Guidelines for applicants

LITERATURE SCHEME (2027)

Guidelines:
These guidelines provide information on the Literature Scheme (2027).

They will help you:

- decide whether your organisation is eligible to apply for funding under this scheme,
- prepare an application which contains all the information needed.

Please read them carefully before you begin to complete the application form.

1. About this scheme

Foras na Gaeilge is providing funding for organisations in Ireland to give them an opportunity to promote Irish language literature.

Aims

- Demonstrate that Irish language literature **and** the Irish language itself are a central part of the culture of Ireland
- Nurture a new and diverse audiences by attracting community participation to Irish language literature
- Present information about Irish language literature to the public

Objectives

- Provide opportunities for use, contact and communication to the Irish language literature community
- Foster and preserve reading and writing habits in Irish by providing a positive and rich experience

A funding period of **11 months** is available to applicants, and the funding maximum will depend on eligibility subject to satisfying the criteria stated below.

This competitive scheme will be open to applicants, both current grantees and new applicants, from anywhere in Ireland, and all applications will be treated the same through the assessment process.

Since it is a competitive scheme, no guarantee can be given that funding will be provided under the scheme to any of the current grantees. We hope that there will be a big demand for this scheme and that funding will be offered to a limited number of applicants.

Grants are awarded with public money, and Foras na Gaeilge has statutory duties to ensure the value for money of all funded projects.

Foras na Gaeilge recommends applicants seek joint funding for projects, when appropriate, and to cooperate with other organisations in order to achieve the best value from the Foras na Gaeilge grant.

2. Can we apply?

To be eligible to apply for this scheme your organisation must be able to fulfil the following qualifying criteria:

- The applicant is an organisation under the direction of a committee or board with confirmed specialist roles, a constitution, up to date bank statement in the name of the applicant and accounts certified by a chartered accountant, tax details and a child protection checklist if applicable **or** a company, business, registered sole trader with memorandum and articles, up to date bank statement
- The applicant has a bank account in the name of the organisation, under the direction of the organisation's committee or board
- Signed and dated copies of a constitution or memorandum and articles of association, as appropriate, are available

Foras na Gaeilge may add to these qualifying criteria.

If you have any question on any aspect of the qualifying criteria, you can contact Foras na Gaeilge before the deadline.

3. How much funding can we get?

Funding is available for the period 1 February to 31 December 2027. If an application is successful, and depending on the scheme fund, between €1,000 and €8,000 will be available as a grant.

Eligible costs

The costs below are eligible under the scheme for all annual grants approved:

- Contributions towards staff costs and administration **closely connected to the literary project only**
- Contributions towards office costs, including rent and bills, **closely connected to the literary project only**
- Marketing costs **closely connected to the literary project only**
- Other costs necessary for the literary project **as long as they are reasonable and justifiable**

Ineligible costs

The costs below are ineligible under the scheme for all annual grants approved:

- capital spending, employment, sponsorship, running costs, e.g. rent, wages, bills (apart from as part of a project), furniture, office equipment
- costs or projects which occur before we offer you a grant
- costs or projects for which planning permission is needed
- costs or projects which are unreasonable in the opinion of Foras na Gaeilge
- items which are the responsibility of other funders, duplication of any project already existing

4. How will the applications be assessed?

Foras na Gaeilge uses assessment criteria to assess applications. The assessment criteria of the scheme are set out below. We will assess and score applications in accordance with these criteria.

At least 65% must be gained for a grant to be awarded to the applicant.

Literature Scheme	
Requirements	**Mark**
The necessity of the funding	10
The standard of the application	
Year plan for 2027	40
Presenting information about Irish language literature to the public	20
Capability of the organisation	
The management capability of the organisation	20
The financial management capability of the organisation	10
Total	**100**

Special conditions

An organisation must prepare an application:

- which supports the **aims and objectives of the scheme**
- in which there are targets which are **specific, measurable, ambitious, resource bound and time bound** for the period 1 February 2027 to 31 December 2027
- the **costs of which are eligible**, in accordance with the conditions of the scheme
- which demonstrates that the organisation does not have enough resources to run the project themselves, i.e. **there is a need for funding**
- which demonstrates the capability of the organisation to source and manage **other sources of income or funding** which will support the implementation of the application

Activities not eligible for funding through the scheme

- Writing, translating or publishing a work in any format; publishers should make any application for publishing under the **Publishing Scheme**
- Marketing work published by a publisher in receipt of funding under the Funding Scheme; the funder should make any application in respect of marketing e.g. book launches, under the **Publishing Scheme**
- Academic training course
- Projects that do not support the aims and objectives of the scheme
- Applications from individuals
- Applications from existing grantees receiving more than €50,000 per year from any other of Foras na Gaeilge's funding schemes

5. How will we apply?

Before you start to complete the form read the guidelines in full again and ensure that your organisation fulfills the scheme eligibility criteria under item 2 above.

You must answer every question on the application form.

The deadline for applications to be sent **via email only** to leabhar@forasnagaeilge.ie is **12 midday, 12 January 2027**.

It is up to the organisation itself to ensure that the applications is completed and submitted on time. **We will not accept any application after the deadline**.

If you have any questions about any aspect of the application contact Foras na Gaeilge before the deadline.

6. What will happen to our application?

Foras na Gaeilge will assess all valid applications under the criteria stated in section 4 above.

The funding decision will be made known to organisations via a message to the email address you provided.

Canvassing of any board member or any employee of Foras na Gaeilge will result in the application being rescinded.

Any application in which inaccurate information is given will be rescinded.

It is the executive of Foras na Gaeilge that is responsible for all decisions regarding all projects to be funded, and who will implement all funding decisions.

7. If our application is successful?

If your application is successful we will send you an offer via email containing all the relevant information on payment and monitoring of the scheme.

This offer will be a legal contract and the conditions of this contract must be adhered to. Any portion or all of the grant may be cancelled or recalled if any of the terms or conditions of the contract are violated.

There must be a bank account in the name of the organisation and under the control of a committee or board. All payments from the Foras na Gaeilge grant should be made from this account so that there is a written account available of all payments (e.g. cheque, direct debit, bank cards associated with the account, BACS etc.).

A personal bank card or credit card may not be used and repayments will not be approved from the account to a personal card in any case.

Foras na Gaeilge will not provide funding for payments made with cash.

Foras na Gaeilge will not fund any spending not approved in advance. No grants will be made retrospectively.

8. How can I give feedback, make a complaint or appeal?

Foras na Gaeilge welcomes any recommendations or feedback you may have about this scheme.

If you have cause for complaint about this scheme this can be made known to Foras na Gaeilge as well.

Foras na Gaeilge has an appeals process in place. If you are not happy with the decision made in respect of your application you can request in writing a review within fourteen days from the date of the offer. All requests for review must be based on these grounds only:

i. That Foras na Gaeilge misread the information given during the assessment.
ii. That Foras na Gaeilge departed, in a substantial way, from the assessment process itself.