. BIA multi-year funding contributes to core operations of BIA-funded IACs in Queensland.

What are the objectives of the BIA IAC multi-year funding (2023 - 2026)?

The Queensland Government's Backing Indigenous Arts (BIA) initiative helps build ethical and sustainable Queensland-based First Nations arts industries by supporting a development pipeline from creation to market. This initiative aligns with the Elevate First Nations arts priority of [Creative Together 2020-2030: A 10-year Roadmap for arts, culture and creativity in Queensland](#), and its second action plan [Grow 2022-2026](#).

The BIA IAC multi-year funding program has the following objectives:

- strengthen Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art centres and organisations
- support local communities' access to high-quality visual arts and cultural activities
- support career opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and arts workers
- grow new markets for First Nations arts and cultural products
- increase First Nations artists' share of Indigenous art sales revenue.

What can organisations use the funding for?

BIA IAC multi-year funding is to support the following:

- operational costs for the delivery of arts and cultural services and activities
- professional services costs related to governance, management, or the marketing and promotion of the IAC's programs and products
- initiatives that generate economic opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and arts workers.

Who can submit for BIA IAC multi-year funding (2023 - 2026)?

The BIA IAC Multi-Year Funding Program is a targeted strategy accessible to the Indigenous Arts Centres who were successfully admitted to the BIA IAC Multi-Year 2019-2023 Program, along with those IACs identified and invited by Arts Queensland that are visual arts organisations or peak bodies recognised and respected by their community as an organisation which increases:

- the ethical production of First Nations arts
- economic outcomes for First Nations communities
- professional development opportunities for First Nations artists and arts workers.

Additionally, eligible organisations must be Queensland-based and at least 50% owned and led by Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people, who have the formal authority to make decisions about the operations and governance of the organisation, such as:

- a First Nations-owned business
- a First Nations Not-For-Profit Organisation
- an Indigenous Local Council.

What IACs are eligible for BIA IAC multi-year funding (2023 - 2026)?

Delivered through a targeted strategy, the BIA IAC Multi-Year Funding Program for 2023-24 to 2025-26 is accessible to the following organisations:

- IACs who are previous recipients of core funding through the BIA IAC Multi-Year Funding Program for 2019-20 to 2022-23
- IACs identified and invited by Arts Queensland.

IAC organisations must:

- have satisfied all reporting and acquittal requirements relating to previous BIA IAC Multi-Year Funding Programs and any other Arts Queensland funding program
- not seek funding for 100% of the organisation's costs from Arts Queensland.

How do I complete a submission for BIA IAC multi-year funding (2023 - 2026)?

A four (4) step submission process applies as outlined in the BIA IAC multi-year funding program (2023-24 to 2025-26) guidelines. Please refer to the guidelines for details.

For further advice on the submission process, please contact Arts Queensland on toll free 1800 175 531.

What support material should I include in my submission?

IACs are required to submit the following support material: a current strategic plan, governance framework, 2023-24 activity plan, 2023-24 to 2024-25 budget forecasts, and 2021-22 audited financials.

What does the acquittal and reporting process involve?

Organisations will be required to enter into a funding agreement with Arts Queensland, which includes Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) relating to the objectives of the fund.

BIA IAC multi-year funding is conditional on the submission and approval of an annual plan of activity, with each year's payment activated by applicants' completion of a progress report meeting and submission of an outcome report.