

## **National Regional Arts Fellowship Program Guidelines 2022**



**Australian Government**

**Regional Arts Fund**

This information is available in various accessible formats. Should you require assistance accessing these Guidelines, please contact [rafmanager@regionalarts.com.au](mailto:rafmanager@regionalarts.com.au)

### **The Regional Arts Fund**

The Regional Arts Fund is an Australian Government Program that supports sustainable cultural development in regional and remote communities in Australia. The Regional Arts Fund is designed to benefit regional and remote arts practitioners, arts workers, audiences and communities. The program is managed nationally by Regional Arts Australia.

### **What is the National Regional Arts Fellowship Program?**

The National Regional Arts Fellowship Program is a strategic project, supported by the Regional Arts Fund and managed by Regional Arts Australia.

The Fellowships Program is an investment in the development of artistic and creative practice. The program is contemporary, flexible and relevant to artists practicing, working and living in regional and remote Australia.

Fellowships are unique amongst grant programs in that they offer a guaranteed income (for a short period) for an artist/practitioner to develop their work, skills, networks or research. Six fellowships will be available between \$10,000 - \$20,000 and will be offered across a range of categories.

The Fellowships program has been designed as an applicant-led approach, addressing the needs of the individual in that time and place.

## Objectives of the National Regional Arts Fellowship Program

The Program objectives are to:

- Elevate and build the practice of artists and arts workers across regional and remote Australia,
- Raise the profile of artists and arts workers across a range of artforms, stages of career, duration and geographies,
- Provide professional and industry development opportunities,
- Build connection and generate exchange, and
- Generate strategic, collaborative relationships for the benefit of arts and creative practice across the country.

## Fellowship Categories

Type of Fellowship	Amount available	Number available
Creative & Professional Development	\$20,000	4
First Timer – Creative or Professional Development	\$10,000	2

### Creative and Professional Development

Open to regional artists and arts workers to support a placement or experience with the primary purpose of developing creative practice or professional development.

### First Timer – Creative or Professional Development

Open to regional artists who have never before received a fellowship, to support a placement or experience with the primary purpose of developing practice (either creative or professional development).

## Eligibility Criteria

Individual artists and arts workers are eligible to apply.

Applicants are limited to one application per person, across the Fellowship program.

Applicants may apply to both the Fellowships program and the Regional Assembly, but will only be offered one place across the two programs.

Regional Arts Australia will cross-check applications against existing Regional Arts Fund programs to ensure that funding is not being sought to cover the same costs twice.

### All applicants must:

- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident living and working in regional Australia.
  - Have an ABN (registered to their name and location) or have an auspice organisation manage their grant.
  - Reside at an address classified as regional using the Modified Monash Model Map<sup>1</sup>. The applicant address must be from classification MMM 2 - MMM7.
  - Provide evidence of past work and demonstrate how the proposed activity will extend the boundaries of their practice.
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- The **First Timer** category is open to artists and arts workers, of any age, who have not previously received a fellowship of any sort.
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- Regional Arts Australia will accept applications for activities commencing from 1 November 2022 and completed by 31 August 2023.

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<sup>1</sup> To check how your address is classified visit the Doctor Connect Locator Map: <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/health-workforce-locator/health-workforce-locator> Select Modified Monash Model 2019 and search your address.

## What will the National Regional Arts Fellowship Program support?

The program is cross-disciplinary and open to multiple art forms. Regional Arts Australia encourages applicants to design their own fellowship program and set goals to meet their own geographic and artistic contemporary practice needs.

Fellowships can take place:

- as a residency
- as a creative retreat
- within an institution
- as part of an exchange
- in another way (as designed by the applicant)

The grant funds may be used towards (but not limited to):

- Artist fees
- Travel costs (for travel activity in accordance with the Australian Government and relevant State/ Territory Government travel advice)
- Accommodation
- Materials
- Venue hire
- Equipment hire
- Project administrative and documentation<sup>2</sup> costs (no more than 10%)

## What will the National Regional Arts Fellowship Program **not** support?

- Applications from applicants residing in MMM1 locations.
- Projects principally benefitting a major city or metropolitan location.
- Components of projects that are also funded by other programs administered by the Australian Government.
- Projects that do not substantially align with the objectives of the program.
- Projects that commence before funding is approved. Projects will be ineligible for funding if they have already been advertised by the applicant, including any online marketing on websites or via social media, until notified of the decision.
- Academic activity, including wages or course work that is required as part of any tertiary academic program.
- Touring projects that involve touring from major urban centres to regional communities.

