



THE IRELAND FUNDS

Application Guidelines

Flagship Investments Grant Round

Grant Application deadlines have yet to be confirmed for 2018.

Below is an outline of the 2017 guidelines, which should give a good indication on what to expect for the Flagship Application process in 2018.



Application Period

All Letters of Inquiry must be sent via email by 5pm GMT on **Friday, 10th March 2017**. Late submissions will not be accepted for any reason.

We will send you an acknowledgment within two business days to confirm that your letter of inquiry was received.

The review process for eligible inquiries can take up to two weeks, at which point you will either receive an email noting that your application will not be progressed, or that your organisation has been invited to make a full application. If you do not receive a response by 17th March, please contact the grants department at 01 662 7878.

If unsuccessful at this stage, there will still be time for eligible organisations to apply to the Small Grant Round, which closes on 24th March.

Objective of the Flagship Investments Grant Round

The Ireland Funds Flagship Investments programme provides grants for core funding, capacity building or programme costs for non-profit organisations working within one of our key programme areas of Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education and Peace & Reconciliation. Our aim is to improve the quality and sustainability of existing programmes, or to help scale initiatives that are already having an impact.

Funding Priorities

Under our four pillars of Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education and Peace & Reconciliation, The Ireland Funds has identified a number of priorities for the Flagship Investments Grant Round.

Community Development

We invest in local communities by supporting initiatives that contribute to:

- Positive mental and physical health
- Community integration
- Sport and leisure opportunities
- Protection of the natural environment
- Supporting vulnerable members of society

Peace & Reconciliation

We support communities in Northern Ireland by prioritising initiatives that contribute to:

- Improved intercommunity relations
- New opportunities in education, employment and personal development

Education

We support programmes that contribute to:

- Increased access to participation to third-level education

- Equality of access to a broad range of educational opportunities for people of all ages

Arts & Culture

We support the promotion of arts and culture by prioritising initiatives that contribute to:

- Cultural awareness and understanding
- Increased access to art forms and collections
- Community arts initiatives

Eligibility

Not-for profit organisations operating in Ireland and Northern Ireland may apply to the Flagship Investments Grants Round provided the organisation:

- Is a registered with the Charities Regulator or with the Charities Commission for Northern Ireland
- Is signed up to the Fundraising Code of Practice (if applicable for Republic of Ireland non-profits)
- Is compliant with the Governance Code (for Republic of Ireland non-profits)
- Publishes SORP compliant annual accounts
- Will provide its strategic plan and management accounts for the previous year.

In selecting organisations to complete an application form for Flagship Funding, The Ireland Funds will prioritise organisations that

- Are established, well-managed, and financially viable organisations that operate effective programmes that fit within our four key programme areas
- Have developed specific and realistic short and long-term goals
- Can demonstrate how a core support grant could have a measurable impact on their organisational and programmatic capacity and sustainability
- Have a solid track record of funding from The Ireland Funds

Rules

Applicants may submit requests for funding for the following:

Core Support: Core support is unrestricted funding that enables an organisation to carry out its mission by strengthening capacity and sustainability. It can be used to underwrite administrative infrastructure and/or to expand key programmes. Most core support grants are awarded over a two-year period. If you are applying for core support, explain why this additional investment is needed for a two-year period.

Capacity Building: Funding is available for new or enhanced activities aimed at strengthening an organisation's programmatic and/or administrative capacity. Projects must evidence a credible plan for sustaining costs.

Programme: In general, funding for programme development or the expansion of existing programmes will be limited to programmes of clearly demonstrated

effectiveness that have a viable fundraising and sustainability plan. On a very selective basis, The Ireland Funds will consider programmes or projects that offer the potential to produce significant impacts.

Size of Awards

The Flagship Grant Round will award up to €/£100,000 in financial support over a two year period. Additional non-financial supports will also be provided.

Guidelines for Letter of Inquiry

To be considered for the Flagship Investments Grant Round, your organisation must email your letter of inquiry by **10th March 2017**

All letters of inquiry must include a cover sheet with the following information

- Information regarding who will carry out the work
- Name of your organisation (and acronym if commonly used)
- Name of chief executive officer or person holding similar position
- Organisation's address (and courier address if different)
- Organisation's phone number, website and e-mail address, if any
- Name and title of the primary contact person, if different from the above
- Phone number and E-mail address of primary contact

Format

There is no set format, but letters of inquiry should include the following:

- Name or topic of the proposed activities for which you are seeking funding
- A brief statement (two or three sentences) of the purpose and nature of the proposed work
- The significance of the issue addressed by the project and how it relates to one of The Ireland Funds' four key programme areas
- How the work will address the issue
- How the issue relates to your organisation, and why your organisation is qualified to undertake the project
- Geographic area where the work will take place
- Time period for which funding is requested
- Information about those who will be helped by and interested in the work and how you will communicate with them
- Amount of funding requested from The Ireland Funds and total cost (estimates are acceptable). If you already have secured partial funding, also list other funders and amounts committed

For assistance with the Flagship Investment Grant Round Letter of Inquiry, please contact the grants department at [01 662 7878](tel:016627878).