



THE IRELAND FUNDS

Application Guidelines

Flagship Awards



What are the Flagship Awards?

The Ireland Funds Flagship Awards offer grants for core funding, capacity building or programme costs for charitable organisations working within one of our key programme areas: 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 already demonstrating impact.

What are the funding priorities of the Flagship Awards?

The Ireland Funds Flagship Awards are suitable for organisations making an impact and a positive contribution to society. Suitable applicants will have projects that align closely with the following initiatives within The Ireland Funds key programme areas.

Applicants should be able to clearly demonstrate how their project impacts upon the lives of their participants, their communities and indeed the wider society. Projects should have tangible and quantifiable outcomes as well as qualitative outcomes.

Community Development	Education	Arts and Culture	Peace and Reconciliation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting gender equality and the empowerment of women Providing support and advice to the LGBTQI+ community Supporting migrant rights, family reunification and community integration programmes Helping the homeless through pathways for independence Providing opportunities and access to people with physical disabilities Responding to environmental challenges and creating sustainable communities Supporting an aging population Providing youth mental health programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivering early intervention education programmes Providing access to education for marginalised and underrepresented groups Providing access to education and opportunity for people with intellectual disabilities Educating stakeholders on current societal issues e.g. cyber safety, mental health, climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting innovative arts and cultural projects with a positive effect on society Providing arts initiatives for people with intellectual disabilities Combining arts and cultural initiatives with proven positive health benefits (mental health and physical health) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fostering positive relationships through cross community groups Delivering restorative justice programmes

What are the standard criteria?

Before beginning your application, ensure your application and organisation meets the criteria below.

- The project must fit within one of The Ireland Funds key programme areas
- The project must offer an innovative approach/solution to the problem
- The project must define activities which are feasible, reasonable, and sustainable
- The project must have a measurable positive impact on the beneficiaries
- The project or activity for which you are seeking funding must take place within the 32 counties of Ireland
- The project must be for a future activity, not for an activity or project that has already been completed
- Organisations must come from an entity that has Charitable status in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland (i.e. registered with the Charities Regulator or with the Charities Commission for Northern Ireland)
- Organisations must be established, well-managed, and financially viable
- Organisations must be leading the way in transparency and accountability, publishing SORP compliant annual accounts and compliant with the Governance Code and Fundraising Code.
- Organisations must provide a copy of their governing document (e.g. Constitution, Memorandum of Articles of Association), the most recent set of Audited Accounts and the most recent Annual Report to be considered in the second stage of the application.
- Organisations must not have received an Ireland Funds Flagship Award within the past 4 years (i.e. only Flagship Awardees pre-2016 are eligible to apply)
- Organisations may submit only one application

Organisations may apply for support for capacity building or programme costs.

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 which clearly demonstrate effectiveness and 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 impact