



Elevate: First Nations Storytelling and Literature Fund

This Application Help Guide is designed to support an applicant in filling out the application form.

If you have any questions, please contact:

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Individual Information

Are you an Australian citizen or permanent resident?

Choose Yes or No from the dropdown menu.

Name: Add your name as the individual or contact for the group.

Are you applying on behalf of a group?

Choose Yes or No from the dropdown menu.

If you answered 'Yes' please provide the group's name.

Administered Grants

Do you plan to nominate someone other than yourself to be paid the grant monies (we will pay this administrator the grant money)?

Choose Yes or No from the dropdown menu.

If you answered 'Yes' please provide the individual's name Australian Business Number (ABN) number.

Have you applied to Creative Australia before?

Choose Yes or No from the dropdown menu.

First Nations Eligibility

You will be asked to confirm the following statement:



I confirm that at least one or more members of our group are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders descent and identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Choose Yes or No from the dropdown menu.

How did you first find out about this opportunity?

Choose your response from the dropdown menu list. This is optional to select or keep blank.

There is another comment box that will ask you to provide more details about the chosen communication channel, if relevant (for example: which social media account, a specific event, or a particular website). This is optional to comment or keep blank.

Protocols

You will be asked to tick the tick box for the following statement:

I am / the organisation is aware of Creative Australia's First Nations Protocols and agree to adhere to them as a condition of funding.

Commonwealth Child Safe Framework

You will be asked the following question.

Does your activity provide services directly to children, or involve contact with children as a usual part of these activities?

Choose Yes or No from the dropdown menu.

Application

You may respond in written form, video, or audio. Please type 'Refer to support material' in the comment box and attach your video or audio file to the Support Material section below.

For video, you may provide up to 10 minutes (MP4 and Windows Media)

For Audio, you may provide up to 10 minutes (MP3 and Windows Media).

Please note: The Project Viability questions must be written responses only.

For more information on the Assessment Criteria, please refer to the guidelines.

About you

You will be asked to provide a brief description of your artistic practice in no more than 2,400 characters.



Please consider sharing your:

- First Nations background and connections to country lands
- if you are an emerging or a mid-career artist
- artistic practice and arts-related education history
- major achievements, awards, and accolades
- any major collaborations/partnerships with artists/organisations or on previous projects

Project Title

You will be asked to provide the title of your project in no more than 100 characters.

Please consider:

- being straightforward about the title so it is clear to the assessor, for example, 'First Nations writers retreat at Varuna' or 'Attendance at First Nations International Writers Exchange'.

Please note: If you are successful, this title will be displayed along with your project description, image, and short bio as part of the recipient's information that will be displayed on the Elevate: First Nation Storytelling and Literature Fund webpage.

Project Description

You will be asked to provide a summary of your professional/career development opportunity (800 characters or less).

Please consider sharing your:

- project idea/vision, if it is a residency, say the name and where it is going to be held
- project phase/stage that you are applying for, for example, is it a creative development or the final phase of a published book
- length of the project delivery, for example, 1-3 months, 3-6 months, or 6-12 months
- outcome of the project

Assessment Criteria

Project Quality

You will be asked about your Activity: Tell us about your career development opportunity, outlining what you want to do, the creative rationale, and the activity involved in no more than 5,600 characters.

Please consider the **Five W's**:



- **Who** is involved and what are their roles?
- **What** is the project about? What are the key steps in delivering this project?
- **When** will this project be occurring? Is there a specific date? Or will it be in durations of months, e.g., 3-6 period or 6-12 period?
- **Where** will the project be delivered? Is there a venue that you can name? Or will the majority of the work happen at home?
- **Why** is it important that you apply for funding for this project now?

Project Impact

You will be asked about the project's significant impact on your artistic practice, skills, and career development.

Please consider the various impact/s this project will have, including but not limited to:

- The benefits of doing this professional/career development project
- The motivation and urgency for applying now
- How will the outcome of this project improve your professional and career development?

Project Viability

You will be asked if you are working with other artists or creatives.

Choose Yes or No from the dropdown menu.

If yes, then you will need to provide names, emails, roles, and if they are confirmed (Yes/No).

Activity Details

You will be asked to provide your project start and end dates.

To be eligible for this funding initiative, your project start date must be on or after 1 December 2025, and the end date must be completed within 1 year of your start date.

For example, start date - 1 December 2025 and end date – 30 November 2026

You will be asked to provide proposed specific dates of what activities you will be delivering during the start and end dates.