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<sup>2</sup> Fellowship recipients are expected to document their process and to find ways within the project design to share this documentation publicly, through RAA's channels.

- Infrastructure projects and projects involving the purchase of assets.
- Applicants who have any outstanding reports, acquittals or serious breaches relating to any Australian Government funding.

**If in doubt about eligible activities, please contact the RAF Grants Manager to discuss your situation, [rafmanager@regionalarts.com.au](mailto:rafmanager@regionalarts.com.au)**

## Assessment Criteria

All applications will be assessed on the degree to which they meet the program objectives, as listed on page 2 of these Guidelines.

The Assessment Panel will also assess applications on viability, ensuring the proposal is relevant, aligning with your practice, well planned, and realistically budgeted including plans for timely completion of the project.

Applicants are encouraged to provide support material that demonstrates:

- confirmation and details of support from any organisation(s), individual(s) or institution(s) with which the applicant intends to develop their project,
- the level of community and peer support for the Fellowship proposal, and
- examples of the applicant's professional achievement, including artistic support material.

## Assessment Process

Applications will be reviewed by a national Assessor Panel, with consideration to these guidelines and assessment criteria. These decisions are final. No conversations will be entered into with the Assessor Panel or Regional Arts Australia about the outcomes. Written feedback can be provided to applicants upon request.

## If you are successful

Names and contact details of successful applicants will be provided to the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, members of Parliament and Department staff along with descriptions of the projects to be supported. Applicants will be required to provide their approval for this release of information as part of the application process.

Fellowship recipients will be asked to outline how their project will be documented and shared. Regional Arts Australia will work with recipients to identify appropriate platforms and channels for sharing their project. Applicants will be requested to outline their ideas for

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documentation and sharing as part of the application process.

All Fellowship recipients must acknowledge the support of Regional Arts Australia and the Australian Government in all media releases and promotional activities, with the logos and text provided.

While no public outcome is required, applicants must document their experience and share their findings, in a way that is nominated by the applicant. Regional Arts Australia will provide opportunities for fellowship recipients to share their experience.

Each Fellow must provide an acquittal to Regional Arts Australia at the completion of the project, and by **31 October 2023**. The Final Report should describe:

- the activities undertaken in the Fellowship program,
- the artistic and professional outcomes and benefits to the community<sup>3</sup>, and
- itemised expenditure of Fellowship funds.

## How to apply

All applications are to be submitted online using the SmartyGrants system.

<https://regionalarts.smartygrants.com.au/Fellowships2022>

## Timing

**Opening date: 9.00am (AEDT) Thursday 1 September 2022**

**Closing date: 5.00pm (AEDT) Friday 30 September 2022**

**Fellowship activities must take place between 1 November 2022 and 31 August 2022**

**All acquittals must be completed by 31 October 2023**

## Other information

Fellows will receive their grants as one single payment on invoice at the beginning of the project. Fellows should seek independent tax advice in relation to their own financial situation to determine whether the Fellowship will be assessable as income. Further information is available from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) by calling 13 28 66 or by referring to their website [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au)

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<sup>3</sup> The term “community” refers to both geographical communities and communities of practice.

Regional Arts Australia will run an online information session for the National Regional Arts Fellowship

**Thursday 11 August 5:30pm AEDT\***

\*please note time is in Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time, please adjust for your location.

[Register here for the online session](#)

Individuals can make an appointment to speak with the Regional Arts Fund Grants Manager via zoom on 10 or 11 August 2022

Please book in via Doodle

[Book a zoom meeting to discuss your Fellowship proposal here](#)

### **Program Contact**

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