



Foras na Gaeilge

Festivals Scheme 2021

Festivals Scheme 2021 – First Call (Festivals between 01 Jan – 31 May)

General

Funding area: Community festivals

Title of the scheme: The Festivals Scheme

Rationale for the scheme: the Festivals Scheme will be open to appropriate committees to give them an opportunity to develop arts festivals or elements of festivals being run and implemented through the medium of Irish or which the language-based arts are a central part of them.

Basic aim of the scheme: this scheme is aimed at festivals which aim to foster and promote through Irish or bilingually the Irish language, the language-based arts, the indigenous Irish-language arts and Irish language heritage, as an integral part of the festival, and to provide a stage for the Irish language community, to the wider community and to the arts sector.

As well as that, the aim of the scheme is to develop and foster opportunities for use and networks through the medium of the arts.

Criteria of the scheme

The following criteria will be used to assess all applications:

1. (a) The festival material, number and appeal of the activities must be through the medium of Irish in accordance with the basic aim of the scheme.
(b) The imagination the programme of those running the festival must be clear.
(c) The number of participants must be measurable.
2. The festival will increase the use of Irish in the context of the promotion of the indigenous arts through recitation, singing, storytelling, reading stories, puppetry, drama, films, literature, fostering new artists, or any other arts sector which would attract Irish language attendees.
3. Irish will be central on the festival programme and on promotional material of the festival.

4. The applicant has a programme which sets out the festival's aim, objective, strategy, audience and participation development plan, and marketing plan.
5. The group organising and administrating the festival has a managerial and administrative capacity, evidenced by the structure of the group and their range of expertise and specialties.
6. The applicant will give information on funding or support from other sources, i.e. sponsorship, use of venue, voluntary time, funding in kind, estimated income and value for money.

Administration and approach of the scheme:

Length of the scheme: One year (two calls during the year)

- Allocation of a broad range of opportunities for use and social networks which will have a wide audience including young people, adults, the wider English language community and the Irish language community in general.
- To create and provide Irish language social networks.
- To empower community groups to undertake the provision of festivals for their own communities to give a platform to local artists in their festival programmes.
- A work programme which sets out the festival's aim, objective, strategy, audience and participation development plan marketing plan etc.
- A clear arts approach in which it is hoped there will be an imaginative creative process, developed to a high standard.
- Input by professional artists in the festival or those with experience working with groups through the medium of Irish.
- Information on other sources of funding or support.
- The group organising and administrating the festival has a managerial and administrative capacity, evidenced by the structure of the group and their range of expertise and specialties.
- A plan for carrying out evaluation and reporting on the festival when it is finished.
- Cooperation with the appropriate lead organisations.
- Any funding from Foras na Gaeilge to be spent in the current calendar year.
- Foras na Gaeilge will give preference in the evaluation process to applications which demonstrate that the entire event or relevant secondary events will be situated in Irish language network areas, Gaeltacht service towns, language planning areas, and areas operating under the Irish Language Communities Scheme.
- Applications which include secondary events celebrating Colmcille 2021 will be particularly welcome.

Types of funding available

- The grant maximum is €5,000/£3,500

- Foras na Gaeilge will not fund 100% of total festival costs or the Irish language events of the festival.

Particular requirements

- The applicant's group must have a constitution
- The appropriate safeguarding checklist must be completed
- There must be a bank account in the name of the festival
- The applicant must have a valid ROS number
- The applicant must have a tax clearance certificate (if appropriate)
- A statement showing a commitment to the Irish language must be made by the applicant

Eligibility

Who is eligible to be an applicant?

- Legally established committees, i.e. the committee has a constitution

Who is ineligible to be an applicant?

- Legislative organisations and lead organisations
- Music festivals
- Any application for which canvassing is carried out with any board member or employee of Foras na Gaeilge

Activities eligible for funding through the scheme

- Arts activities through the medium of Irish
- Opportunities to use the Irish language and Irish language social networks
- Festivals which have the use of Irish on their programme and their publicity material

Activities not eligible for funding through the scheme

- Events through the medium of Irish
- Events during the festival for which funding has already been secured or sought which do not include Irish language events

Only one application may be submitted per organisation in this call.

No more than two applications per year will be accepted from any group, for example, one application in the first call and another application in the second call.