- Information required includes the activity name, start and end dates, a check box to confirm the activity is confirmed, where the activity is taking place, venue name, state, and Electorate.

Consider adding all your major timeline milestones that you think the assessor should know about in terms of delivering your project. This could be:

- Planning and preparation



- Writing period/s
- Mentorship, Residency, and training dates
- Stakeholder Engagement for consultations and meetings/interviews with Elders, artists, or organisations
- Travel and Accommodation dates
- Acquittal Report

Main location of activity

You will be asked where the main location of your activity will be held.

Choose Australia or International from the dropdown menu and fill in the required information.

Your Budget

Use the green + icon to add your Income & In-kind and Expenses.

Income & In-kind

Income contribution may include:

- Your project income
- Sponsorship money
- Fundraising
- Ticket sales
- Other funding grants that have been confirmed or unconfirmed

In-kind contributions are any form of good or service that equates to a monetary value, this may include:

- Donated goods for the project
- Donated services for the project
- Voluntary services for the project

Please note: Adding your own income and/or in-kind is optional.

If you don't have income or in-kind, then just leave the income and in-kind blank.

Expenses

When adding your expenses, please be as detailed as possible.

Please consider when filling out your budget expenses, such as:

- Your artist fees for yourself and others involved in your project



- Living costs if you are planning to take time off work and dedicate your time to your project
- Aboriginal Protocols:
 - Fees for engaging First Nations Elders, community consultations
 - Fees for Welcome to Country (speaker, songman, didge player, and dancers' fees)
 - Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP)
- Editor and publisher fees for work or consultations
- Creative team – staff to deliver the project
- Mentor fees
- Masterclass/residencies/ Training course for skills development
- Materials required
- Traveling and accommodation costs
- Project research Fees
- conference or festival attendance registration fees
- Other costs like contingency

Important Note: You must add the funding amount request in the Expense section to cover Creative Australia's Funding request.

Budget Summary

The budget summary automatically calculates your Total income, Total expenses, and Creative Australia grant request. Make sure your funding request amount has been added to the expenses, so your Creative Australia grant request section matches.

Statistical Information

The information is for statistical purposes only. It will not be used in the assessment of your application. Please fill out to the best of your knowledge.

Support material

You can provide your support material as URLs and attachments, which can include:

- Current CV - Please add an up-to-date artist's CV that includes your education, work achievements delivered, and Awards (if applicable).
- Letters of Support/Confirmation:
 - Letters of Support can come from individuals or organisations who have worked with you previously and can vouch for the quality of work you deliver
 - Letters of Confirmation can come from individual artists or organisations that can confirm their involvement and role in their project



- Artistic Support Material – Please add samples of your current or previous works from projects, which could include images and video works, etc.

Other resources

First Nations Literature Useful Links:

- [Indigenous Writers - Writing NSW](#)
- [The Indigenous Literacy Foundation](#)
- [Blak & Bright](#)
- [Magabala Books](#)
- [First Nations Australia Writers Network](#)
- [AIATSIS](#)

Writers/illustrators may seek writers' fees (rates) and other funding opportunities:

- [The Australian Society of Authors](#)
- [The Australian Writers' Marketplace](#)
- [The Australian Writers' Guild](#)
- [Australian Poetry](#)
- [Copyright Agency](#)

National Arts and Culture Funding Agencies:

- [Arts Victoria](#)
- [Arts SA](#)
- [Create NSW](#)
- [ACT Arts](#)
- [TAS Arts](#)
- [Arts Queensland](#)
- [The Department of Culture and the Arts in WA](#)
- [Arts NT](#)

Other Useful links:

- [NSW Writers' Centre](#)
- [Writers Victoria](#)
- [SA Writers' Centre](#)
- [NT Writers' Centre](#)
- [Queensland Writers Centre](#)
- [Tasmanian Writers' Centre](#)
- [Centre for Youth Literature](#)
- [Australian Society of Authors](#)
- [Australian Writers Guild](#)



- [Express Media](#)
- [Australian Publishers Association](#)
- [Small Press Network](#)
- [Australian Poetry](#)
- [Varuna the Writers' House](#) (Eleanor Dark Foundation)
- [Writing WA](#)
- [Copyright Agency](#)
- [Sweatshop](#)
- [The Red Room Company](#)
- [University of Western Sydney \(Writing and Society Research Centre\)](#)
- [Wheeler Centre: Books, Writing and Ideas](#)
- [The Literature Centre](#)
- [Writing NSW](#)