

## SUSTAINING CREATIVE WORKERS FAQs

- **What kind of submissions will be supported?**

Sustaining Creative Workers (SCW) provides funds to support planning, adapting and relaunching work; research and professional development; products and/or skills development; exploration of new ways to engage audiences for existing or new work; and/or, development/exploration of markets for your creative work.
- **Do I need to deliver a creative project or outcome for SCW?**

No. You can apply for professional development, marketing, audience development or research as part of this program.
- **I was successful in receiving an application for SCW in 2020. Am I eligible to apply?**

Yes. Applicants who have previously received support from the 2020 program are eligible to apply for new activities in 2021 as long as they have acquitted their previous grant.
- **I have an overdue acquittal with Creative Victoria – can I apply?**

Yes. You can apply for a 2021 SCW grant but you will not be granted funding if you have an overdue acquittal. Please get in touch with the Creative Victoria staff member listed in your funding agreement to discuss your acquittal and circumstances.
- **How much should I apply for?**

Individuals, sole traders and freelancers can apply for up to \$5,000. Collectives, micro-organisations and businesses (micro organisations/businesses are those that employ less than 5 Full Time Equivalent staff) can apply for up to \$10,000. Up to \$2,500 in additional access funding is available for applications from Deaf and Disabled creatives, artists, arts workers, and disability-led organisations/businesses. You do not need to provide a budget for your submission, however you should ensure the nature of your request is consistent with what you expect to deliver.
- **What kinds of art forms will be supported?**

Creatives with experience in any artform or discipline are eligible and encouraged to apply. This could include visual arts/craft, literature, contemporary dance/physical performance, community creative practice, circus, cabaret, music, sound art, theatre, fashion, design, screen and digital games, multidisciplinary and experimental work, and more. Whatever your specialised form of artistic practice, we encourage you to apply.
- **I work in a support role such as producer or technician, am I eligible to apply?**

Yes. Individuals and micro-businesses who work in support roles to the creative sector are eligible to apply for this program.
- **What are the funding deadlines?**

There are two competitively-assessed funding rounds for this program. Round One closes Tuesday October 26 at 5pm. Round Two closes on Monday November 22 at 5pm.
- **Should I submit my application early?**

Applications to this program will be assessed in two competitive rounds. The first round of the program will allocate up to 25% of the available funds, whilst the second round will allocate at least

75% of the available funds. This allocation of funds is estimated to reflect the likely overall demand at each deadline.

- **What if I my funding submission is not supported Round One? Can I reapply?**  
Applications to Round One will automatically be considered for support in Round Two if they are not funded in the first stream. Given the short time between the funding decision for Round One and the closing date for Round Two, applicants will not be able to consider feedback or re-submit their application between these two Rounds.
- **When will I know the outcome of my submission?**  
Applicants to Round One will be notified of the outcome of their submission in the week commencing November 15. Applicants to Round Two will be notified of the outcome of their submission in the week commencing December 13.
- **When can my activity start?**  
Your proposed activity cannot start before the published notification dates. This means, for example, if you submit in Round One your activity should not commence until the week commencing November 22.
- **I have a current grant agreement with Creative Victoria, can I still apply?**  
You are eligible to apply for any activities not already covered by other funding, including from Creative Victoria. Please note, however, that this program is expected to be highly competitive, and the panel may consider what existing support you have when making final decisions.
- **I have a part-time role with a funded organisation, can I still apply?**  
You are eligible to apply for your activities not already covered by other employment, including by funded organisations. Please note, however, that this program is expected to be highly competitive, and the panel may consider what existing support you have when making final decisions.
- **Who is involved in the industry advisory group?**  
The industry advisory group includes representatives from Creative Victoria, Arts Access Victoria, Multicultural Arts Victoria, Music Victoria, NETS Victoria, Regional Arts Victoria, Theatre Network Australia and Writers Victoria.
- **Can I apply as a group?**  
Yes. Groups and collectives are able to apply as a 'micro-business' under SCW.
- **I am based in Melbourne, can I apply?**  
Yes, it's a State-wide program.
- **I am based in regional Victoria, can I apply?**  
Yes, it's a State-wide program.
- **What do the Equity benchmarks mean for SCW?**  
The industry advisory group has set benchmarks that no less than 20% of the funding distributed should be directed each to applicants based in regional Victoria; applicants who identify as culturally and linguistically diverse and/or people of colour; and applicants who identify as Deaf and/or disabled. These groups are frequently underrepresented in funding program outcomes, and

the benchmarks will increase the likelihood of applications and success for each. All applications will be competitively assessed, and these benchmarks applied when making final decisions. If a small number of applications is received, the funding allocation will return to the general pool.

- **Is there a First Peoples stream?**

Yes. If you are a First Peoples recipient of the 2020 round you will receive an email from Creative Victoria's First Peoples team with information. If you were a recipient of the 2020 program and haven't received an email, please contact [grants@rav.net.au](mailto:grants@rav.net.au). If you are a First Peoples applicant who did not receive a 2020 Sustaining Creative Workers grant and would like to apply for the 2021 round please contact [grants@rav.net.au](mailto:grants@rav.net.au)

- **How will my application be assessed?**

All applications will be assessed by a minimum of two creative industry peers and endorsed by the industry advisory group, before final approval is made by Creative Victoria. Industry peers are selected from a wide-range of professional practice backgrounds, and your application will be reviewed by someone with expertise in your creative practice. When submitting your application, you will also have the opportunity to request one of your assessors be selected from a list representing a range of lived experiences.

- **I'm a Victorian resident but currently stuck overseas or interstate because of border closures. Can I apply?**

Yes.

- **My micro-business or organisation has received support through the Victorian Government's Business Costs Assistance Program or Small Business COVID Hardship Fund in 2021. Am I eligible to apply?**

No. Recipients of funding through these Victorian Government business support programs are not eligible to apply to SCW in 2021.

- **What kind of support is available to help me apply?**

Funding Advisors from a range of professional and lived experiences are available to support you with your submission. Head to [this link](#) to book a time with them.

- **What kind of acquittal will I need to submit if I am successful?**

A link to an acquittal form will be sent to you when you are notified of your successful submission. It will request basic statistical data and a brief summary of what you delivered with the funding.

- **What about COVID?**

All activities will need to comply with the Victorian Chief Health Officer's COVID-19 directions. If changing public health directions impact on your ability to deliver your funded activity, we will work with you on alternative outcomes.

Please read the guidelines [here](#).